



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF OCEAN ENERGY MANAGEMENT
WASHINGTON, DC 20240-0001

Audrey Mayer, Ph.D.
Supervisor, New England Field Office
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
70 Commercial Street, Suite 300
Concord, New Hampshire 03301

Dear Dr. Mayer:

The Department of the Interior (DOI or the Department), Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) is requesting emergency consultation from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) pursuant to 50 C.F.R. §402.05 for emergency response and clean up for a Wind Turbine Generator (WTG) AW-38 blade failure incident occurring on Vineyard Wind 1 LLC (Vineyard Wind)'s Offshore Wind Energy Project on commercial lease OCS-A 0501 offshore Massachusetts. Enclosed is information describing the on-going emergency response and clean-up activities.

On Saturday July 13, Vineyard Wind, was notified that a GE Vernova wind turbine blade installed on a wind turbine in its offshore development area was damaged. As part of its federal, state, and local agency approvals and permits, Vineyard Wind has detailed plans and protocols to guide a response to incidents such as this. Following those protocols, notifications to federal, state, and local authorities were made, a safety perimeter was established, and the U.S. Coast Guard issued a notice to mariners. GE Vernova, as the project's turbine and blade manufacturer and installation contractor, is conducting an analysis into the root cause of the incident. As that analysis takes place, Vineyard Wind will continue working with federal, state, tribal, and local stakeholders to ensure the health and safety of its workforce, mariners, and the environment.

The WTG AW-38 blade failure has resulted in section of the blade and debris dropping into the surrounding ocean waters, drifting in the water, and washing ashore on various locations in Massachusetts including Nantucket, Muskeget and Tuckernuck islands as well as potential to wash ashore on Martha's Vineyard and Cape Cod, including Cape Cod National Seashore and Monomoy National Wildlife Refuge. Clean up activities on and offshore are on-going and will continue until the response effort is complete.

Please see the attached information for additional details regarding the on-going emergency response and clean-up activities for which BOEM is seeking emergency consultation. We look forward to hearing from you with any recommended additional monitoring, mitigation, and minimization measures. At this time, BOEM is still considering the full scope of its action(s) in

response to this incident, which could range from a revision to the Construction and Operations Plan (COP) to reviewing additional plans submitted in response to existing terms and conditions of COP approval. BOEM is coordinating with the Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement about what actions the Department might take. Please contact David Bigger at David.Bigger@boem.gov with any questions or additional information that may be required.

Sincerely,

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

Enclosure

Electronic cc:

David Simmons (USFWS)
Stephanie Vail-Muse USFWS
David Bigger (BOEM)
Brian Hooker (BOEM)
Tamara Arzt (BSEE)
Cheri Hunter (BSEE)
Graham Tuttle (BSEE)