

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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June 22, 2023

Elizabeth Klein, Director Bureau of Ocean Energy Management 45600 Woodland Road Sterling, Virginia 20166 Karen J. Baker, Chief Bureau of Ocean Energy Management Office or Renewable Energy Programs 45600 Woodland Road Sterling, Virginia 20166

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

Re: **Park City Wind LLC**; Docket No. BOEM-2021-0047 CRMC File 2022-05-067

Dear Director Klein, Ms. Baker, and Mr. Bennett,

Pursuant to 15 C.F.R. § 930.76, Park City Wind LLC on May 17, 2022, filed with the Rhode Island Coastal Resources Management Council ("CRMC") a federal consistency certification for the proposed construction and operation of the New England Wind project consisting of offshore renewable wind energy facilities in Lease Area OCS-A 0534 and potentially a portion of Lease Area OCS-A 0501. The collective area is referred to as the Southern Wind Development Area (SWDA) and is located within Rhode Island's 2011 and 2018 GLDs. The New England Wind project will be developed in two Phases, Phase 1 (Park City Wind) and Phase 2 (Commonwealth Wind), with a maximum of 130 wind turbine generators (WTGs) and electrical service platforms (ESPs) and four to five submerged renewable energy offshore export cables. All export cables are planned to be installed within a shared offshore export cable corridor (OECC) that will travel from the northwestern corner of Lease Area OCS-A 0501 and head northward along the eastern side of Muskeget Channel toward landfall sites in the Town of Barnstable. Park City Wind has also proposed the South Coast Variant (SCV) cable corridor as an alternate cable route to be used if Phase 2 export cables need to interconnect at a second grid interconnection point. The SCV would travel west-northwest through federal waters and Rhode Island's 2011 and 2018 GLDs, to the Massachusetts state waters boundary near Buzzards Bay.

The proposed New England Wind project is a listed activity subject to CRMC federal consistency review pursuant to Section 307 of the 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.

The CRMC's CZMA six-month review period for the New England Wind project began on August 5, 2022.¹ Absent a stay of the CZMA six-month review, the State's CZMA decision date would have been on or before February 3, 2023. Both New England Wind and the CRMC agreed to an initial stay which provided for a CRMC consistency decision on or before August 15, 2023. After further discussions surrounding the CRMC's concurrent review of three offshore wind projects including the New England Wind project, the parties have mutually agreed to stay the CRMC's CZMA six-month review period for a third time as specified in the attached stay agreement executed on June 22, 2023. Pursuant to the agreement, the CRMC federal consistency decision in this matter is now due not later than October 13, 2023.

The purpose of this letter is to notify the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management of this stay agreement between the parties pursuant to the requirements of 15 C.F.R. § 930.60(b). In addition, the CRMC requests BOEM not to issue a license or permit to Park City Wind LLC until the requirements of 15 C.F.R. Part 930, Subpart E have been completely 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.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey M. Willis, Executive Director Coastal Resources Management Council

/lat

cc Stephanie Wilson, Avangrid Renewables David Kaiser, NOAA Allison Castellan, NOAA

¹ The CRMC notified BOEM and Park City Wind in a letter dated August 15, 2022, that commencement of the CRMC CZMA federal consistency review for the New England Wind project began on August 5, 2022.