

Coastal Virginia Offshore Wind Project:

Research Activities Plan (RAP) Modification Review

Algene Byrum, Environmental Protection Specialist

Past NEPA Analysis and Consultations for the RAP

March 2014: Notice of Intent to prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA)

April 2014: Public scoping comment and meeting, initiated environmental consultations

December 2014: Published EA for public view, held public meeting

July 2015: Completed environmental consultations, published revised EA, issued Finding of No Significant Impact

What Activities Require Revision to the RAP?

- Activities not described in approved RAP
- Modifications to the **size or type** of facility or equipment used
- Change in the **surface location** of a facility or structure
- Change in location of **bottom disturbances** (anchors, chains, etc.)
- Change in location of **onshore support base**



Evaluating Proposed Revisions to the RAP



- Determine whether proposed activities are **authorized under existing** approved RAP
- Request additional information prior to conducting NEPA analysis and consultations
- Determine **level** of NEPA analysis and consultations necessary

Evaluating Proposed Revisions to the RAP

- BOEM may **begin NEPA analysis and consultations** when it's determined proposed revisions could:
 - Involve activities not previously identified and evaluated
 - Result in a significant change in impacts previously identified and evaluated in the revised EA published in *July 2015*
 - Require additional Federal authorizations



Questions?



Algene Byrum, NEPA Coordinator Office of Renewable Energy Programs Algene.Byrum@boem.gov

Additional Information:

www.boem.gov/Virginia

www.boem.gov/Renewable-Energy-State-Activities