



State of Rhode Island
Coastal Resources Management Council
Oliver H. Stedman Government Center
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Wakefield, RI 02879-1900

(401) 783-3370
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December 17, 2021

CRMC/RIDEM Joint Public Notice -- 60-day Extension

CRMC File Number 2021-07-005

To Whom It May Concern:

The CRMC is extending the public comment period an additional 60 days to **February 15, 2022** for application **2021-07-005** for the proposed two 23-mile submarine export cables co-located within a single corridor within state waters through the West Passage of Narragansett Bay to the cable landing location at the Quonset Point Business Park in North Kingstown associated with the Revolution Wind offshore renewable energy project.



Coastal Resources Management Council
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Dept. of Environmental Management
Office of Water Resources
235 Promenade Street
Providence, RI 02908

60 Day JOINT AGENCY PUBLIC NOTICE

CRMC File Number: 2021-07-005

Date: October 15, 2021

RIDEM File Numbers: WQC 21-135, DP21-187

These Agencies have under consideration the application of:

**Revolution Wind, LLC
56 Exchange Terrace, Suite 300
Providence, RI 02903**

for a State of Rhode Island Assent, RIDEM Water Quality Certificate and RIDEM Dredge Permit to construct and maintain: Two new 23-mile submarine export cables co-located within a single corridor within state waters through the West Passage of Narragansett Bay to the cable landing location at the Quonset Point Business Park in North Kingstown. The State Assent application also includes: preparation of a landfall work area; installation of two transition joint bays; installation and operation of an approximate 1-mile long underground onshore transmission cable; construction and operation of a new onshore substation located at Assessor's Plat 179, Lots 001 and 030; and associated underground interconnection circuits. These project components are part of the overall Revolution Wind 704 megawatt (MW) offshore wind project. The RIDEM Water Quality Certificate and RIDEM Dredge Permit pertain only to the proposed project activities within state waters.

Two submarine export cables (275 kilovolt high voltage alternating current) are proposed for the Revolution Wind project. Each cable measures approximately 23 miles in total length within state waters designated as CRMC Type 4 in Rhode Island Sound and the West Passage of Narragansett Bay (Figure 1). Revolution Wind, LLC proposes to install the cables at a target burial depth of 4 to 6 feet below the seabed using a combination of jet-plowing, mechanical plowing, and mechanical cutters as necessary, which will create a total estimated disturbance of

730 acres within state waters. Cable protection in the form of rock bags, concrete mattresses, fronded mattresses, and/or rock berms will be used where the target burial depth cannot be achieved. Cable protection will also be necessary for any crossing of existing cables or pipelines, and it is estimated that 10 percent of the cable route may require some form of cable protection. Any proposed cable protection necessary to protect segments of the export cable or existing utilities is considered the placement of fill in state waters (CRMC Type 4 waters). In addition to the CRMC Assent, the activities associated with the export cable installation within state waters also require a State of Rhode Island Dredge Permit in accordance with the Marina Infrastructure Maintenance Act of 1996 and the Marine Waterways and Boating Facilities Act of 2001, R.I. General Laws Chapter 46-6.1 and a State of Rhode Island Water Quality Certification in accordance with Chapter 42-35 pursuant to Chapters 46-12 and 42-17.1 of the R.I. General Laws, as amended. RIDEM will be responsible for issuing the State Dredge Permit and Water Quality Certification.

