

# SEMI-ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT 1 LEASE AREA OCS-A 0544

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<sup>\*</sup>Vineyard Mid-Atlantic LLC is a Vineyard Offshore LLC affiliate.



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#### 1 Introduction

This Progress Report is prepared in accordance with section 3.1 of Addendum C of the lease between Bureau of Ocean Management (BOEM) and Vineyard Mid-Atlantic, LLC (VMA or Lessee)<sup>1</sup>, with effective date May 1, 2022 (the "Lease"). The Lease requires that the Lessee submit a progress report to BOEM every six months, through the Construction and Operations Plan (COP) approval, with the first report submitted within six months of the Lease effective date. The purpose of this Progress Report is to document overall project progress and engagement activities undertaken with Tribes, communities, ocean user groups, federal, state and local governments, and other identified stakeholders during the reporting period and plans for continued engagement over the next reporting period.

The lease area (OCS-A 0544) is shown on Figure 1.

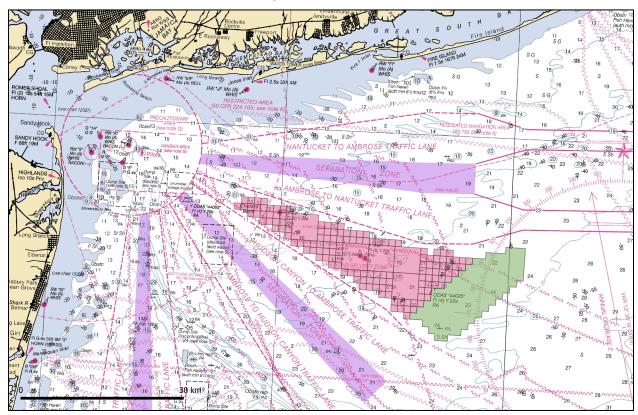


Figure 1: Location of Lease Area OCS-A 0544 (shaded green) in the New York Bight Wind Energy Area. Empire Wind Lease Area OCS-A 0512 (pink shading) is adjacent to the west. Nautical chart 12300 in the background (soundings in fathoms).

#### 2 Brief Narrative of Overall Progress

This section provides a brief summary of survey and development activities and progress of communication efforts with fisheries, federally recognized Tribes, and agencies conducted during the reporting period.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The OCS-A 0544 lease is held by Mid-Atlantic Offshore Wind LLC. Mid-Atlantic Offshore Wind LLC has changed its name to Vineyard Mid-Atlantic LLC with both the Delaware Secretary of State and BOEM. Vineyard Mid-Atlantic LLC is a Vineyard Offshore LLC affiliate.



#### 2.1 Survey Activities

On May 4, 2022, VMA submitted a Survey Plan to BOEM that included includes geophysical surveying and geotechnical sampling, as well as environmental sampling and remote sensing to:

- inform site conditions, particularly sensitive environmental areas and potential cultural resources, and the avoidance and mitigation of impact to those areas,
- provide scientific information for engineering and design efforts associated with project planning and installation planning, and
- inform the Site Assessment Plan and Construction and Operations Plan.

After addressing BOEM comments and questions, the Survey Plan was revised by VMA and approved by BOEM on August 2, 2022.

Approved survey activities started on August 5, 2022 and have continued as weather and vessel availability permits. An updated schedule for implementing the approved survey plan is provided separately as a business confidential information. The updated survey schedule also indicates activities completed to date.

#### 2.2 Site Assessment Plan Activities

No site assessment activities occurred during the reporting period.

#### 2.3 Transmission Planning

No transmission planning activities occurred during the reporting period.

#### 2.4 Other Development Activities

No other development activities occurred during the reporting period.

#### 2.5 Overview of Stakeholder Engagement

**Appendix A** identifies applicable Native American Tribes and other parties based on a current understanding of jurisdiction and project geographies. During this reporting period, the preliminary project configurations were being developed and specific stakeholders in most stakeholder groups were not yet identified. This list will be updated as needed.

The project is in early stages of planning and so stakeholder engagement activities that have occurred since the effective date include introductory and pre-survey meetings with BOEM and U. S. Coast Guard (USCG), Native American Tribes and fisheries representatives. It is anticipated that more focused meetings will be held with stakeholders during the next reporting period. In addition, Vineyard Mid-Atlantic has been engaging with BOEM in relation to the agency's intent to conduct a Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS).



**Section 3** of this report provides a summary of information about engagement activities with Native American Tribes since the lease effective date<sup>2</sup>. **Section 4** of this report provides additional information regarding engagement with other parties since the lease effective date.

### 3 Native American Tribes Engagement

This section provides a summary of completed and anticipated engagement activities with the Native American Tribes listed in **Appendix A**. Note that the Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Nation has advised BOEM that the tribe is not interested in being included in engagement activities.

#### 3.1 Summary of Engagement Activities

Engagement activities that have occurred since lease award are summarized in Table 3-1.

