

BUREAU OF OCEAN ENERGY MANAGEMENT (BOEM)

Atlantic Wind Connection (AWC) Right-of-Way (ROW) Application Processing Update

Virginia Task Force

Norfolk, Virginia

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Overview

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 - PROJECT OVERVIEW
- AWC CURRENT APPLICATION STATUS
 - REVIEW OF REQUEST FOR COMPETITIVE INTEREST (RFCI)
 - COMMENTS RECEIVED
 - DETERMINATION OF NO COMPETITIVE INTEREST (DNCI)
- NEXT STEPS
- ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW PROCESS
- AWC AND THE VIRGINIA CALL AREA
- KEYNOTES AND TAKEAWAYS



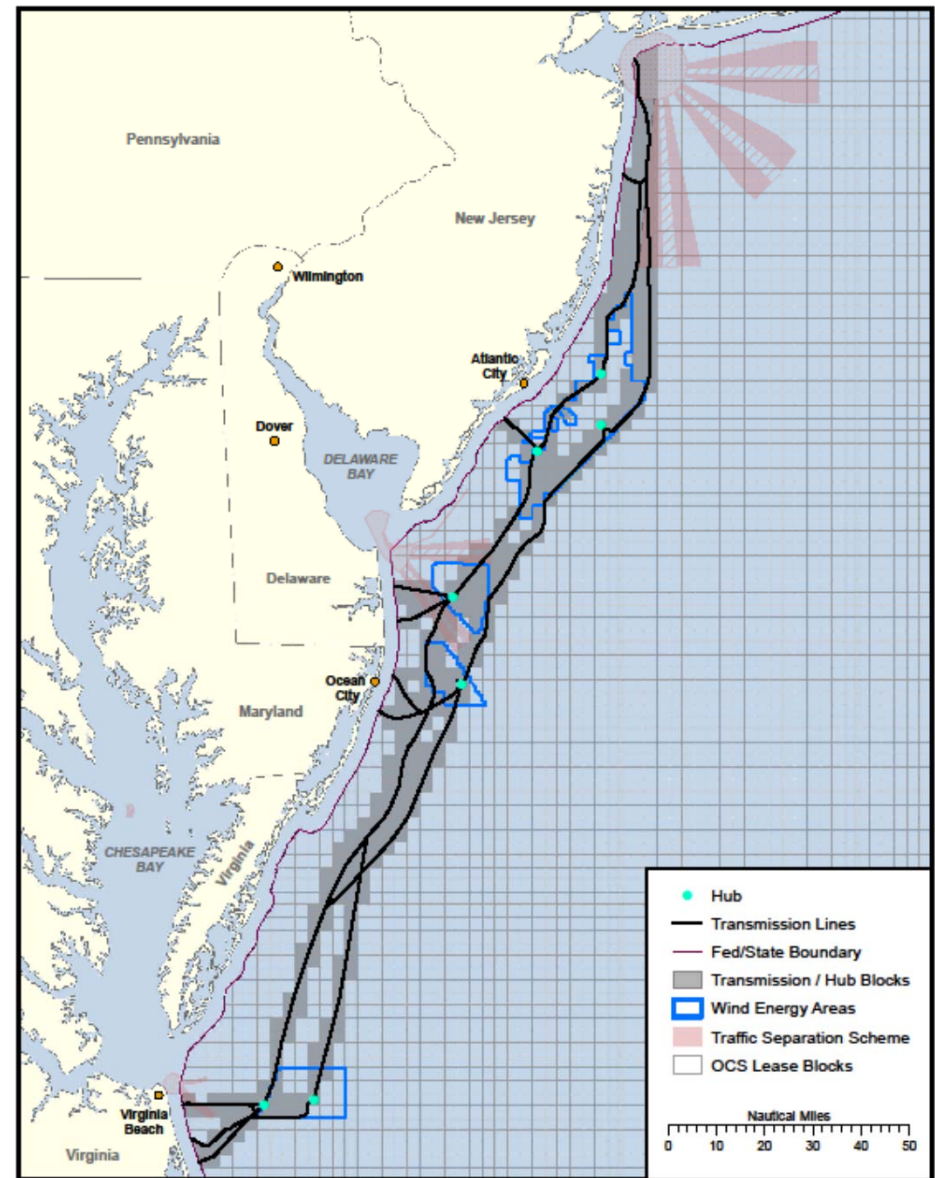
Mid-Atlantic Northeast Coast US from International Space Station

