

PUBLIC SUBMISSION

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Docket: BOEM-2011-0005

Commercial Leasing for Wind Power on the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) Offshore New Jersey – Call for Information and Nominations

Comment On: BOEM-2011-0005-0001

Commercial Leasing for Wind Power; Call for Information and Nominations Outer Continental Shelf Offshore New Jersey

Document: BOEM-2011-0005-DRAFT-0001

Comment from Eric Johansson, organization

Submitter Information

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General Comment

To whom it may concern: The Tug and Barge Committee of the Port of NY/NJ represents 21 operators (> 90% of the tugs and barges) in the Port of NY/NJ providing coastal/inland towing and ship assist. The Coast of New Jersey is a major Marine Hwy. Transportation Route for the towing industry on routes to NY Harbor and points East. The Tug and Barge Committee wishes to protect these multiple routes to keep our sea lanes open and oppose any lease grants until a the USCG completes its scheduled Port Access Route Study (PARS) which will clearly define traffic routes, sizes, and locations. A draft proposal for a single Safety Fairway has been discussed within the industry and more are to be explored; however, currently there is NO approved Safety Fairway proposals by the Tug and Barge Committee along the NJ Shore and therefore we request that NO leases be granted until the USCG completes its impending Port Access Route Study of the East Coast.

Best regards,

Eric Johansson

Executive Director

Tug and Barge Committee Port of NY/NJ