From: ross.pilotte@fpisc.gov on behalf of Fast Fortyone

To: <u>Cason, James E; Tryon, Stephen G</u>

Cc: Hathaway, Ryan S; FAST41Initiation, OS; Voluck, Lauren B; Ross Pilotte

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Fwd: Webform submission from: FAST-41 INITIATION NOTICE

Date: Wednesday, September 2, 2020 2:12:21 PM

This email has been received from outside of DOI - Use caution before clicking on links, opening attachments, or responding.

Mr. Cason,

We did not see this forwarded to your FAST41initiation DOI mailbox.

Please see below for the FAST-41 Initiation Notice for Sunrise Wind.

Thanks, Ross

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Permitting Dashboard** < <u>cms\_notifications@dot.gov</u>>

Date: Wed, Sep 2, 2020 at 11:14 AM

Subject: Webform submission from: FAST-41 INITIATION NOTICE

To: <<u>fast.fortyone@fpisc.gov</u>>

## Greetings,

Pursuant to Title 41 of Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act 42 U.S.C. § 4370m (2016) ("FAST-41"), you have received an Initiating Notice for consideration to determine eligibility for coverage under FAST-41. You will have 14 days from the date of this submission to render a determination.

Review the submission details below. This submission is also stored on the Permitting Dashboard and can be found in the "FIN Submissions" view page upon logging in.

Permitting Dashboard user log in link: https://cms.permits.performance.gov/user

# **Project Information**

# **Project Title:**

Sunrise Wind Farm Project

Sector: Renewable Energy Production Type: Wind: Federal Offshore

# **Project Location Address:**

• City: Brookhaven, Long Island

State: New York

#### **Coordinates:**

• Latitude: 40.99333 Longitude: -71.12122

## **Project Sponsor Contact Information:**

• Company Name/Agency: Sunrise Wind LLC

Project Sponsor: Sunrise Wind LLC (a 50/50 joint venture between Orsted North America Inc. and Eversource

Investment LLC)

Street Address: 437 Madison Ave, Suite 1903

City: New York State: New York Zip: 10022

**POC Name:** Michael Evans

POC Title: Permitting Manager, Sunrise Wind

POC Work Phone: (614) 218-4286 POC Email Address: MICEV@orsted.com

# **Alternative Point Of Contact (Optional):**

## **Project Purpose:**

Sunrise Wind LLC (Sunrise Wind) proposes to construct, operate and maintain the Sunrise Wind Farm Project, an offshore wind farm to be located approximately 18.5 statute miles (mi) (16.1 nautical miles [nm], 29.8 kilometers [km]) south of Martha's Vineyard, Massachusetts, and approximately 30 mi (26.1 nm, 48.2 km) east of Montauk, New York (NY) within Lease Area OCS-A 0487 (the Project).

The purpose of the Project is to provide clean, reliable offshore wind energy that will increase the amount and availability of renewable energy to New York consumers while creating the opportunity to displace electricity generated by fossil fuel-powered plants and offering substantial economic and environmental benefits to New York. New York has adopted substantial renewable portfolio standards and clean energy targets to address issues associated with climate change, highlighting the current and future demand for this Project. This Project will help the state of New York meet its clean energy goals under the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act (CLCPA), a law signed in July 2019 which adopts the most ambitious and comprehensive climate and clean energy legislation in the country. The CLCPA sets forth an ambitious plan that sets the state's goals of achieving 100 percent carbon-free electricity by 2040 and 70 percent of electricity from renewables by 2030, including a target of reaching 9,000 MW of offshore wind by 2035. Sunrise Wind executed a 25-year Offshore Wind Renewable Energy Certificate (OREC) Agreement with the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) in October 2019.

## **Project Description:**

The majority of the Project will be located in federal waters in the designated Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) Renewable Energy Lease Area OCS-A 0487 (Lease Area), which is located in OCS blocks that were previously designated as Lease OCS-A 0487 in the Rhode Island/Massachusetts Wind Energy Area (RI-MA WEA) and Lease OCS-A 0500 in the Massachusetts Wind Energy Area (MA WEA). The Lease Area is approximately 30 statute miles (mi) east off the coast of Montauk, New York. The original Lease Areas were awarded through the BOEM competitive renewable energy lease auction of the Wind Energy Area (WEA) off the shores of Rhode Island and Massachusetts. Other components of the Project will be located in state waters of New York and onshore in Brookhaven, Long Island, New York. The proposed interconnection location for the Project is either the existing Holbrook Substation or the Holbrook and West Bus Substations, which are owned and operated by the Long Island Power Authority (LIPA). The Project will specifically include the following offshore and onshore components:

- Offshore Components: The offshore portion of the Project will consist of up to 122 Wind Turbine Generators (WTGs) connected by a network of Inter-Array Cables, up to two offshore station platforms, up to one booster station, and an offshore export cable transmission system to the landfall at Smith Point, Brookhaven, NY.
- Onshore Components: The onshore transmission system will be underground within a single corridor from the landfall to a new Onshore Station located adjacent to the existing Holbrook and West Bus Substations in Brookhaven.