© NASA 205miles(109,000ft)

BACKGROUND

- On March 31, 2011, Atlantic Grid Holdings LLC (AGH) submitted an application for a ROW grant for the AWC proposal
- The proposal is for a transmission line on the OCS offshore New York, New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, and Virginia

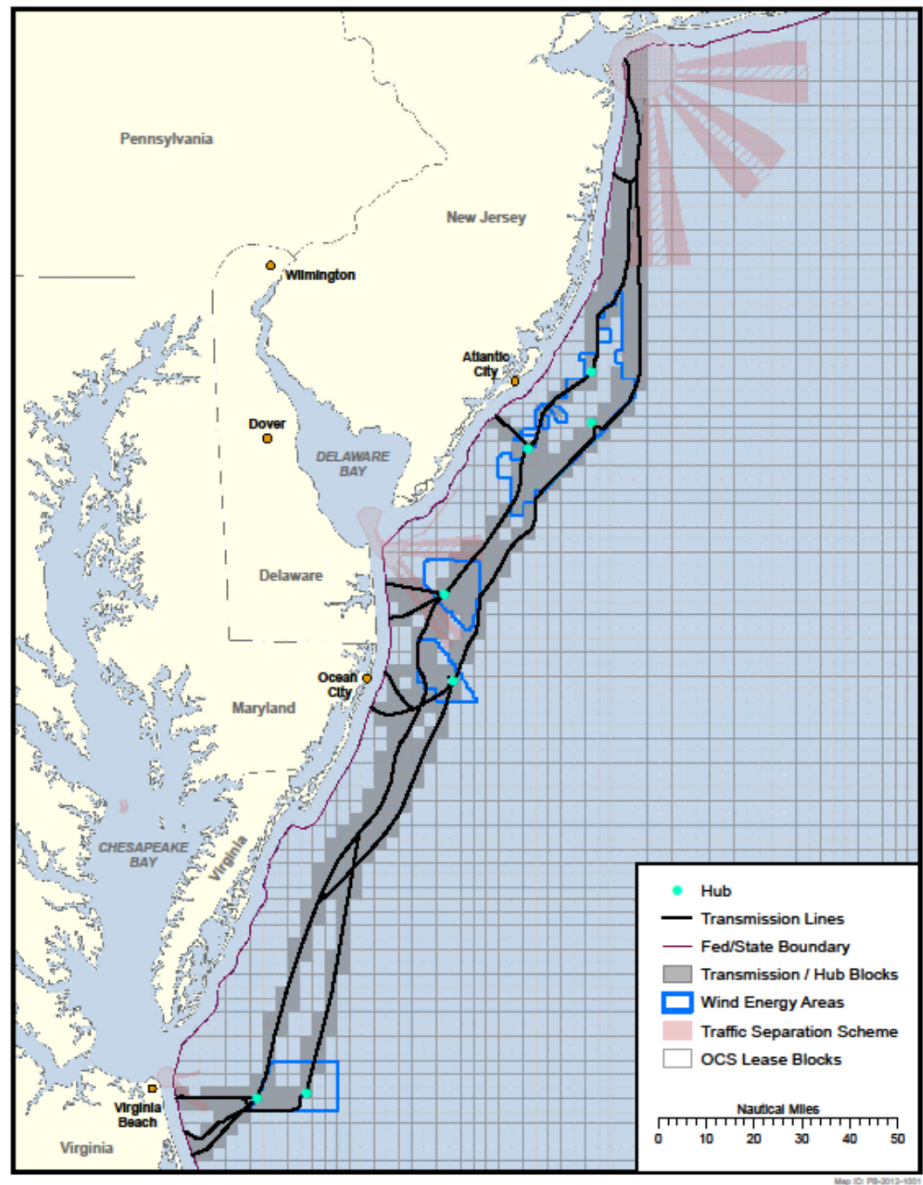
Mid Atlantic Wind Energy Areas - Atlantic Wind Connect Default and Alternative Circuits



AWC CURRENT STATUS

- Request for Competitive Interest (RFCI) was published in the Federal Register December 21, 2011. The comment period ended February 21, 2012
- 58 comments were received on the proposal and the area under consideration
 - Comments received will be considered in the NEPA analysis and included in upcoming scoping

