



U.S. Department of the Interior
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Office of Public Affairs

NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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MMS to Move Public Hearing on Cape Wind Energy Project Draft Environmental Impact Statement *Boston Hearing Relocated to Clark Athletic Center*

WASHINGTON – The U.S. Department of the Interior’s Minerals Management Service (MMS) has moved its Boston, Massachusetts, March 13, 2008, public hearing from the Campus Center Ballroom at the University of Massachusetts to the Clark Athletic Center at the university to accommodate a larger crowd that is expected to attend the event. The public hearing will begin at 6:00 p.m. and is designed to obtain public comment on the recently published Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Cape Wind Energy Project. [The draft EIS is available for review online.](#)

The Cape Wind Energy Project would be comprised of 130 wind turbine generators that could generate a maximum electric output of 468 megawatts and an average output of 182.6 megawatts. The project is proposed to be located in Nantucket Sound off the coast of Massachusetts.

Registration for those wishing to speak during the public hearing will begin one hour before the hearing starts at the Clark Athletic Center. MMS is also accepting written comments through April 21st. Comments may be submitted using the [online comment form](#) at under “projects open for comment.”

All comments, whether delivered in person at the hearings, via e-mail, or by regular mail, receive the same weight in MMS’s evaluation.

The Draft EIS provides a description of the proposed action, including the construction, operation, maintenance, and decommissioning phases. A detailed analysis of the impacts of the proposed action on specific resources is presented in the document. The Draft EIS considers all reasonable alternatives to the proposed action, including a no action alternative. Seven

alternatives are analyzed in detail in the Draft EIS: the proposed action at Horseshoe Shoal, no action, a smaller configuration at Horseshoe Shoal, phased development at Horseshoe Shoal, a condensed array at Horseshoe Shoal, or alternative sites at Monomoy Shoals and south of Tuckernuck Island. Following public comment, MMS will publish a Final EIS this Fall.

The DEIS is not an approval or disapproval for the project. Rather it is an evaluation tool used in the decision making process.

Comments may also be submitted by mail to:

MMS Cape Wind Energy Project
TRC Environmental Corporation, Wannalancit Mills
650 Suffolk Street
Lowell, Massachusetts 01854.

Under authority of the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act, as amended by the Energy Policy Act of 2005, MMS will regulate alternative energy projects and alternate use of facilities on the OCS. Examples include, but are not limited to, wind energy, wave energy, ocean current energy, solar energy, and hydrogen production. Alternate uses of existing facilities may include, but are not limited to, offshore aquaculture, research, education, recreation, and support for offshore operations and facilities.

—MMS—

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