



State of Rhode Island
Coastal Resources Management Council
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June 30, 2023

Elizabeth Klein, Director
Bureau of Ocean Energy Management
45600 Woodland Road
Sterling, Virginia 20166

Karen J. Baker, Chief
Bureau of Ocean Energy Management
45600 Woodland Road
Sterling, Virginia 20166

Re: **SouthCoast Wind LLC**; Docket No. BOEM-2021-0062
CRMC File 2022-03-080

Dear Director Klein and Ms., Baker,

Pursuant to 15 C.F.R. § 930.76, SouthCoast Wind LLC on March 18, 2022 filed with the Rhode Island Coastal Resources Management Council (“CRMC”) a federal consistency certification for the proposed construction and operation of the SouthCoast Wind¹, offshore wind renewable energy project consisting of up to 149 foundation positions, including wind turbine generators (WTGs) and offshore substation platforms (OSPs), and two export cable corridors that will make landfall at Falmouth, Massachusetts and Brayton Point in Somerset, Massachusetts.² The SouthCoast Wind project is contracted with NSTAR Electric Company d/b/a Eversource Energy, Massachusetts Electric Company, each d/b/a National Grid, and Fitchburg Gas and Electric Light Company d/b/a Until to deliver 804 megawatts (MW) of offshore wind-generated electricity to Massachusetts under a 20-year Offshore Wind Renewable Energy Certificate Agreement executed in January 2020. In addition, SouthCoast Wind was awarded an additional 400 MW power purchase agreement (PPA) in December 2021 by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and its three biggest utilities as part of Massachusetts’ 83C III offshore wind energy procurement. Combined with its 804 MW PPA

¹ SouthCoast Wind LLC changed its name from “Mayflower Wind LLC” on February 1, 2023.

² The Brayton Point export cables will go through Rhode Island’s 2011 and 2018 Geographic Location Description areas in federal waters and into State waters up the Sakonnet River. The cable will make landfall in Portsmouth, RI and reenter State waters into Mount Hop Bay before making landfall at Brayton Point in Somerset, MA. SouthCoast Wind has recently informed the CRMC that all 1200 MW in current PPAs with Massachusetts will be delivered to the Brayton Point landfall.

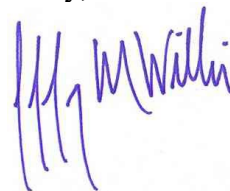
from 83C II, the project will now provide more than 1,200 MW of renewable offshore wind energy. The SouthCoast Wind Construction and Operation Plan describes the project as having an operating capacity ranging between 1,600 and 2,400 MW.

The proposed installation of submerged export cables as part of the overall SouthCoast 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 SouthCoast Wind project began on May 27, 2022.³ The first stay agreement CRMC and SouthCoast Wind LLC mutually agreed to provided for a consistency decision date from CRMC on or before June 27, 2023. The second stay agreement provided for a consistency decision date on or before October 27, 2023. The parties have mutually agreed to a third stay of the CRMC CZMA six-month federal consistency review period as specified in the attached stay agreement executed June 30, 2023. The third stay is necessary to allow CRMC the appropriate time to review the project in light of the unprecedented number of offshore wind projects under CRMC’s review. **Pursuant to the agreement, the CRMC federal consistency decision in this matter is now due no later than December 1, 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 SouthCoast Wind LLC until the requirements of 15 C.F.R. Part 930, Subparts E and H 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

³ The CRMC notified BOEM and SouthCoast Wind in a letter dated May 31, 2022, that commencement of the CRMC CZMA consistency review period for the SouthCoast Wind project began on May 27, 2022.

/lat

cc Jennifer Flood, Permitting Director, SouthCoast Wind LLC
David Kaiser, NOAA
Allison Castellan, NOAA
CRMC Members
Anthony DeSisto, Esq., CRMC Legal Counsel