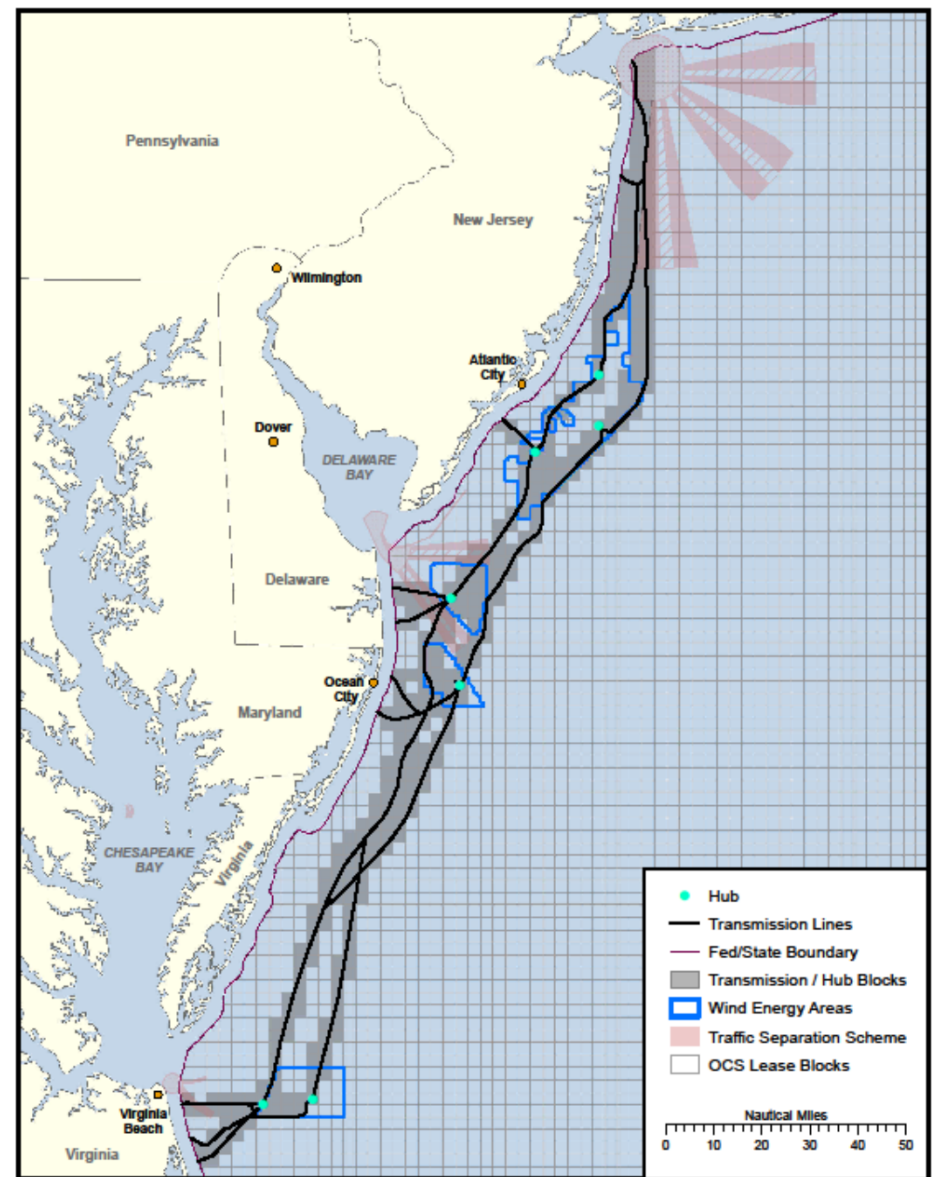
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NEXT STEPS

- BOEM will process the AWC ROW grant request noncompetitively
- BOEM intends to utilize the existing task force lists from the states of New York, New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland and Virginia and conduct required public scoping in the proposed areas during the application processing

Mid Atlantic Wind Energy Areas - Atlantic Wind Connect Default and Alternative Circuits



Environmental Review Process

- BOEM to publish a *Notice of Intent to Prepare an EIS* in the Federal Register for a 120-day comment period
 - Provides opportunity for public to voice concerns
 - Formal process for public input in decision making
- BOEM will conduct public scoping meeting in Virginia during the comment period to further engage stakeholders in NEPA process
- BOEM will prepare an EIS for all phases of the project

The program's philosophy is centered on engagement of stakeholders, transparency, and providing opportunities for public input through formal and informal processes.

