



June 24, 2022

RE: Notice of Availability for the Ocean Wind 1 Offshore Wind Farm Project Draft Environmental Impact Statement

Dear Consulting Party,

This letter is to notify you that the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) has issued a Notice of Availability (NOA) for the Ocean Wind 1 Offshore Wind Farm Project (the Project) Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) in the *Federal Register*. BOEM intends to hold public hearings to provide the public and Consulting Parties an opportunity to review the Draft EIS and comment. The NOA and Draft EIS as well as information on the scoping meeting dates, times, and locations can be found on BOEM's website at: <https://www.boem.gov/renewable-energy/state-activities/ocean-wind-1>.

BOEM has assigned ICF as the third-party contractor to facilitate the NEPA and Section 106 process. All Federal oversight and decisions will remain with BOEM. ICF's role in the NEPA and Section 106 process is administrative; ICF will coordinate communication with the consulting parties; facilitate distribution of BOEM-approved documents; provide technical assistance; and arrange and lead meetings, webinars, or calls with consulting parties.

Description of the Undertaking

If approved, the Project will consist of up to 98 wind turbine generators (WTGs), up to three offshore substations, inter-array cables linking the individual turbines to the offshore substations, substation interconnector cables linking the substations to each other, offshore export cables, an onshore export cable system, up to two onshore substations, and connections to the existing electrical grid in New Jersey. The WTGs and offshore substations, array cables, and substation interconnector cables would be located in Federal waters approximately 13 nautical miles (15 statute miles) southeast of Atlantic City. The offshore export cables would be buried below the seabed surface within Federal and state waters. The onshore export cables, substations, and up to two grid connections would be located in Ocean and Cape May Counties, New Jersey.

Guide of Where to Find Cultural Resources Information in the Draft EIS

This Draft EIS contains several appendices that incorporate by reference information from the COP. The following provides an outline of where in the Draft EIS cultural resources information is located:

- **Chapter 3 of the EIS (Affected Environment and Environmental Consequences), Section 3.10 (Cultural Resources) contains:**

- The definition of the area of potential effects, including photographs, maps, and drawings.
- A description of the steps taken to identify historic properties.
- A description of the affected historic properties.
- A description of the undertaking's effects on the historic properties.
- A brief summary of findings of effect.
- A brief summary of actions to avoid, minimize, and/or mitigate impacts to historic properties.
- **EIS Appendix F: Planned Activities Scenario contains:**
 - A description of the ongoing and planned activities scenario.
 - Descriptions of ongoing and planned activities.
 - An ongoing and future non-offshore wind activity analysis.
 - A description of maximum-case scenario estimates for offshore wind projects.
- **EIS Appendix H: Mitigation and Monitoring contains:**
 - A list of avoidance, minimization, and/or mitigation measures to resolve adverse effects to historic properties.
- **EIS Appendix N: Finding of Adverse Effects for the Ocean Wind 1 Construction Operations Plan contains:**
 - A table of findings of effect for each historic property in the APE if BOEM concurs with recommendation. If BOEM does not concur, a narrative text entry is provided after the table for each historic property where BOEM makes its own Finding of Effect.
 - A summary of BOEM's findings of effect if BOEM disagrees with recommendations made by the lessee.

Submitting Comments on the Draft EIS

The NOA initiates a 45-day public document review and comment period for the Ocean Wind 1 Offshore Wind Farm Project Draft EIS. The Draft EIS is available online for review at: <https://www.boem.gov/renewable-energy/state-activities/ocean-wind-1>. The comment period will end on August 8, 2022.

To help BOEM properly consider and incorporate feedback, please include a reference to a specific page or section for your comment. Comments may be submitted the following ways:

Through the regulations.gov web portal: Navigate to <https://www.regulations.gov> and search for Docket No. BOEM-2022-0021. Click on the "Comment" below the document link. Enter your information and comment, then click "Submit Comment".

OR

In written form by mail, enclosed in an envelope labeled "Ocean Wind 1 Offshore Wind Farm Draft EIS" and addressed to the Program Manager, Office of Renewable Energy,

Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, 45600 Woodland Road, VAM-OREP, Sterling, Virginia 20166.

Comments must be received or postmarked no later than August 8, 2022. If your comments contain sensitive information, please reach out using my contact information below, and BOEM will provide a different means for consulting parties to provide sensitive comments.

In the Final EIS, BOEM will include an appendix providing all comments submitted by all commenters including Consulting Parties through the NEPA comment process as well as a separate appendix providing responses to submitted comments.

Review of Technical Reports

BOEM is reviewing comments received on cultural resources technical reports distributed to the Consulting Parties on March 21, 2022 and supplemental cultural resources technical report distributed on April 1, 2022. BOEM will provide responses to these comments in the near future, and provide an update regarding when the responses will be shared with the Consulting Parties.

For more information on the EIS or BOEM's policies associated with the NOA, please contact January Tavel at january.tavel@icf.com or (415) 667-7107.

Sincerely,

January Tavel



Ocean Wind Section 106 Lead
ICF