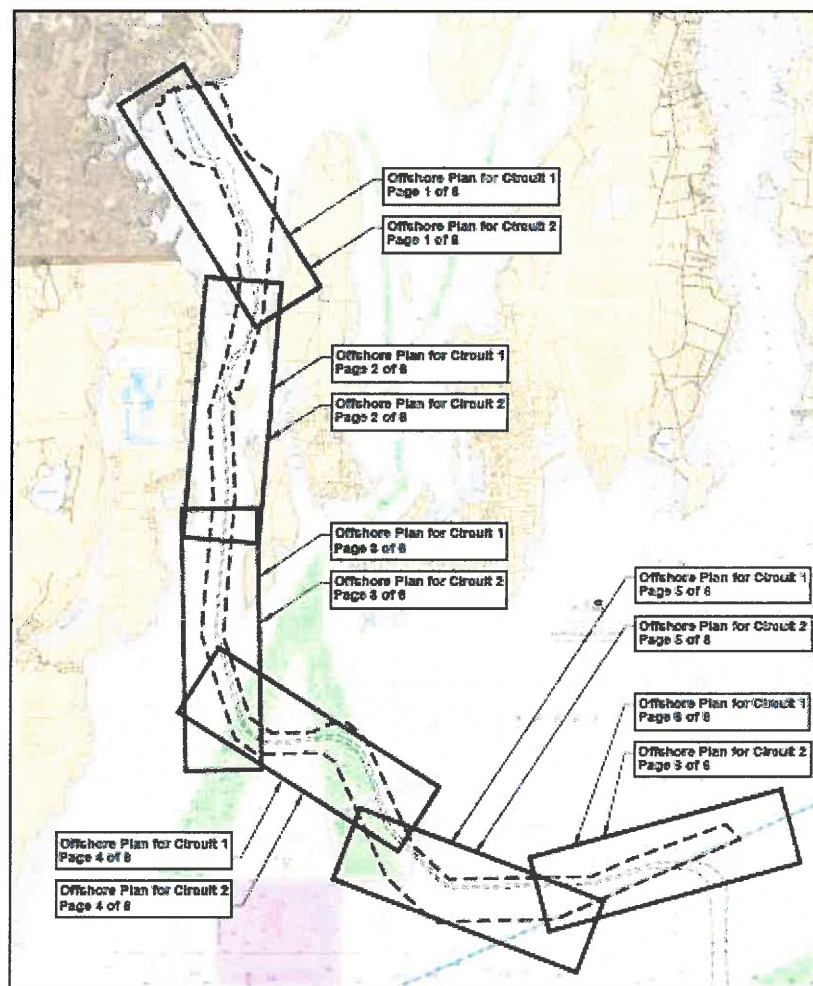


Figure 1: Proposed export cable route in State waters

The export cables will make landfall at the Quonset Business Park in North Kingstown on Assessor's Plat 185, Lots 001, 004 and 008 via horizontal directional drilling (HDD) from two temporary exit pits approximately 800 feet offshore (Figure 2). The two temporary HDD offshore exit pits are estimated to be 110 feet in length and 30 feet in width. The estimated soil

volume to be excavated for the proposed offshore exit pits is approximately 4,352 cubic yards, and all excavated material will be loaded onto a support barge for reuse in filling the exit pits and no side casting of excavated material will occur. These activities will require both a State Water Quality Certification and Dredging Permit from the RI Department of Environmental Management. The RIDEM Water Quality Certification file is WQC 21-135 and the RIDEM Dredge Permit file is DP 21-187.



Figure 2: Proposed export cable landing area

Preparation of the landfall area will consist of the construction of two transition joint bays that will receive the offshore cables. Following completion of the cable installation the landfall area on Assessor's Plat 185, Lot 001 will be converted into a parking lot. The onshore transmission cable will be installed along Burlingham Avenue, Circuit Drive and Camp Avenue to a connection with the proposed new onshore substation (OSS) located on Assessor's Plat 179, Lots 001 and 030 (Figures 3 and 4). The OSS has an operational footprint of approximately 4 acres and its proposed construction is considered a regulated activity pursuant to Rule § 2.5 under the CRMC Rules and Regulations Governing the Protection and Management of Freshwater Wetlands in the Vicinity of the Coast (650-RICR-20-00-2). As part of its Assent application with the CRMC Revolution Wind, LLC has also filed an Application to Alter Freshwater Wetlands in the Vicinity of the Coast for the proposed construction of the OSS. The proposed activity will permanently alter approximately 0.11 acres of perimeter wetland (area of land within 50-feet) and approximately 0.35 acres of perimeter wetland will be cleared of trees to create a safe zone around the OSS security fence and will be replanted in native warm season grasses, wildflowers, and shrubs with mature heights under 15 feet.

