

**BOEM Massachusetts  
Renewable Energy  
Task Force Teleconference**

October 17, 2011

1:00 PM

# Agenda

- Introductions & Opening Remarks

*Maureen Bornholdt, Program Manager, ORE*

- Overview of Task Force member comments & proposed revisions to draft Call

*Jessica Bradley, Project Coordinator, ORE*

- Next Steps

*Jessica Bradley, Project Coordinator, ORE*

# Overview of Comments

- Federal

- National Marine Fisheries Service

- State

- Massachusetts Historical Commission, office of the Massachusetts State Historic Preservation Officer

# National Marine Fisheries Service

- Seek clarification on whether fishery data (VTR) previously provided for the Request for Interest (RFI) area will be considered
- Seek clarification on BOEM's position in consideration of comments received from RFI; and whether there will be a BOEM response to RFI comments within the Environmental Assessment

# National Marine Fisheries Service

- Proposed Call area overlaps with Nantucket Lightship Groundfish Closed Area
- New England Fishery Management Council (NEFMC) considering range of new possible habitat closed area alternatives due to habitat vulnerability in close proximity to Call area – Cox Ledge & Nantucket Shoals





# National Marine Fisheries Service

- BOEM should consider requirement for developers to provide information generated through site assessment and leasing activities; make certain non-confidential information public & to populate National Ocean Council's "National Information Management System"
- Call should discuss Northeast Regional Ocean Council's (NROC) development of the Northeast regional data portal

# National Marine Fisheries Service

- Call should acknowledge the issue of climate change & anticipated shift in fishery resource populations & shifts in fishing activities
- BOEM should consider terming leases issued for site assessment activities as “preliminary leases” & distinguish them from those awarded after Construction and Operations Plan Environmental Impact Statement is complete



# National Marine Fisheries Service

- Call & NOI should identify the need (and possible requirement) to proactively develop cable corridors in order to minimize the cumulative impact of multiple cables
- BOEM should require coordinated fisheries studies (and possibly other resources) once leases for site assessment have been issued to ensure consistency in fishery research methodology throughout area and minimize duplicative costs to developers

# MHC, Massachusetts SHPO

- Draft Call responsive and incorporates requests for information on proposed land-side and near-shore project elements and their potential effects to historic and cultural resource
- As project information is developed, MHC will require additional information on proposed project areas of potential effect
- Section entitled “Historic Properties and National Natural Landmarks” should be revised to “National Natural Landmarks” (p. 25)

# Proposed Revisions to Draft Call

- Northeast Ocean Data Portal (p. 7)
- Development of Call Area
  - National Natural Landmarks (p. 25)
  - Issues discussed through consultation with BOEM Massachusetts Renewable Energy Task Force (p. 30-31)

# Next Steps

- BOEM will consider all comments received from Task Force members
- Publication in the *Federal Register* for 45-day comment period
- Notice of Intent to prepare Environmental analysis pursuant to NEPA
- Next meeting: Winter 2011
- Area Identification

Questions?