

BY EMAIL DELIVERY ONLY: <u>alexander.strysky@state.ma.us</u>

January 20, 2021

Alex Strysky, Environmental Analyst MEPA Office, Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs 100 Cambridge Street, Suite 900 Boston Mass 02114

Re: EEA No. 16231 – New England Wind 1 Connector Final Environmental Impact Report

Dear Mr. Strysky:

On behalf of the Cape Cod Climate Change Collaborative (Climate Collaborative), I am writing to endorse the Park City Wind project, which includes the New England Wind 1 Connector described in detail in the Final Environmental Impact Report (FEIR). We urge a certificate be issued for the FEIR so the project may continue through the state, local, and regional permitting process and further on to construction.

The Climate Collaborative is a non-profit organization whose mission is to help the Cape and Islands region reach carbon neutrality—or net zero—by enhancing collaboration, communication, and activism among organizations, institutions and individuals committed to mitigating the climate crisis. Our membership of more than 2,700 individuals includes leaders from business, transportation, building, education, science, faith, clean energy, public policy, environmental protection, and activist communities across the region.

The information contained in the FEIR, much like the DEIR, 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, while mitigating climate change impacts on our region. The project will deliver clean, renewable energy to hundreds of thousands of homes in starting in 2023 and will help elevate the U.S. to a leadership position in the critically important offshore wind energy industry. Expected to result in the reduction of approximately 1.59 million metric tons of carbon dioxide annually, the project will take the equivalent of approximately 300,000 cars taken off the road in New England each year.

The Climate Collaborative has followed the development of the Vineyard Wind project very closely. We appreciate the care taken by the project leadership and staff to actively reach out for input from the various constituencies likely to be affected by the wind farm (fishermen, local towns, marine mammals, etc.). Collaborative members provided input, and our ideas were well received. The result was a plan that has clear and substantial benefits for the Cape and Islands, and set precedents that are reflected in the Park City project.

With this history in mind, the Climate Collaborative strongly endorses the Park City Wind project and urges expeditious consideration of the FEIR to allow this important energy project to move forward.

Sincerely,

Richard Delaney

Richard F. Delaney President, Board of Directors