

Ms. Kris Ohleth  
Atlantic Grid Holdings, LLC  
4445 Willard Avenue, Suite 1050  
Chevy Chase, Maryland 20815

Dear Ms. Ohleth:

In Atlantic Grid Holding, LLC's (AGH) July 31, 2013, letter, AGH requested a departure from BOEM's regulatory requirements at 30 CFR § 585.306(b), which states in part that:

*If BOEM determines that there is no competitive interest in a ROW or RUE grant, we will require you to submit a [General Activities Plan (GAP)] as described in 30 CFR §§ 585.645-648, within 60 days of the determination of no competitive interest.*

AGH requested a departure from BOEM regulations under 30 CFR 585.103(a) to allow additional time for AGH to submit a GAP for the Atlantic Wind Connection (AWC) project. AGH asked BOEM to extend this period until December 31, 2014. BOEM requested additional information in support of your request, in a letter dated August 23, 2013, which you provided on September 20, 2013.

BOEM has reviewed the information submitted to date along with the milestones that AGH has made on the project submitted to support the request. This review included an overall assessment of the progress made by AGH on the project including the selection of an engineering and procurement contractor. The review also takes into account the ongoing commitment by AGH to complete several studies and surveys and obtain permits from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE). We also acknowledge AGH's participation and responsiveness to the ongoing multi-agency coordination between the USACE, BOEM, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's National Marine Fisheries Service and the U.S. Coast Guard. In addition, the review takes into account the efforts by AGH to qualify both technically and financially with PJM Interconnection LLC, which has found AGH to be pre-qualified to be the "Designated Entity" to develop, build, own, and operate the complete AWC Project.

Based on the AGH progress to date, the information submitted, and our review, BOEM has determined that the request to approve a departure is adequately supported.

BOEM has determined that approving a departure in this case would be consistent with subsection 8(p) of the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act. BOEM has also determined that approving a departure would protect the environment and the 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 CFR 585.103(b)(1-3). Finally, this letter documents the departure approval and its rationale in writing, in accordance with 30 CFR 585.103(b) (4).

By this letter, pursuant to 30 CFR 585.103, BOEM grants a departure to allow additional time to submit a GAP to us no later than December 31, 2014.

BOEM makes this determination based on the condition that you provide an interim update to BOEM on the status of your activities no later than June 4, 2014.

If you have any questions about this decision, please contact Mr. Casey Reeves at 703-787-1671.

Sincerely,

Maureen A. Bornholdt  
Program Manager  
Office of Renewable Energy Programs

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