

Appendix L: Glossary

Appendix L. Glossary

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L.1 Glossary

Term	Definition
Affected environment	Environment as it exists today that could be impacted by the proposed Project
Algal blooms	Rapid growth of the population of algae, also known as algae bloom
Allision	A moving ship accidentally contacting a stationary ship/object
Ancient submerged landform feature	A submerged landform as it was in ancient times
Anthropogenic	Generated by human activity
Archaeological resource	Historical place, site, building, shipwreck, or other archaeological site on the American landscape
Automatic identification system	Automatic tracking system used on vessels to monitor ship movements and avoid collision
Baleen whale	A cetacean with baleens (whalebones) instead of teeth
Below grade	Below ground level
Benthic	Related to the bottom of a body of water
Benthic resources	The seafloor surface, the substrate itself, and the communities of bottom-dwelling organisms that live within these habitats
Cetacea	Order of aquatic mammals made up of whales, dolphins, porpoises, and related lifeforms
Coastal habitat	Coastal areas where flora and fauna live, including salt marshes and aquatic habitats
Coastal waters	Waters in nearshore areas where bottom depth is less than 98.4 feet
Coastal zone	The lands and waters starting at 3 nautical miles from the land and ending at the first major land transportation route
Commercial fisheries	Areas or entities raising and/or catching fish for commercial profit
Commercial-scale wind energy facility	Wind energy facility usually greater than 1 megawatt that sells the produced electricity

Term	Definition
Criteria pollutant	One of six common air pollutants for which the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency sets National Ambient Air Quality Standards: carbon monoxide, lead, nitrogen dioxide, ozone, particulate matter, or sulfur dioxide
Critical habitat	Geographic area containing features essential to the conservation of threatened or endangered species
Cultural resource	Historical districts, objects, places, sites, buildings, shipwrecks, and archeological sites on the American landscape, as well as sites of traditional, religious, or cultural significance to cultural groups, including Native American tribes
Culvert	Structure, usually a tunnel, allowing water to flow under an obstruction (e.g., road, trail)
Cumulative impacts	Impacts that could result from the incremental impact of a specific action, such as the proposed Project, when combined with other past, present, or reasonably foreseeable future actions or other projects; can occur from individually minor, but collectively significant actions that take place over time
Demersal	Living close to the ocean floor
Design envelope	The range of proposed Project characteristics defined by the applicant and used by the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) for purposes of environmental review and permitting
Dredging	Removal of sediments and debris from the bottom of lakes, rivers, harbors, and other water bodies
Duct bank	Underground structure that houses the onshore export cables, which consists of polyvinyl chloride (PVC) pipes encased in concrete
Ecosystem	Community of interacting living organisms and nonliving components (such as air, water, soil)
Electromagnetic field	A field of force produced by electrically charged objects and containing both electric and magnetic components
Embayment	Recessed part of a shoreline
Endangered species	A species that is in danger of extinction in all or a significant portion of its range
Endangered Species Act-listed species	Species listed under the Endangered Species Act
Ensonification	The process of filling with sound

Term	Definition
Environmental consequences	The potential impacts that the construction, operations, maintenance, and decommissioning of the proposed Project would have on the environment
Environmental justice communities	Minority and low-income populations affected by the proposed Project and alternatives
Environmental protection measure (EPM)	Measure proposed in COP to avoid or minimize potential impacts
Epifauna	Fauna that lives on the surface of a seabed (or riverbed), or is attached to underwater objects or aquatic plants or animals
Essential fish habitat	“Those waters and substrate necessary to fish for spawning, breeding, feeding, or growth to maturity” (50 Code of Federal Regulations 600)
Export cables	Cables connecting the wind facility to the onshore electrical grid power
Export cable corridor	Area identified for routing the entire length of the onshore and offshore export cables
Federal aids to navigation	Visual references operated and maintained by USCG, including radar transponders, lights, sound signals, buoys, and lighthouses, that support safe maritime navigation
Finfish	Vertebrate and cartilaginous fishery species, not including crustaceans, cephalopods, or other mollusks
For-hire commercial fishing	Commercial fishing on a for-hire vessel, i.e., a vessel on which the passengers make a contribution to a person having an interest in the vessel in exchange for carriage
For-hire recreational fishing	Fishing from a vessel carrying a passenger for hire who is engaged in recreational fishing
Foundation	The bases to which the wind turbine generators and offshore converter station are installed on the seabed. Three types of foundations have been considered and reviewed for the Project: jacket, monopile, or gravity-based structure. Monopile is the selected foundation type for the Project.
Geomagnetic	Relating to the magnetism of the Earth
Hard-bottom habitat	Benthic habitats comprised of hard-bottom (e.g., cobble, rock, and ledge) substrates