Sunrise Wind has conducted comprehensive studies of oceanographic, geologic, shallow hazards, archeological, and environmental resources in the Lease Area and along potential export cable routes. Desktop studies and site characterization information collected from previous geotechnical and geophysical surveys conducted in Lease Area OCS-A 0500 in 2016, 2017, and 2018 informed the preliminary siting of the Project and supported the development of COP Survey Plans; which were conducted in 2019 and 2020. The purpose of these surveys was to conduct the site characterization, marine

archaeological, and benthic studies necessary to further evaluate the seabed in the Lease Area and along potential export cable routes. The COP Survey Plans were submitted in accordance with the stipulations of the existing Leases, as well as BOEM regulations and guidelines.

Sunrise Wind has been actively planning, evaluating and characterizing the Project and assessing potential impacts through desktop assessments, field surveys, agency consultation, and extensive stakeholder outreach. Sunrise Wind is working with federal and state agencies, tribal governments, and other stakeholders to appropriately assess environmental resources, address issues of concern, avoid and mitigate potential effects, and obtain the necessary permits and approvals to support the construction and operation of the Project. Survey protocols for baseline characterization of the resources have been agreed with relevant federal and state agencies through inter-agency meetings and discussions. A Construction and Operations Plan (COP) for the Project, which includes detailed assessments of environmental, cultural, and historic resources, was submitted to BOEM on September 1, 2020.

## **Summary of Financing, Reviews and Authorizations:**

There is no federal financing required for the proposed Project. The Project will be financed by Sunrise Wind LLC, which plans to finance the development, construction, and operation of the Project with 100 percent equity.

Environmental reviews, permits, and authorizations will be required from a number of federal and state permitting agencies including BOEM, U.S. Army Corp of Engineers, United States Environmental Protection Agency, U.S. Coast Guard, National Ocean and Atmospheric Administration National Marine Fisheries Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Parks Service, Federal Aviation Administration, New York State Department of State, New York State Department of Public Service, New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, New York Department of Transportation, New York State Office of General Services, Rhode Island Coastal Resources Management Council, and the Massachusetts Office of Coastal Zone Management.

# **Project Assessment:**

The Project is a Covered Project under 42 United States Code (U.S.C) § 4370m(6), as it:

i. is subject to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)

ii. will require a total investment well in excess of \$200 million;

iii. does not qualify for abbreviated authorization or environmental review processes under any applicable law;

iv. is likely to benefit from enhanced oversight and coordination because the Project will require authorization from several federal agencies;

v. will require an Environmental Impact Statement; and

vi. is not subject to 23 U.S.C. § 139 or 33 U.S.C. § 2348.

Sunrise Wind filed its COP for the Project with BOEM on September 1, 2020, and understands that BOEM is conducting a sufficiency and completeness review of the COP. Designating the Project as a Covered Project is consistent with, and will help further, the important public policy objectives underlying the FAST-41 program; namely, to improve the timeliness, predictability, and transparency of the federal environmental review and authorization process for infrastructure projects. Furthermore, FAST-41 designation would assist the Project in meeting the State's energy, economic and environmental goals. The transparency, accountability and inter-agency coordination that are the hallmarks of the FAST-41 process are essential to helping New York achieve these goals.

Designating the Project as a Covered Project is consistent with the broad consensus view of the Department of Interior, the Permitting Council, and Congress that early coordination is a key to success for energy infrastructure projects, and is consistent with prior designation by the Permitting Council of other offshore wind projects that have been proposed by affiliates of Sunrise Wind. Sunrise Wind understands that the Secretary of the Interior has made it a priority to streamline the environmental review and permitting process for offshore wind projects without compromising the Nation's conservation values. Adding the Project to the FAST 41 Dashboard will enhance interagency coordination and streamline permitting such that the Project is able to achieve commercial operation, while remaining protective of marine and other resources near the Project area.

#### **Form Submitter Contact Information:**

• Name: Michael Evans

Title: Permitting Manager, Sunrise Work Phone: (614) 218-4286
Email: MICEV@orsted.com