

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 program changes to the federally-approved Rhode Island Coastal Resources Management Program (RICRMP). The CRMC is requesting concurrence of OCM for the amendments to the Policies of the Ocean SAMP, referenced under the Rhode Island Code of Regulations as 650-RICR-20-05-11, and contained within the CRMC' Ocean Special Area Management Plan (Ocean SAMP). The amendments include new, revised and deleted enforceable policies as detailed within the program change submission document available on the NOAA website here: <https://www.coast.noaa.gov/czmprogramchange/#/public/change-view/1214> and the CRMC's website here: [www.crmc.ri.gov](http://www.crmc.ri.gov).

The incorporation of the amended Ocean SAMP policies, standards and enforceable policies as part of RICRMP will allow the CRMC to improve the predictability of state permitting and federal consistency review processes for offshore renewable energy projects 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 the CRMC's request for concurrence that the proposed program change does not require analysis under the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments regarding whether the incorporation of the proposed program changes into the RICRMP are consistent with 15 CFR § 923.84 should be submitted directly to NOAA OCM via the NOAA website listed above or by mail. Please send any written 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 (21 days) following the date of publication of this notice on **October 16, 2019**.

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@crm.ri.gov](mailto:gfugate@crm.ri.gov)  
Telephone: (401)783-3370.