## STATE OF RHODE ISLAND COASTAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

## PUBLIC NOTICE

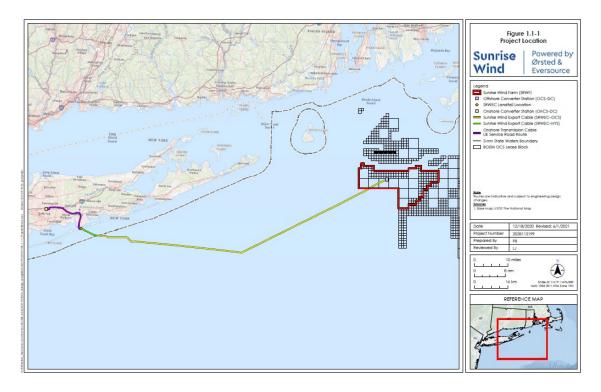
## **CRMC File 2021-06-029**

The Coastal Resources Management Council ("CRMC") is in receipt of a Federal Consistency Certification filed with the agency on October 28, 2021 by Sunrise Wind, LLC ("Sunrise Wind") for the proposed construction and operation of an offshore wind energy project. Sunrise Wind is a 50/50 joint venture between Orsted North America Inc. and Eversource Investment LLC. If the project is approved by the federal Bureau of Ocean Energy Management ("BOEM"), Sunrise Wind would be permitted to construct and operate the offshore wind energy facility consisting of up to 102 wind turbines located in federal waters on the Outer Continental Shelf ("OCS") approximately 16.7 miles southeast of Block Island, RI and 18.9 miles south of Martha's Vineyard, Mass within BOEM Lease Area OCS-A 0487<sup>2</sup>. As described in its Construction and Operation Plan ("COP"), the Sunrise Wind project has a generating capacity ranging between 924 megawatts ("MW") and 1,122 MW. The project also includes an offshore converter station, an inter-array submarine cable network and an offshore transmission cable to be installed within federal waters and New York State waters with a landfall location at the Town of Brookhaven, Long Island, New York. Sunrise Wind's COP along with other project information is available on the BOEM website at: https://www.boem.gov/renewable-energy/ state-activities/sunrise-wind-activities.

Sunrise Wind filed its COP with BOEM seeking a federal license to construct, operate and decommission the proposed project. On August 31, 2021 BOEM issued a Notice of Intent ("NOI") in the Federal Register (86 FR 48763) to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (40 C.F.R. § 1500 *et seq.*) for the proposed Sunrise Wind project. Then, on September 3, 2021 BOEM issued a second NOI (86 FR 49563) to correct two statements in the NOI regarding the agreement with the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority and the proposed foundation types, and extended the BOEM scoping comment period to October 4, 2021. The CRMC is a cooperating agency with BOEM for the Sunrise Wind project pursuant to a memorandum of understanding between the agencies executed on February 22, 2022 consistent with the purposes and intent of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 USC 4321, *et seq.*, as amended) and the Council on Environmental Quality regulations at 40 C.F.R. Parts 1500-1508).

<sup>1</sup> The current Sunrise Wind project proposes up to 102 wind turbine generators (WTGs), as compared to the original proposal for up to 122 WTGs detailed in the August 23, 2021 COP.

<sup>2</sup> A portion of Lease Area OCS-A 0500 (Bay State Wind LLC) and the entirety of Lease Area OCS-A 0487 (formerly Deepwater Wind New England LLC) were assigned to Sunrise Wind LLC on September 3, 2020, and the two areas were merged and a revised Lease OCS-A 0487 was issued by BOEM on March 15, 2021. Thus, the term "Lease Area" for Sunrise Wind is referring to the new merged Lease Area OCS-A 0487.



The proposed Sunrise Wind project located within federal offshore waters 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, as the wind farm and export cables are listed activities located within the Rhode Island 2011 and 2018 Geographic Location Descriptions. The CRMC as the State's authorized coastal zone management agency must issue a decision as to whether the proposed Sunrise Wind project is consistent with the enforceable policies of the State's federally approved coastal management program, in particular the CRMC's Ocean Special Area Management Plan (650-RICR-20-05-11). The State's concurrence is required before BOEM may approve the Sunrise Wind COP pursuant to 30 C.F.R. § 585.628(f).

Sunrise Wind's Federal Consistency Certification request has been assigned CRMC file number **2021-09-036** and can be reviewed at the CRMC office by appointment during regular office hours (Monday-Friday 8:30 am to 4:00 pm). The Consistency Certification is available online in Appendix C of the Sunrise Wind COP along with other project information as found on the BOEM web site here: <a href="https://www.boem.gov/renewable-energy/state-activities/sunrise-wind-construction-and-operation-plan">https://www.boem.gov/renewable-energy/state-activities/sunrise-wind-construction-and-operation-plan</a>.

The CRMC is providing this public notice concerning the Federal Consistency Certification for the Sunrise Wind project in accordance with 15 C.F.R. § 930.61. All interested parties are invited to submit written comments concerning the proposed offshore wind energy project on or before April 25, 2022. Comments should be specifically directed as to the issue of whether the proposed Sunrise 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 on a date, time and place to be announced at a later date.

## **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 also be emailed to the CRMC at: <a href="mailto:cstaffl@crmc.ri.gov">cstaffl@crmc.ri.gov</a>

Signed this 23rd day of February 2022.

Jeffrey M. Willis, Executive Director Coastal Resources Management Council