

NOTICE OF PREPARATION OF AN ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

Cape Wind Associates, LLC (CWA) Construction and Operations Plan (COP)
Renewable Energy Lease OCS-A-0478

The Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Regulation and Enforcement (BOEMRE) (formerly Minerals Management Service) is preparing an environmental assessment (EA) for CWA's COP to construct, operate, and eventually decommission an offshore wind power facility on Horseshoe Shoal on the OCS in Nantucket Sound, offshore Massachusetts. The Proposed Action calls for 130, 3.6 megawatt wind turbine generators, each with a maximum blade height of 440 feet, to be arranged in a grid pattern on the OCS in Nantucket Sound, just offshore Cape Cod, Martha's Vineyard, and Nantucket Island. The COP can be found at: <http://www.boemre.gov/offshore/RenewableEnergy/CapeWind.htm>.

BOEMRE published the Cape Wind Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) on January 16, 2009, and an EA on April 28, 2010. The Proposed Action, including project location and extent, remain the same as described for the Proposed Action in the FEIS. This EA will be used for the purpose of determining whether a supplemental EIS is necessary before BOEMRE decides to approve, approve with modification, or deny CWA's COP. To that end, BOEMRE is soliciting public comment to determine whether there are any significant new circumstances or information relevant to environmental concerns and bearing on the proposed Cape Wind Project or its impacts as described in the FEIS or the April 28, 2010, EA.

The following issues have been identified by BOEMRE for consideration in this EA:

- Consideration of the National Marine Fisheries Service's (NMFS) Biological opinion, which was the result of re-initiated consultation under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act (ESA) (12/30/10);
- Consideration of civilian air space conflicts, including potential noise and economic impacts from flight diversions;
- Consideration of Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Clean Air Act (CAA) permit;
- Consideration of the Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA) Determination of No Hazard to Air Navigation (5/17/2010);
- Consideration of impacts including air emissions from increased vessel trips due to G&G surveys; and
- Consideration of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Permits, issued pursuant to Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act and Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (CWA) (01/05/11).

COMMENTS

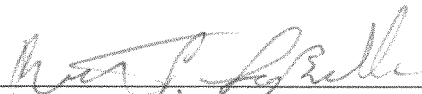
This notice provides an opportunity for public input prior to completion of the EA and a decision by the responsible official. Public input may inform the decisionmaking process by suggesting new issues or contributing information with regard to potential environmental effects in one of the following ways:

1. Electronically: <http://www.regulations.gov>. In the entry titled "Enter Keyword or ID," enter BOEM-2011-0007, then click search. Follow the instructions to submit public comments and view supporting and related materials available for this document.

2. In written form, delivered by hand or by mail, enclosed in an envelope labeled "Comments on Cape Wind COP EA" to Program Manager, Office of Offshore Alternative Energy Programs (MS 4090), Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Regulation and Enforcement, 381 Elden Street, Herndon, Virginia 20170.

Comments should be submitted no later than March 9, 2011.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Michelle Morin, BOEMRE Office of Offshore Alternative Energy Programs, 381 Elden Street, MS 4090, Herndon, Virginia 20170-4817, (703) 787-1722 or michelle.morin@boemre.gov.



Robert P. LaBelle
Acting Associate Director for Offshore
Energy and Minerals Management



Date