



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF OCEAN ENERGY MANAGEMENT

WASHINGTON, DC 20240-0001

JUN 20 2016

Ms. Aileen Kenny
Deepwater Wind LLC
56 Exchange Terrace, Suite 300
Providence, Rhode Island 02903-1772

Dear Ms. Kenny:

On March 21, 2016, Deepwater Wind LLC (Deepwater Wind) requested a departure from 30 C.F.R. § 585.533(b)(2), which requires the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) to hold the surety bond for lease OCS-A 0472 until, at minimum, 7 years after the lease's termination. On May 24, 2016, BOEM requested additional information that was necessary to assess your departure request pursuant to 30 C.F.R. § 585.103(a) which was provided on May 31, 2016.

Lease OCS-A 0472 expired on November 1, 2014, and the New Jersey Research Device was fully decommissioned in October 2015. As required under Section 18, Exhibit B(14) of the lease, a decommissioning report was submitted to BOEM by Deepwater Wind. In response to Deepwater Wind's report, BOEM provided a letter dated March 7, 2016, concluding that the area used for deployment, operation, and decommission had been returned to its original state and all trash and bottom debris introduced as a result of Deepwater Wind's operations removed.

Deepwater Wind indicates they do not believe there are any outstanding obligations and is not aware of any current or future litigation with respect to the lease. BOEM has checked with the Office of Natural Resource Revenue to determine if any outstanding obligations exist with regard to your lease, for which there are none, and agrees with your assessment.

Deepwater Wind also states that the departure will return \$300,000 which will be used to facilitate activities on leases OCS-A 0486 and OCS-A 0487 offshore Rhode Island/Massachusetts through the payment of yearly fees.

BOEM reviewed your request pursuant to 30 C.F.R. § 585.103 and we conclude that this departure would help facilitate activities on leases OCS-A 0486 and OCS-A 0487. Moreover, BOEM has determined that approving a departure in this case would be consistent with subsection 8(p) of the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act; would protect the environment and public health and safety to the same degree as if there was no approved departure from the regulations; and would not impair the rights of third parties, in accordance with 30 C.F.R. § 585.103(b)(1-3).

BOEM will consider the release of surety bond No. RLB0012683 upon receipt of a request from the surety company for the termination of the period of liability and cancellation of the bond. Your surety company will also notify you of that request. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Mr. Will Waskes at 703-787-1287.

Sincerely,

James F. Bennett
Program Manager
Bureau of Ocean Energy Management