

State of Rhode Island
COASTAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT COUNCIL
Oliver Stedman Government Center
4808 Tower Hill Road
Wakefield, RI 02879

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to the federal requirements of the Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA) at 16 USC § 1455(e) and 15 CFR Part 923 Subpart H, the Rhode Island Coastal Resources Management Council (CRMC) has submitted to the Office for Coastal Management (OCM) of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) proposed changes to the federally-approved Rhode Island Coastal Resources Management Program (RICRMP). The CRMC is requesting concurrence of OCM as a routine program change (RPC) the proposed amended geographic location description (GLD) to expand CRMC's existing federal consistency review authority on the outer continental shelf (OCS) under the CZMA for the following two listed activities:

- 1) Any offshore wind facilities of a permanent nature, regardless of size; and
- 2) Underwater cables

The incorporation of the amended GLD within the RICRMP will allow the CRMC to review federal licenses or permits for the listed activities for consistency with the State's enforceable policies of the Ocean Special Area Management Plan as provided by 16 USC § 1456 and 15 CFR Part 930 Subpart D – Consistency for Activities Requiring a Federal License or Permit and Subpart E – Consistency for Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) Exploration, Development and Production Activities.

The NOAA OCM is reviewing this request for concurrence in the determination that the proposed change is an RPC and does not require analysis under the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments regarding whether the incorporation of this change into the RICRMP qualifies as a RPC consistent with 15 CFR § 923.84 should be submitted directly to NOAA OCM. Please send comments to:

Joelle Gore, Chief
Stewardship Division
Office of Coastal Management
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
1305 East-West Highway, SSMC4 N/OCM6
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Comments will be accepted by OCM for three weeks following the date of publication of this notice (September 20, 2018). The detailed request to OCM is available on the CRMC web site: www.crmc.ri.gov

Any questions regarding this notice should be directed to Grover J. Fugate, Executive Director, Coastal Resources Management Council, at the address above or email: gfugate@crmc.ri.gov
Telephone: (401)783-3370.