Term	Definition
Historic property	Prehistoric or historic district, site, building, structure, or object that is eligible for or already listed in the National Register of Historic Places. Also includes any artifacts, records, and remains (surface or subsurface) related to and located within such a resource
Historical resource	Prehistoric or historic district, site, building, structure, or object that is eligible for or already listed in the NRHP; also includes any artifacts, records, and remains (surface or subsurface) related to and located within such a resource
Horizontal directional drilling	Trenchless technique for installing underground cables, pipes, and conduits using a surface-launched drilling rig
Hull	Watertight frame or body of a ship
Infauna	Fauna living in the sediments of the ocean floor (or river or lake beds)
Inter-array cables	Cables connecting the wind turbine generators to the electrical service platforms
Interconnection facility	Substation connecting the proposed Project to the existing bulk power grid system
Inter-link cables	Cables connecting the electrical service platforms to one another
Invertebrate	Animal with no backbone
Jacket foundation	Latticed steel frame with three or four supporting piles driven into the seabed
Jack-up vessel	Mobile and self-elevating platform with buoyant hull
Jet excavation	Process of moving or removing soil with a jet
Jet plowing	Plowing in which the jet plow, with an adjustable blade, or plow rests on the seafloor and is towed by a surface vessel; the jet plow creates a narrow trench at the designated depth, while water jets fluidize the sediment within the trench; in the case of the proposed Project, the cables would then be feed through the plow and laid into the trench as it moves forward; the fluidized sediments then settle back down into the trench and bury the cable
Knot	Unit of speed equaling 1 nm per hour
Landfall site	The shoreline landing site at which the offshore cable transitions to onshore

Term	Definition
Lease area	The entire area that Sunrise Wind, LLC purchased from BOEM
Marine mammal	Aquatic vertebrate distinguished by the presence of mammary glands, hair, three middle ear bones, and a neocortex (a region of the brain)
Marine waters	Waters in offshore areas where bottom depth is more than 98.4 feet (30 meters)
Mechanical cutter	Method of submarine cable installation equipment that involves a cutting wheel or excavation chain to cut a narrow trench into the seabed allowing the cable to sink under its own weight or be pushed to the bottom of the trench via a cable depressor
Mechanical plow	Method of submarine cable installation equipment that involves pulling a plow along the cable route to lay and bury the cable. The plow's share cuts into the soil, opening a temporary trench which is held open by the side walls of the share, while the cable is lowered to the base of the trench via a depressor. Some plows may use additional jets to fluidize the soil in front of the share.
Monopile or monopile foundation	A long steel tube driven into the seabed that supports a tower
Nautical mile	A unit used to measure sea distances and equivalent to approximately 1.15 miles
Offshore Sunrise Wind Export Cable	Export cables located in state or marine waters
Offshore substation	The interconnection point between the wind turbine generators and the export cable; the necessary electrical equipment needed to connect the inter-array cables to the offshore export cables
Onshore substation	Substation connecting the proposed Project to the existing bulk power grid system
Onshore Sunrise Wind Export Cable	Export cables located on land
Operations and maintenance facilities	Would include offices, control rooms, warehouses, shop space, and pier space
Outer continental shelf	All submerged land, subsoil, and seabed belonging to the United States but outside of states' jurisdiction
Pile	A type of foundation akin to a pole
Pile driving	Installing foundation piles by driving them into the seafloor
Pinnipeds	Carnivorous, semiaquatic, fin-footed marine mammals, also known as seals

Term	Definition
Pin pile	Small-diameter pipe driven into the ground as foundation support
Plume	Column of fluid moving through another fluid
Private aids to navigation	Visual references operated and maintained by the U.S. Coast Guard, including radar transponders, lights, sound signals, buoys, and lighthouses, that support safe maritime navigation
Project	The siting and development of the Sunrise Wind Farm and the Sunrise Wind Export Cable
Project area	The combined onshore and offshore area where proposed Project components would be located
Protected species	Endangered or threatened species that receive federal protection under the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (as amended)
Right-of-way	Registered easement on private land that allows access by another entity
Scour protection	Protection consisting of rock and stone that would be placed around all foundations to stabilize the seabed near the foundations as well as the foundations themselves
Scrublands	Plant community dominated by shrubs and often also including grasses and herbs
Sessile	Attached directly by the base
Silt substrate	Substrate made of a granular material originating from quartz and feldspar, and whose size is between sand and clay
Soft-bottom habitat	Benthic habitats include soft-bottom (i.e., unconsolidated sediments) and hard-bottom (e.g., cobble, rock, and ledge) substrates, as well as biogenic habitat (e.g., eelgrass, mussel beds, and worm tubes) created by structure-forming species
Substrate	Earthy material at the bottom of a marine habitat; the natural environment that an organism lives in
Sunrise wind farm (SRWF)	The work area containing all proposed wind turbine generators, offshore substations, and inter-array cables
Suspended sediments	Very fine soil particles that remain in suspension in water for a considerable period of time without contact with the bottom. Such material remains in suspension due to the upward components of turbulence and currents, and/or by suspension.

Term	Definition
Threatened species	A species that is likely to become endangered within the foreseeable future
Tidal energy project	Project related to the conversion of the energy of tides into usable energy, usually electricity
Tidal flushing	Replacement of water in an estuary or bay because of tidal flow
Transition vault	Underground concrete transition vault that to be constructed at the landing site and inside of which offshore and shore Sunrise Wind Export Cable would be spliced together.
Trawl	A large fishing net dragged by a vessel at the bottom or in the middle of sea or lake water
Turbidity	A measure of water clarity
Utility right-of-way	Registered easement on private land that allows utility companies to access the utilities or services located there
Vibracore	Technology/technique for collecting core samples of underwater sediments and wetland soils
Viewshed	Area visible from a specific location
Visual resource	The visible physical features on a landscape, including natural elements such as topography, landforms, water, vegetation, and manmade structures
Wetland	Land saturated with water; marshes; swamps
Wind energy	Electricity from naturally occurring wind
Wind energy area	Areas with significant wind energy potential and defined by BOEM
Wind turbine generator	Component that puts out electricity in a structure that converts kinetic energy from wind into electricity