

United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF OCEAN ENERGY MANAGEMENT WASHINGTON, DC 20240-0001

Mr. Matthew Brotmann Secretary Empire Leaseholder LLC 600 Washington Boulevard Suite 800 Stamford, CT 06901

Dear Mr. Brotmann:

On September 16, 2024, Empire Offshore Wind LLC requested that the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM): (1) grant its application to assign Lease OCS-A 0512 (Lease) to Empire Leaseholder LLC; (2) approve a request to designate Empire Offshore Wind LLC as the operator for the area of the Lease pertaining to the Empire Wind 1 (EW1) project; (3) approve a request to designate Empire Wind 2 LLC as the operator for the area of the Lease pertaining to the Empire Wind 2 (EW2) project; and (4), as a result of the designation of operators, re-issue the February 21, 2024, approval with conditions of the Construction and Operations Plan (COP) for the Lease as two separate approvals, one for the EW1 Project and one for the EW2 Project. BOEM approved the lease assignment and designation of operators on November 1, 2024.

This letter informs you that BOEM has completed the re-issuance of the enclosed Conditions of COP Approval for the EW1 project area so that the conditions are specifically tailored to Empire Offshore Wind LLC's scope of operations as the designated operator for EW1. Nothing in the lease assignment, designation of operators, or re-issuance of these conditions changes any of the activities that BOEM approved to be conducted in the Lease area under the February 21, 2024, approval with conditions of the *Empire Offshore Wind: Empire Wind Project (EW1 and EW2) Construction and Operations Plan* (November 2023).

As provided in Section 1.1 of the enclosed conditions, please note that Empire Leaseholder LLC and Empire Offshore Wind LLC must conduct all activities as proposed in its approved COP and in compliance with all applicable requirements (including those in commercial lease OCS-A 0512), applicable statutes and regulations, and all permits, authorizations, and consultations issued by federal and state agencies for the EW1 project.

To maintain compliance with the approved COP and its conditions of approval, Empire Leaseholder LLC must submit annual reports certifying compliance with the enclosed conditions of approval, pursuant to 30 C.F.R. § 285.633(a). These reports are due annually starting on January 31, 2025.

This letter constitutes a final BOEM decision that may be appealed pursuant to 30 C.F.R. § 585.118.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Melissa Pauley at 703-787-1742 or <u>Melissa.Pauley@boem.gov</u>.

Sincerely,

David B. Diamond Deputy Chief for Operations, Atlantic Outer Continental Shelf Office of Renewable Energy Programs

Enclosure

Empire Offshore Wind LLC