



July 8, 2024

Sindey Chaky, CZMA Coordinator
Bureau of Ocean Energy Management
Office of Renewable Energy Programs
Woodland Road
Sterling, Virginia, 20166

Jeffrey L. Payne, Ph.D., Director
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
Office for Coastal Management
1305 East-West Highway
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Re: Federal Consistency Determination Request Under 15 C.F.R. Part 930, Subpart E –
Consistency for Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) Exploration, Development and Production
Activities: Maryland Offshore Wind Project Lease OCS-A 0490, Federal Docket:
BOEM-2022-0025

Ms. Chaky and Dr. Payne,

The Maryland Coastal Zone Management Program (CZMP) has completed its review of the proposed US Wind, Inc. (US Wind) project to build, operate, maintain, and decommission the Maryland Offshore Wind Project within the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) Lease Area OCS-A 0490¹. The proposed offshore wind energy project will have approximately 2 gigawatts (GW) of nameplate capacity and cover approximately 80,000 acres, approximately 11.5 miles, off the coast of Maryland on the Outer Continental Shelf. The project comprises up to 121 wind turbine generators, up to four offshore substations, up to four offshore export cables, and one meteorological tower, in a gridded array pattern distributed across the Lease Area. A proposed Operations and Maintenance (O&M) Facility will be located in West Ocean City,

¹ The Maryland Offshore Wind Project includes MarWin, a wind farm of approximately 300 MW for which US Wind was awarded Offshore Renewable Energy Credits (ORECs) in 2017 by the state of Maryland; Momentum Wind, consisting of approximately 808 MW for which the State of Maryland awarded additional ORECs in 2021; and build out of the remainder of the Lease area to fulfill ongoing, government-sanctioned demands for offshore wind energy.

Maryland. The Facility would consist of a quayside for crew transfer vessels and material on- and off-loading, as well as a warehouse, administrative building, and other supporting facilities.

Under the Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA), 16 U.S.C. §§ 1451-1466, and the CZMA's implementing regulations at 15 C.F.R. part 930, US Wind voluntarily submitted a federal consistency certification to the Maryland CZMP on June 9, 2022. In accordance with 15 C.F.R. § 930.60(b), the Maryland CZMP and US Wind mutually entered into a stay agreement, beginning July 8, 2022, and amended on August 9, 2023, extending the review period to July 8, 2024. A public notice and comment period was provided from May 29, 2024, through June 28, 2024. A public informational hearing was held on June 27, 2024, providing the public with the opportunity to provide comments in person.

As part of the federal consistency review, Maryland CZMP reviewed US Wind's Consistency Certification with Maryland's Enforceable Policies, as well as the Construction and Operations Plan (COP), and Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) developed under the National Environmental Policy Act. Throughout the state and federal review process, Maryland CZMP coordinated with partner agencies and received the data and information necessary to make a consistency determination.

The DEIS, dated October 2023, includes a fisheries impact analysis that acknowledged the need for mitigation to impacted fishermen. Separate from this CZMA federal consistency determination, Maryland and US Wind have mutually agreed to negotiate a fisheries compensatory mitigation plan and enter into a Memorandum of Understanding concerning certain proposed mitigation measures. This agreement is being initiated via a Letter of Intent (LOI), signed on July 8, 2024, and will support the co-existence of the fishing and wind industries in the offshore environment.

Based on Maryland CZMP's review, the above-reviewed aspects of the project, including those project elements located in federal waters, and the extent to which the project is consistent with Maryland's Enforceable Policies, Maryland CZMP concurs with the certification that the activity as proposed is consistent with Maryland's Enforceable Policies.

If the project is modified in any manner including changes resulting from permitting, licensing, or certification revisions, including those ensuing from an appeal, or if the project is determined to have effects on coastal resources or uses that are different than originally proposed, it is incumbent upon US Wind to notify the Maryland CZMP, submit an explanation of the nature of the change pursuant to 15 C.F.R. 930, and submit modified state permits, licenses, or certifications. Maryland CZMP will use this information to determine if further federal consistency review is required.

Sindey Chaky
Jeffrey L. Payne, Ph.D.
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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Danielle Spendiff". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "D" and a long, sweeping underline.

Danielle Spendiff
Federal Consistency Coordinator
Maryland Department of the Environment

Cc: Laurie Jodziewicz, US Wind, Inc.
Lorena Edenfield, BOEM NEPA Coordinator
Kerry Kehoe, NOAA
David Kaiser, NOAA
Laura Canton, Coastal Policy Coordinator, Maryland DNR
Catherine McCall, Director, Office of Coastal and Ocean Management, Maryland DNR