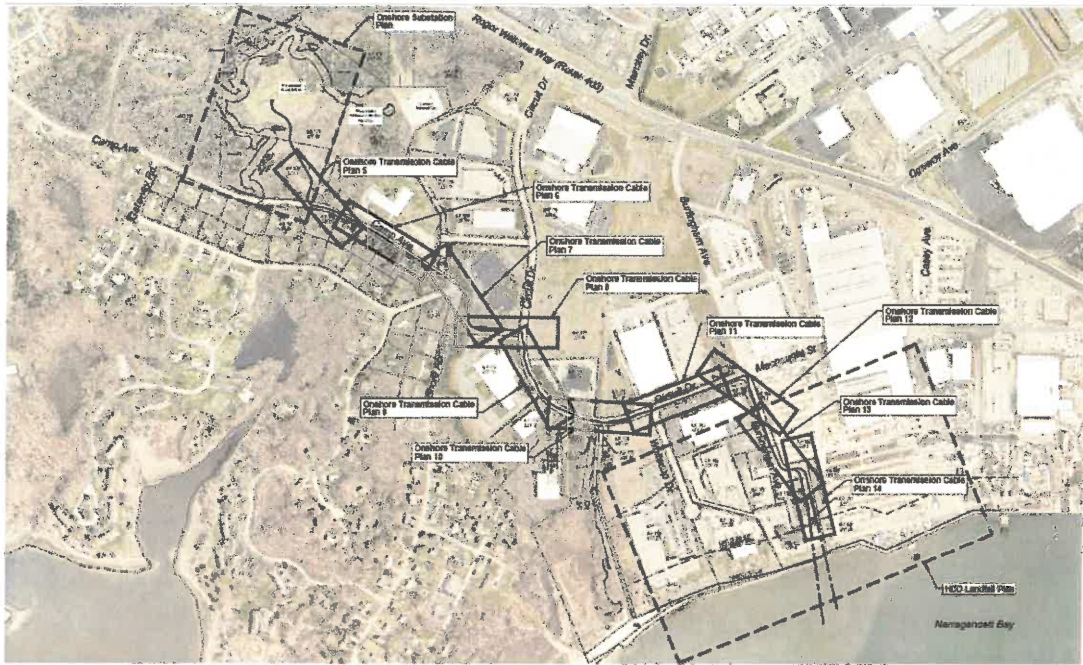


Figure 3: Proposed landside cable route to the onshore substation



Figure 4: Proposed onshore substation

Plans of the proposed work may be seen at CRMC offices in Wakefield. Please call CRMC at (401) 783-3370 to make an appointment. Plans may also be viewed online at CRMC website: <http://www.crmc.ri.gov/windenergy/revolution.html>

The CRMC will also be issuing a **separate public notice** under file **2021-07-010** for the application of Revolution Wind, LLC and The Narragansett Electric Company to Alter Freshwater Wetlands in the Vicinity of the Coast for construction of a new **interconnection facility** (ICF) and associated interconnection circuits. The proposed ICF will be located at Assessor's Plat 179, Lot 005 and adjacent to the proposed onshore substation, as described herein.

In addition, the CRMC has issued a **separate public notice** under file **2021-06-029** for the portion of the Revolution Wind project located exclusively within **federal waters**, namely the wind farm itself and a portion of the export cables, that are subject to CRMC Federal Consistency review authority pursuant to Section 307 of the Coastal Zone Management Act. Revolution Wind's construction and operation plan along with other project information are available on the BOEM website at: <https://www.boem.gov/Revolution-Wind>.

This **Joint Agency Public Notice** also serves as notice that the RI Department of Environmental Management, Office of Water Resources, Water Quality Certification Program has under consideration and review the same proposed activity as described above for compliance with the State's Water Quality Regulations (Authority: in accordance with Clean Water Act, as amended [33 U.S.C. § 1251 *et seq.*; Chapter 42-35 pursuant to Chapters 46-12 and 42-17.1 of the Rhode Island General Laws of 1956, as amended]).

In accordance with the Administrative Procedures Act (Chapter 42-35 of the R.I. General Laws) you may request a hearing on this matter. You are advised that if you have good reason to enter protest against the proposed work it is your privilege to do so. It is expected that objectors will review the application and plans thoroughly, and visit the site of proposed work as necessary to familiarize themselves with the conditions and cite what law or laws, if any, would in their opinion be violated by the proposed work.

If you desire to protest, you must attend the scheduled hearing and give sworn testimony. A notice of the time and place of such hearing will be furnished to you as soon as possible after receipt of your request for hearing. If you desire to request a hearing, to receive consideration, the request should be in writing and be received at this office on or before **December 15, 2021**.

You may also submit comments that pertain to this **Joint Agency Public Notice**, and any comments must be submitted in writing and addressed to:

Rhode Island Coastal Resources Management Council
Oliver H. Stedman Government Center
4808 Tower Hill Road
Wakefield, RI 02879
(401) 783-3370

and

Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management
Office of Technical and Customer Assistance
235 Promenade Street
Providence, RI 02908-5767
(401) 222-4700