

State of Rhode Island Coastal Resources Management Council Oliver H. Stedman Government Center 4808 Tower Hill Road, Suite 3 Wakefield, RI 02879-1900

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May 26, 2021

Amanda Lefton, Director Bureau of Ocean Energy Management 45600 Woodland Road Sterling, Virginia 20166

James Bennett, Renewable Energy Program Manager Bureau of Ocean Energy Management 45600 Woodland Road Sterling, Virginia 20166

Re: South Fork Wind, LLC; Docket No. BOEM–2018–0010 CRMC File 2018-10-082

Dear Ms. Lefton and Mr. Bennett,

Pursuant to 15 CFR § 930.76, South Fork Wind, LLC, formerly known as Deepwater Wind South Fork, LLC, on October 22, 2018 filed with the Rhode Island Coastal Resources Management Council ("CRMC") a federal consistency certification and a copy of their Construction and Operation Plan ("COP") for the proposed construction and operation of the South Fork Wind energy project ("SFW"). The SFW project consists of up to fifteen (15) wind turbine generators, one (1) offshore substation and an export cable ("SFEC") that will make landfall on Long Island, NY. The SFW project will be located in federal offshore waters approximately 13 miles east-southeast of Block Island within BOEM Lease Area OCS-A 0517<sup>1</sup> (formerly part of OCS-A 0486) and within the CRMC's 2011 Geographic Location Description.

The proposed SFW project is subject to CRMC federal consistency review pursuant to the federal Coastal Zone Management Act ("CZMA"), 16 U.S.C. § 1451 *et seq.* and the CZMA's implementing regulations at 15 C.F.R. part 930, subpart E - Consistency for Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) Exploration, Development and Production Activities.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> In January 2020, Deepwater Wind New England, LLC requested that BOEM assign a portion of Lease Area OCS-A 0486 to Deepwater Wind South Fork, LLC. BOEM approved the assignment on March 23, 2020 with the new lease number OCS-A 0517 consisting of 13,700 acres.

South Fork Wind, LLC has been providing the CRMC with additional submissions for consideration by the CRMC and there is ongoing negotiations of a mitigation agreement pursuant to the CRMC's enforceable policy at 650-RICR-20-05-11.10.1(H). Thus, additional review time is warranted to consider new information and complete mitigation negotiations as required under the CRMC's enforceable policies. Accordingly, the CRMC and South Fork Wind, LLC have mutually have agreed to further stay the CRMC six-month federal consistency review period pursuant to the attached amended stay agreement executed yesterday, May 25, 2021. The CRMC federal consistency decision date in this matter is now due no later than June 22, 2021.

The purpose of this letter is to notify the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) of this agreement as required by 15 CFR § 930.60(b). In addition, the CRMC requests BOEM not to issue a license or permit to South Fork Wind, LLC until the requirements of 15 CFR part 930 subpart E have been satisfied. The CRMC will promptly notify BOEM when it issues a federal consistency decision in this matter.

Please contact me at 401-783-3370 or email jwillis@crmc.ri.gov should you have any questions.

Sincerel Jeffrey M. Willis, Executive Director

Coastal Resources Management Council

/lat

cc Melanie Gearon, South Fork Wind, LLC David Kaiser. NOAA Allison Castellan, NOAA Jennifer Cervenka, CRMC Chair CRMC Members James Boyd, CRMC Deputy Director Anthony DeSisto, Esq., CRMC Legal Counsel