Table 3-1. Summary of Native American Tribe Engagement Activities				
Project Phase or Activity (i.e., pre- COP submission, transmission planning, G&G surveys, etc.)	Types/Number of Engagement Activities	Participants	Summary of Engagement Activities (e.g., narrative describing activities.)	
G&G Surveys	Notification of presurvey meetings by certified mail Follow-up telephone calls/voice messages Pre-Survey virtual meetings held on 6/27/2022, 6/28/2022 and 7/6/2022	All tribes listed in Appendix A were contacted. Representatives of Wampanoag Tribe of Gay Head, Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe, Shinnecock Indian Nation responded and attended.	At each pre-survey meeting, the attendees were provided information about the company, the proposed 2022 field surveys and planned field surveys for 2023. Attendees were advised of future opportunities for vessels tours and vibracore processing. Attendees expressed interest in access to data. As follow-up, presentation slides were provided to attendees.	

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Due to the sensitive and often confidential nature of conversations between sovereign, federally recognized Tribal governments and lessees, Section 3 includes summary information about engagement activities but does not include detailed or specific information regarding engagement objectives or strategies; information, concerns, and/or recommendations made by Tribal governments; and/or agreements reached between lessees and Tribal governments. Any public release of information shared during or generated as a result of engagement with Tribes/Tribal Nations should be discussed with and approved by relevant Tribal governments prior to public disclosure.



#### 3.2 Potential Issues and Concerns

Table 3-2 summarizes issues and concerns raised by native American tribe stakeholders during engagement activities. Efforts to address these potential issues and concerns are indicated as well as how the project has been informed or altered in consideration of these concerns.

Table 3-2. Potential Issues and Concerns Identified through Native American Tribe Engagement				
Project Phase or Activity	Concern or Issue Raised	Efforts to Address or Resolve	Outcome (e.g., design or implementation change)	
G&G Surveys (Pre-Survey Meetings)	Interest in planned location of offshore cable route	Future engagement to present potential offshore cable routes will be scheduled in Q1/Q2 2023	To be determined	

#### 3.3 Anticipated or Scheduled Engagement Activities

Vineyard Mid-Atlantic is deferring to BOEM for guidance on future engagement activities. BOEM is issuing guidance for the preparation of the Native American Tribes Communication Plan (NATCP) in Q1 2023. Engagement activities will be conducted according to that plan.

#### 3.4 Coordinated Engagement

Vineyard Mid-Atlantic is committed to working with BOEM to coordinate engagement with the Tribes and the other lessees in the NY Bight. On July 25, 2022, BOEM advised the NY Bight Lessees that the agency has been conducting outreach with the tribes and, due to concerns for overburdening the tribes with multiple meetings convened by individual Lessees, BOEM waived the lease requirement that each Lessee meet with tribes within 120 days of lease execution. Since that time, BOEM has continued to work with the lessees to develop a plan for coordinated engagement with the Tribes.



## 4 Other Stakeholder Engagement

This section provides a summary of completed and anticipated engagement activities with stakeholders other than the Native American Tribes.

#### 4.1 Summary of Stakeholder Engagement Activities

Stakeholder engagement activities that have occurred since lease award are summarized in Table 4-1.

Table 4-1. Summary of Stakeholder Engagement Activities				
Project Phase or Activity (i.e., pre- COP submission, transmission planning, G&G surveys, etc.)	Stakeholder Participant(s)	Types of Engagement Activities	Topics of Discussions	Follow-up Actions/Activities/ Outcomes
Project Initiation/ Introduction	BOEM	4/12/22 virtual meeting	Introduction to Vineyard Offshore; Planned PEIS	No specific follow-up actions
Project Initiation/ Introduction	USCG	4/1/22 virtual meeting	WTG layout, cable locations, navigational considerations	No specific follow-up actions; VNE to consider navigational constraints during COP preparation
Project Initiation/ Introduction	Mid-Atlantic Fisheries Council	6/9/22 Open House at regular Council meeting	Introduction to Vineyard Offshore and Vineyard Mid- Atlantic	No specific follow-up actions
Project Initiation/ Introduction /Pre- Survey	Fishery representatives	6/9/2022	Introduction to Vineyard Offshore and Vineyard Mid- Atlantic	Continued open communication.
NY Bight PEIS Planning	BOEM	6/21/2022 virtual meeting	Overview of planned PEIS and agency consultation schedule and anticipated timing with COPs	No specific follow-up actions. BOEM to issue NOI for PEIS in July 2022 and will seek lessee input for representative Project Design Envelope.



Project Phase or Activity (i.e., pre- COP submission, transmission planning, G&G surveys, etc.)	Stakeholder En  Stakeholder  Participant(s)	Types of Engagement Activities	Topics of Discussions	Follow-up Actions/Activities/ Outcomes
G&G Surveys	BOEM	9/9/22 virtual meeting	Geotechnical investigation	BOEM advised VMA could proceed as planned; BOEM to schedule monthly update meetings with VMA

#### 4.2 Potential Issues and Concerns

Table 3-2 summarizes issues and concerns raised by non-tribal stakeholders during engagement activities. Efforts to address these potential issues and concerns are indicated as well as how the project has been informed or altered in consideration of these concerns.