Environmental Review Process

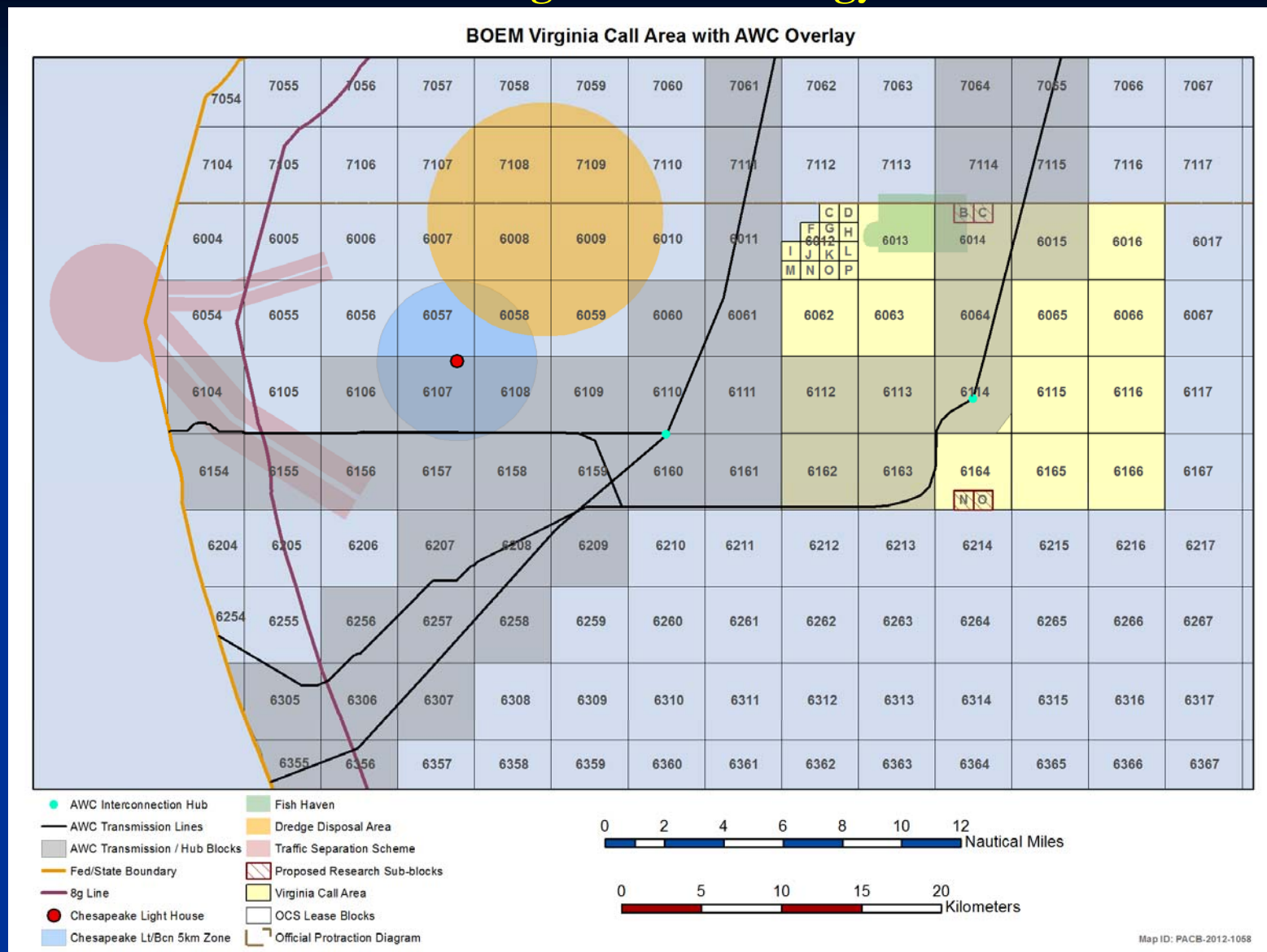
Contents of a NEPA document

- Affected Environment
- Environmental Consequences
- Proposed Action and Alternatives
- Cumulative Impacts
- Mitigation Measures

