

## State of New Jersey

PHILIP D. MURPHY Governor

TAHESHA L. WAY Lt. Governor DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Watershed & Land Management Program

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SHAWN M. LATOURETTE Commissioner

Jennifer Daniels c/o Atlantic Shores Offshore Wind Dock 72 Floor 7 Brooklyn, NY 11250 April 17, 2024

RE: Complete for Public Hearing & Fact-Finding Meeting

Atlantic Shores Offshore Wind South Projects 1 and 2

Project 1 File and Activity No.: 0000-21-0022.2 LUP240001 & LLI240001

Project 2 File and Activity No.: 0000-21-0022.3 LUP240001

Applicant: Jennifer Daniels c/o Atlantic Shores Offshore Wind Project 1, LLC and

Atlantic Shores Offshore Wind Project 2, LLC

Dear Ms. Daniels:

Atlantic Shores Offshore Wind LLC (now known as Atlantic Shores Offshore Wind Project 1, LLC and Atlantic Shores Offshore Wind Project 2, LLC) is proposing the construction, operation, maintenance, and decommissioning of the Atlantic Shores South Project. The Atlantic Shores South Project is comprised of Project 1 and Project 2 (collectively, the "Projects"). The Projects consist of up to 200 wind turbine generators (WTGs), up to 10 offshore substations ("OSSs"), up to 1 permanent meteorological ("met") tower, up to 4 temporary meteorological and oceanographic ("metocean") buoys, interarray and interlink cables, and export cables that will be located in Federal offshore waters approximately 8.7 miles from the New Jersey shoreline within Bureau of Ocean Energy Management ("BOEM") Lease Area OCS-A 0499 ("Lease Area") as well as accompanying electric transmission cables from the Lease Area to two landfall points in Atlantic and Monmouth counties. Additionally, the Projects consist of work within State waters and onshore as described below.

Atlantic Shores has submitted to the Division of Land Resource Protection ("Division") State permit applications for the work within State waters and/or onshore associated with proposed Project 1 and Project 2. Specifically, for Project 1, the submitted application for a CAFRA Individual Permit, a Waterfront Development Individual In-Water Permit, a Freshwater Wetlands Special Activity Transition Area Waiver for Linear Development, and a Freshwater Wetlands Letter of Interpretation proposes the installation of the portion of the electric transmission export cable within New Jersey State waters within the Atlantic Ocean off the coast of Atlantic City in Atlantic County, the landfall of this export cable in Atlantic City, the installation of the onshore portion of the export cable to a proposed onshore substation located on Fire Road in Egg Harbor Township, Atlantic County, and the installation of the remainder of the export cable to a point of interconnection for the Cardiff substation in Egg Harbor Township, Atlantic County. For Project 2, the submitted application for a Waterfront Development Individual In-water Permit proposes the installation of the portion of the electric transmission export cable within New Jersey State waters within the Atlantic Ocean off the coast of the Borough of Sea Girt in Monmouth County.

The Division has reviewed the CAFRA Individual Permit portion of the above-referenced application submitted for Project 1 for completeness for public comment in accordance with N.J.A.C. 7:7-1.1 et seq. Please be advised that the Project 1 application and the information therein have been found to be sufficient at this time for proper consideration by the Division. In accordance with N.J.A.C. 7:7-26.5(a), the Department has determined that a public hearing on this application will be necessary due to the scope and environmental impact of proposed Project 1. The Project 1 application is now considered to be complete for public hearing effective April 4, 2024. Additionally, the Division has determined that fact-finding meetings on the submitted Waterfront Development Individual In-water Permit application for Project 1 and Project 2 as well as on the submitted Freshwater Wetlands Special Activity Transition Area Waiver for Linear Development for Project 1 are also necessary for the reasons outlined above and in accordance with N.J.A.C. 7:7-26.2(h) and N.J.A.C. 7:7A-19.1(g), respectively.

The scheduled public hearings and fact-finding meetings will consist of two (2) virtual public hearings/meetings and one (1) in-person public hearing/meeting. The scheduled two (2) virtual public hearings/meetings will be held on Tuesday May 14th, 2024 starting at 6 pm with a maximum end time of 9 pm and on Wednesday May 29th, 2024 starting at 1pm with a maximum end time of 4 pm. The scheduled in-person public hearing/meeting will take place in the auditorium of Central Regional High School located at 509 Forest Hills Parkway in Bayville, New Jersey on Tuesday May 28th starting at 5 pm with a maximum end time of 8 pm.

Public notice of each of the public hearings/fact-finding meetings must be provided in accordance with N.J.A.C. 7:7-24.4(e). Documentation of the noticing for the public hearings/fact-finding meetings must be provided to the Division at least three (3) calendar days prior to the date of the first hearing/fact-finding meeting in accordance with N.J.A.C. 7:7-24.6(c).

Although the Project 1 application has been declared complete for public hearing, the Division continues to technically review the submitted application. Additional technical information may be requested after a detailed review of the Project 1 application has been completed. An initial request for technical information for the Project 2 application was previously made via letter on April 10, 2024.

If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact Lindsey J. Davis by email at <u>Lindsey.Davis@dep.nj.gov</u> or by phone at (609)633-2289. Please reference the Division's file number in all communication.

Sincerely,

Janet L. Stewart, Bureau Chief Bureau of Coastal Permitting Division of Land Resource Protection Watershed & Land Management