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June 22, 2017

James Bennett, Chief
Office of Renewable Energy
Bureau of Ocean Energy Management
381 Elden Street, MS 4080
Herndon, VA 2-170-4817

Re: Request for Suspension of Commercial Lease

Dear Mr. Bennett,

Pursuant to 30 CFR 585.416, Cape Wind Associates, LLC (“CWA”) requests an additional two-year suspension of its Commercial Lease of Submerged Lands for Renewable Energy Development on the Outer Continental Shelf dated as of November 1, 2010 (the “Lease”). By letter of July 24, 2015, the BOEM previously approved a two-year suspension of the Lease through July 24, 2017, stating that “The history of the project demonstrates that the litigation has negatively impacted CWA’s ability to timely obtain project financing and thus commence construction and operation of the project.” CWA requests a further suspension because, despite diligent efforts of both CWA and BOEM, the litigation regarding project approvals, including BOEM’s granting of the Lease, remains pending in the federal court system, and continues to prevent CWA from going forward.

The requested extension is necessary to assure CWA’s enjoyment of the Lease and the continuing delays due to appeals in the commencement of the project reduce the duration of revenue-generating operation, which adversely affect project economics. The requested suspension is also in the interest of BOEM, in that it would increase the likelihood that the first operating lease issued by BOEM would lead to commercial operation and enhance commercial confidence in this nascent industry, with BOEM in its prior suspension stating that “The U.S. offshore wind industry is still in its early stages, and all developers face numerous uncertainties and impediments when trying to move forward with project proposals.” For the same reasons, CWA also requests that the BOEM suspend its payment obligations under the Lease pursuant to 30 CFR 585.420(b).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Dennis J. Duffy".

Dennis J. Duffy, VP

Recipient
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