NEPA process integrates:

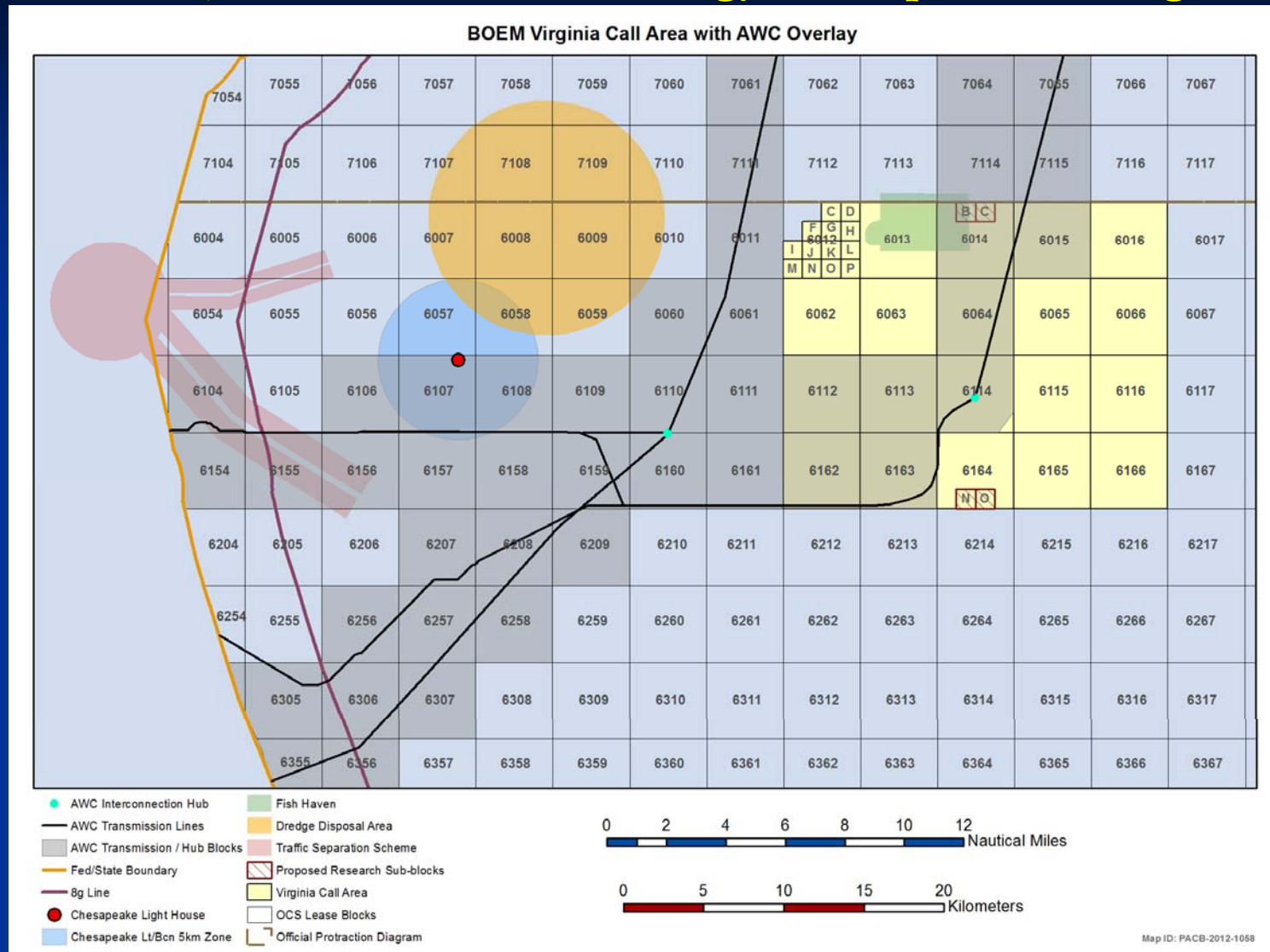
- National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA)
- Endangered Species Act (ESA)
- Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (EFH)
- Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA)

AWC and the Virginia Wind Energy Area



Potential landings in Virginia include Fentress, VA; either a second connection at Fentress, VA or Navy (near Virginia Beach, VA)

Does the Project affect OCS Wind Energy Development off Virginia?