During this reporting period, no specific issues or concerns were identified.

Table 4-2. Potential Issues and Concerns Identified through Stakeholder Engagement				
Project Phase or Activity	Concern or Issue Raised	Efforts to Address or Resolve	Outcome (e.g., design or implementation change)	
G&G Surveys	None identified			

#### 4.3 Anticipated or Scheduled Engagement Activities

The following engagement with other interested parties is anticipated for the next reporting period.

- continued engagement with BOEM related to the PEIS for the NY Bight.
- monthly calls with BOEM.
- Initial consultations with Federal and state agencies including NMFS, USCG, NYSDOS, and others to be scheduled (Q1 2023)
- Engagement with fisheries representatives regarding survey plans and project layout (Q1 2023) Additional engagement activities are anticipated but have not been specifically determined as of the date of this report.

#### 4.4 Coordinated Engagement



Vineyard Offshore will continue to coordinate with the other lessees in communications with BOEM as it relates to common issues in the NY Bight, such as the PEIS. When feasible, Vineyard Mid-Atlantic will coordinate with the other NY Bight lessees for meetings with other agencies.

# APPENDIX A TRIBES AND PARTIES APPLICABLE TO PROJECT



# TRIBES AND PARTIES APPLICABLE TO PROJECT

Last Update: 10/31/2022

This list identifies tribes and other parties applicable to the project based on a current understanding of project geographies and agency jurisdiction. This list will be updated as needed.

PARTY	PARTY TYPE
Coastal community organizations not yet identified	CC
Mid-Atlantic Fisheries Council	CFish
Recreational Fishery representative not yet identified	RFish
Various local educational institutions not yet identified	ERI
Environmental and Public Interest Non-Governmental Organizations not yet	NGO
identified	
Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM)	FA
U.S. Coast Guard (USCG)	FA
U.S. Army Corp of Engineers (ACOE)	FA
National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS)	FA
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS)	FA
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA)	FA
Federal Aviation Authority (FAA)	FA
U.S. Department of Energy (DOE)	FA
U.S. DOD (DOD) Military Aviation and Installation Assurance Site Clearinghouse	FA
(Clearinghouse)	
National Park Service (NPS)	FA
Federal Permitting Improvement Steering Committee (FPISC)	FA
NY State Department of Conservation (NYSDEC)	SA
NY State Department of State (NYDOS)	SA
NY State Department of Transportation (NYDOT)	SA
NY Office of Parks, Recreation and Development (NYSOPRHP)	SA
NY Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA)	SA
NY Office of General Services (NYOGS)	SA
NY Department of Public Service (NYDPS)	SA
New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP)	SA
NJDEP, Watershed and Land Management Program (WLMP)	SA
NJDEP, Historic Preservation Office (NJHPO)	SA
New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (NJBPU)	SA
Port Authority of New York-New Jersey (PANYNJ)	SA
Local government bodies to be identified based on potential export cable routes,	LA
landfalls and points of interconnection	
Absentee-Shawnee Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma	FTribe
Delaware Tribe of Indians	FTribe
Eastern Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma	FTribe
Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Nation	FTribe
Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe	FTribe
Mohegan Tribe of Connecticut	FTribe
Shawnee Tribe	FTribe
Stockbridge-Munsee Community Band of Mohican Indians	FTribe
The Delaware Nation	FTribe



The Narragansett Indian Tribe	FTribe
The Shinnecock Indian Nation	FTribe
Wampanoag Tribe of Gay Head (Aquinnah)	FTribe
Unkenchaug Nation	STribe
Mariners and Maritime Industry	M
Other Ocean Users not yet identified	OU
Submarine Cable Operators to be identified based on potential export cable routes	SCO
Underserved Communities to be identified based on offshore cable landfall and	UC
points of interconnection	

#### Party types:

CC = Coastal Community

CFish = Commercial Fishery Industry

RFish = Recreational Fishery Industry

ERI = Educational and Research Institutions

NGO = Environmental and Public Interest Non-Governmental Organizations

FA = Federal Agency

SA = State Agency

LA = Local Agency

FTribe = Federally Recognized Tribe

STribe = State Recognized Tribe

M = Maritime Industry/Mariners

SCO = Submarine Cable Operators

UC = Underserved Community

OU = Other Ocean Users

# APPENDIX B COMMUNICATION PLANS



#### **Communication Plans for Vineyard Mid-Atlantic**

Native American Tribes Communication Plan

• This plan is under development with BOEM

#### Fisheries Communications Plan

• This plan is available on the Vineyard Offshore website

# Agency Communication Plan

• The agency communication plan was submitted to BOEM on August 24, 2022.