



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF OCEAN ENERGY MANAGEMENT
WASHINGTON, DC 20240-0001

Mr. Joshua Bennett
Dominion Energy, Inc.
707 East Main Street
Richmond, Virginia 23219

Dear Mr. Bennett:

I am writing on behalf of the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM), Office of Renewable Energy Programs, regarding the decommissioning application and departure request submitted by Virginia Electric and Power Company (Dominion) on April 18 and August 12, 2022; respectively. BOEM has determined that the decommissioning request submitted on April 18, 2022, as supplemented by a subsequent revision submitted on October 11, 2022, includes the necessary information to meet the requirements of both a decommissioning application and a decommissioning notice in accordance with 30 C.F.R. §§ 585.906 and 585.908. Through this letter, BOEM approves the decommissioning application provided by Dominion within its decommissioning request for lease OCS-A 0483.

BOEM also approves Dominion's request for a regulatory departure from the requirement in 30 C.F.R. § 585.908(a) to submit its decommissioning notice at least 60 days in advance of commencing decommissioning activities and only after the decommissioning application is approved. Dominion filed a decommissioning notice with the departure request on August 12, 2022. The purpose behind the 60-day notice is to allow BOEM to assess if the decommissioning activities are to be conducted differently than what was approved in the decommissioning application. Since Dominion intends to commence decommissioning activities as soon as it receives BOEM's approval of the decommissioning application, we find that it would be duplicative and overburdensome to require the filing of a decommissioning notice when none of the information to be submitted with a decommissioning notice would differ from the information already included in the decommissioning application that BOEM has just approved.

BOEM also finds that the requested departure would facilitate appropriate lease activities in accordance with 30 C.F.R. § 585.103(a)(1) by streamlining the decommissioning process and allowing Dominion's decommissioning activities to proceed as soon as practicable, while still conforming to the underlying purpose of the 60-day notice. BOEM also concludes that this departure complies with 30 C.F.R. § 585.103(b) in that it is consistent with Subsection 8(p) of the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act; protects the environment and the public health and safety to the same degree as if there were no approved departures; and does not impair the rights of third parties. Dominion may thus commence decommissioning activities pursuant to its decommissioning application as of the date of this letter.

As a reminder, in accordance with 30 C.F.R. § 585.912, within 60 days of removal of the facility, Dominion must submit to BOEM a written report that includes a summary of the removal activities, including the date(s) they were completed, and a description of any mitigation measures you took. Pursuant to 30 C.F.R. § 585.910(b), you must verify to BOEM that you have cleared the site within 60 days after you remove the facility. Additional conditions of approval are enclosed with this letter.

Please contact Mr. David MacDuffee at David.MacDuffee@boem.gov or (703) 787-1576 should you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Karen J. Baker
Chief
Office of Renewable Energy Programs

Enclosure