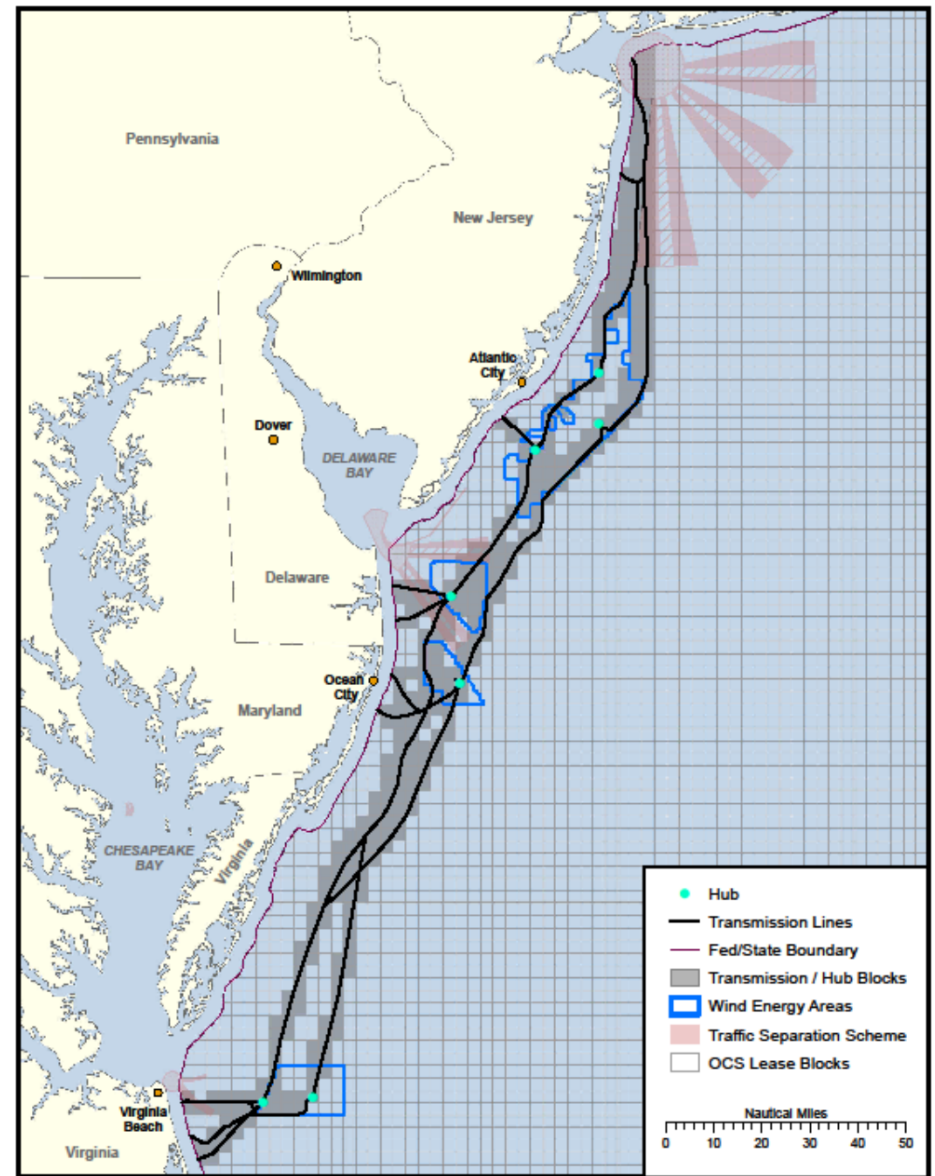


The AWC proposal provides a potential future opportunity for transmission and inter-connection offshore wind projects off Virginia

Keynotes and Take Aways

- BOEM will process the AWC ROW grant request noncompetitively
- BOEM will publish a Notice of Intent to Prepare an EIS in the Federal Register with a 120-day comment period
- The EIS will consider reasonably foreseeable wind energy generation scenarios offshore in the analysis of cumulative impacts
- BOEM intends to utilize the existing State task forces in addition to conducting required public scoping during the application processing

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Questions??

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