April 1, 2024



OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER 401 East State Street P.O. Box 402, Mail Code 401-07 Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0420 Tel. (609) 292-2885 • Fax (609) 292-7695 www.nj.gov/dep

SHAWN M. LATOURETTE

Commissioner

TAHESHA L. WAY

Lt. Governor

PHILIP D. MURPHY

Governor

LETTER OF INTENT

between

NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION, ATLANTIC SHORES OFFSHORE WIND PROJECT 1, LLC

and

ATLANTIC SHORES OFFSHORE WIND PROJECT 2, LLC

This Letter of Intent, dated April 1, 2024, confirms the parties' intent to enter a Memorandum of Understanding concerning environmental mitigation measures pertaining to the construction, operation, and decommissioning of the proposed wind energy facilities, Atlantic Shores Project 1 and Atlantic Shores Project 2 (as defined below).

- 1. Atlantic Shores Offshore Wind Project 1, LLC ("Atlantic Shores Project 1 Company") and Atlantic Shores Offshore Wind Project 2, LLC ("Atlantic Shores Project 2 Company" and together with Atlantic Shores Project 1 Company, together, the "Atlantic Shores Project Companies") are each proposing to construct and operate an electrically distinct, commercial-scale offshore wind energy facility, "Atlantic Shores Project 1" and "Atlantic Shores Project 2", respectively, (together, the "Projects"), off the coast of New Jersey within Lease Area OCS-A 0499 that in the aggregate consist of up to 200 wind turbine generators, multiple offshore substations, inter-array and/or inter-link cables, a meteorological tower, and/or meteorological and oceanographic (metocean) buoys.
- 2. Pursuant to the federal Coastal Zone Management Act, 16 U.S.C. § 1451, et seq. ("CZMA"), the State of New Jersey has defined its coastal zone boundaries and developed policies to be utilized to evaluate projects within the designated Coastal Zone, as set forth in New Jersey's Coastal Zone Management Rules, N.J.A.C. 7:7 (last amended Oct. 5, 2021) ("NJ CZM Rules"). These rules provide for the issuance of permits under three federally approved Coastal Zone Management Plan (CZMP) areas, which are subject to state regulation pursuant to New Jersey's Waterfront Development Law (N.J.S.A. 12:5-3), Coastal Wetland Act of 1970 (N.J.S.A. 13:9A), and Coastal Area Facility Review Act (CAFRA; N.J.S.A. 13:19), each of which are administered by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection ("NJDEP").



April 1, 2024

- 3. The NJ CZM Rules govern the State's review of Federal consistency determinations pursuant to Section 307 of the CZMA, 16 U.S.C. §1456. The NJDEP serves as the lead State agency that implements or coordinates the State's federally approved CZMP, and Federal consistency reviews are the responsibility of the NJDEP Division of Land Resource Protection.
- 4. In evaluating proposed activities regulated under the NJ CZM Rules, NJDEP expects that all regulated entities, including the Atlantic Shores Project Companies, pursue development objectives responsibly, including assessing potential environmental impacts and avoiding, minimizing, and mitigating likely adverse effects upon natural resources, including fish, marine mammals, and their respective habitats.
- 5. Where necessary and appropriate, NJDEP routinely requires regulated entities to utilize means and methods of construction that avoid or minimize impacts upon natural resources and, where it appears that impacts may not be sufficiently minimized, that mitigation activities be undertaken to compensate for adverse impacts to natural resources.
- 6. In addition to avoidance, minimization, and mitigation measures required by NJDEP, each of the Atlantic Shores Project Companies agrees to work with other offshore wind developers, federal and state regulators to establish a Compensatory Mitigation Fund to compensate fishers for verifiable claims of negative impacts of a significant nature, including potential economic losses due to the construction, operation, or decommissioning of the Projects and to contribute to said fund in accordance with the BOEM Fisheries Mitigation Guidance once such guidance is finalized.
- 7. Since June 2021, NJDEP has led a multi-state compensatory mitigation initiative that includes the States of New Jersey, New York, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island, New Hampshire, Maine, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, and North Carolina to encourage the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) to develop a standardized fisheries compensation framework, which guidance is near final, and the states have partnered to establish a regional administrator to manage the future mitigation funds.
- 8. In contributing to the Compensatory Mitigation Fund, each of the Atlantic Shores Project Companies agrees to:
 - a. Utilize the regional fund administrator for purposes as outlined under item 6 above that is currently being established by the 11 coastal states initiative as outlined in item 7 above; or utilize another method of administration as directed by the State of New Jersey.
 - b. Establish a Navigational Safety Adaptation Fund and a Gear Loss and Damage Compensation program to address fisheries mitigation.



April 1, 2024

- 9. Additional discussion regarding terms of agreement between NJDEP and the Atlantic Shores Project Companies may be necessary, depending upon the final provisions of the BOEM Fisheries Mitigation Guidance and the regional Compensatory Mitigation Fund.
- 10. The NJDEP and the Atlantic Shores Project Companies hereby agree to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding within (120) days after BOEM's Final Decision/Agency Action, to memorialize the above commitments. This timeframe may be extended by mutual agreement of the parties.
- 11. The above timeframes may be extended by mutual written agreement of the parties.

By signature below, the NJDEP and each of the Atlantic Shores Project Companies mutually express their intent consistent with paragraphs 1 through 11 above.

NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

	April 1, 2024
Name: Shawn M. LaTourette	Date
Title: Commissioner	
ATLANTIC SHORES OFFSHORE WI	IND PROJECT 1, LLC
DocuSigned by:	
Jennifer Daniels	April 1, 2024
Name: Jenniter Daniels	Date
Title: Vice President	
ATLANTIC SHORES OFFSHORE WI	IND PROJECT 2, LLC
DocuSigned by:	
Jennifer Daniels	April 1, 2024
Name: Jennifer Daniels	Date
Title: Vice President	

