## STATE OF RHODE ISLAND COASTAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

## PUBLIC NOTICE CRMC File 2022-05-067

The Rhode Island Coastal Resources Management Council ("CRMC") is in receipt of a federal consistency certification filed on May 17, 2022, by Park City Wind, LLC ("Park City Wind"), proponent of the New England Wind project, for the proposed construction and operation of an offshore wind energy project. If approved by the Federal Bureau of Ocean Energy Management ("BOEM"), Park City Wind would be permitted to construct and operate offshore wind energy facilities on the Outer Continental Shelf ("OCS"). The New England Wind project would occupy Lease Areas OCS-A 0534 and potentially a portion of OCS-A 0501 and would be constructed in two phases, Phase 1 (Park City Wind) and Phase 2 (Commonwealth Wind). Phase 1 will be developed immediately southwest of Vineyard Wind 1 and Phase 2 will be located southwest of Phase 1 and occupy the remainder of Lease Area OCS-A 0534. Across both Phases, the New England Wind project would include up to 130 wind turbines and electrical service platforms, inter-array cables, and up to five offshore export cables. All export cables are proposed to be installed within a shared offshore export cable corridor that will pass through the Muskeget Channel making landfall in the Town of Barnstable, Massachusetts. Park City Wind has also proposed the South Coast Variant (SCV) cable corridor as an alternate Phase 2 export

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cable route. The SCV would travel westnorthwest through federal waters and into Buzzards Bay. No portion of the New England Wind project enters Rhode Island State Waters.

Park City Wind filed its Construction and Operations Plan ("COP") with BOEM on July 2, 2020, seeking a federal license to construct and operate the proposed project. The COP was subsequently updated in Fall 2021 and Spring 2022. On June 30, 2021, BOEM published a Notice of Intent to prepare an Environmental Impact State ("EIS") pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (40 C.F.R. § 1500 et seq.) for the proposed New England Wind project. BOEM published a Notice of Availability for the Draft EIS on December 23, 2022. Park City Wind's COP, COP Addendum, Appendices, Draft EIS and other documents are available on the BOEM website at: https://www.boem.gov/renewable-

https://www.boem.gov/renewableenergy/state-activities/new-england-windformerly-vineyard-wind-south Lease Area OCS-A 0534 and the SCV cable corridor are subject to federal consistency review by the CRMC. Both Phase 1 and Phase 2 occur within Rhode Island's 2011 and 2018 Geographic Location Description ("GLD") areas except for the portion of the export cable making landfall in the Town of Barnstable. Federal consistency review is being conducted by the CRMC pursuant to the federal Coastal Zone Management Act ("CZMA"), 15 U.S.C. § 1451 *et seq.*, and the CZMA's implementing regulations at 15 C.F.R. 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 CRMC, as the State's authorized coastal zone management agency must issue a federal consistency decision as to whether the New England Wind project is consistent with the State's federally approved enforceable policies located in the Ocean Special Area Management Plan (650-RICR-20-05-11). The State's federal consistency decision is required before BOEM may approve the Park City Wind COP pursuant to 30 C.F.R. § 585.628(f).

Park City Wind's federal consistency certification request, which is the subject of this public notice, has been assigned **CRMC File Number 2022-05-67**. The consistency certification is available online at CRMC's project page (http://www.crmc.ri.gov/windenergy/newengland.html).

The CRMC is providing this public notice concerning the federal consistency certification for the portion of the New England Wind project <u>located within the Rhode Island GLD areas in federal waters only</u> in accordance with 15 C.F.R. § 930.61. All interested parties are invited to submit written comments concerning the proposed project on or before <u>July 23</u>, <u>2023</u>. Comments should be specifically directed as to the issue of whether the proposed New England Wind project is consistent with the enforceable policies of the Rhode Island Coastal Resources Management Program. The CRMC will hold a public meeting on this federal consistency matter <u>at a date and place to be announced at a later time</u>.

## **Mailing Address for Public Comment Submissions:**

Coastal Resources Management Council Stedman Government Center 4808 Tower Hill Road Wakefield, RI 02879 Attn. Jeffrey Willis, CRMC Executive Director

Written comments may be emailed to the CRMC at: cstaff1@crmc.ri.gov

Signed this May 24, 2023.

Jeffrey M. Willis, Executive Director Coastal Resources Management Council