



July 23, 2020

Program Manager, Office of Renewable Energy  
Bureau of Ocean Energy Management  
45600 Woodland Road  
Sterling, Virginia 20166

Re: Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement: Vineyard Wind 1 Project

Dear Program Manager,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comment on the Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) of the Vineyard Wind 1 project. We submit this letter in support of the proposed Vineyard Wind project and urge the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) to approve this project without delay.

We commend the BOEM on the comprehensive and thorough analysis contained in the SEIS. The SEIS confirms our strong belief that offshore wind energy can be developed in a manner consistent with and protects wildlife, sensitive habitat, and maritime uses such as commercial fishing and marine navigation.

The Cape Cod Climate Change Collaborative is a coalition of hundreds of businesses, institutions, organizations and citizens of Cape Cod and the Islands of Nantucket and Martha's Vineyard, Massachusetts (Cape & Islands). Our mission is to unite knowledge, resources, talent and tools to mitigate climate change impacts, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and work toward achieving net zero-based goals on the Cape & Islands. The need to address the climate crisis, both worldwide and particularly here on the Cape Cod & Islands has become increasingly urgent.

We note the statement in the SEIS that "The proposed Project and other future offshore wind projects will in fact probably lead to reduced emissions from fossil fuel power-generating facilities and benefit air quality." According to the SEIS, without offshore wind development, "additional, more polluting, fossil fuel energy facilities would come or be kept on-line to meet future power demand, fired by natural gas, oil, or coal."

We support the continued development and growth of offshore wind. Offshore wind energy is critical for meeting the clean energy goals of the Cape & Islands region, New England and beyond. The untapped offshore wind resource along the U.S. Eastern Seaboard is one of the



most powerful in the world and within reach of densely populated areas where energy demands are high and new resource options are few. In our region, offshore wind holds the potential to provide over 50% of the potential clean energy resource for our region. The potential to create 83,000 jobs and deliver \$25 billion in annual economic input by 2030 are additional important benefits. While we understand that this resource must be built responsibly, to transition our grid to locally sourced clean energy, the need to move forward is urgent, and projects such as Vineyard Wind should advance as quickly as responsible development will allow.

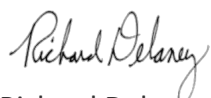
We have the following specific recommendations:

- We support the East-West One Nautical Mile Wind Turbine Spacing without transit lanes (Alternative D2). This Alternative would require that the wind turbine generators are oriented in an east-west direction and have a minimum spacing of 1 nautical mile between them. This could reduce conflicts with existing ocean uses, such as commercial fishing and marine navigation. We believe that this Alternative allows for continued co-existence between a new industry and existing marine users, such as the commercial fishing industry, while protecting the marine environment and setting a path forward. Requiring additional transit lanes, deemed unnecessary by the US Coast Guard would result in Project delay and damage to the offshore wind industry.
- We also support the Covell's Beach Landfall Alternative (Alternative B). This Alternative would limit the cable landfall to only Covell's Beach. We believe that doing this could reduce impacts on environmental and socioeconomic resources, particularly impacts on Lewis Bay.

Projects such as Vineyard Wind which are critical to the efforts to mitigate and prevent the impacts from climate change should advance as quickly as responsible development will allow. The SEIS clearly demonstrates that offshore wind energy can be developed in a manner that protects wildlife, sensitive habitat, and maritime uses such as commercial fishing and marine navigation. We believe the SEIS provides sufficient information supporting the development of the offshore wind industry, including the Vineyard Wind Project, and the much-needed clean renewable energy resource it will provide.

We urge BOEM to complete this review in a timely fashion, provide a pathway for this project to move forward recognizing the immense refinement and compromise, and avoid unnecessary measures that will further delay and jeopardize our ability to get clean energy into the grid.

Thank you,



Richard Delaney, President  
The Cape Cod Climate Change Collaborative