

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA), the California State University, Sacramento intends to repatriate certain cultural items that meet the definition of objects of cultural patrimony and that have a cultural affiliation with the Indian Tribes or Native Hawaiian organizations in this notice.

DATES: Repatriation of the cultural items in this notice may occur on or after October 9, 2024.

ADDRESSES: Dr. Mark R. Wheeler, Senior Advisor to President Luke Wood, California State University, Sacramento, 6000 J Street Sacramento, CA 95819, telephone (916) 460-0490, email mark.wheeler@csus.edu.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This notice is published as part of the National Park Service's administrative responsibilities under NAGPRA. The determinations in this notice are the sole responsibility of the California State University, Sacramento, and additional information on the determinations in this notice, including the results of consultation, can be found in the summary or related records. The National Park Service is not responsible for the determinations in this notice.

Abstract of Information Available

A total of 989 cultural items have been requested for repatriation. The 989 objects of cultural patrimony are flaked and ground stones; faunal and floral remains; modified stones, bones, and shells; unmodified stones; soil samples; and historic materials. These items were removed from CA-TEH-322, TEH-327, TEH-329, TEH-335, TEH-337, TEH-338, TEH-339, TEH-340, TEH-343, TEH-344, TEH-346, TEH-348, TEH-353, TEH-354, TEH-358, TEH-364, TEH-365, TEH-366, TEH-369, TEH-376, TEH-397, TEH-398, TEH-399, TEH-411, TEH-413, TEH-420, TEH-426, TEH-428, TEH-445, TEH-447, TEH-485, TEH-504, TEH-553, TEH-554, TEH-573, and TEH-Meeker/Hooper/Flume Creek in Tehama County, CA. The items from TEH-Meeker/Hooper/Flume Creek sites were collected during a student survey conducted from 1979 to 1982 and have since been housed at the California State University, Sacramento under accession 81-458. Items from the other Tehama County sites were collected during a survey lead by the University in the 1960s and have since been housed at California State University, Sacramento under accession numbers 81-9 and 81-359. An unknown number of objects may be missing from these collections

and California State University, Sacramento continues to look for them.

Determinations

The California State University, Sacramento has determined that:

- The 989 objects of cultural patrimony described in this notice have ongoing historical, traditional, or cultural importance central to the Native American group, including any constituent sub-group (such as a band, clan, lineage, ceremonial society, or other subdivision), according to the Native American traditional knowledge of an Indian Tribe or Native Hawaiian organization.

- There is a reasonable connection between the cultural items described in this notice and the Paskenta Band of Nomlaki Indians of California.

Requests for Repatriation

Additional, written requests for repatriation of the cultural items in this notice must be sent to the authorized representative identified in this notice under **ADDRESSES**. Requests for repatriation may be submitted by any lineal descendant, Indian Tribe, or Native Hawaiian organization not identified in this notice who shows, by a preponderance of the evidence, that the requestor is a lineal descendant or a culturally affiliated Indian Tribe or Native Hawaiian organization.

Repatriation of the cultural items in this notice to a requestor may occur on or after October 9, 2024. If competing requests for repatriation are received, the California State University, Sacramento must determine the most appropriate requestor prior to repatriation. Requests for joint repatriation of the cultural items are considered a single request and not competing requests. The California State University, Sacramento is responsible for sending a copy of this notice to the Indian Tribes and Native Hawaiian organizations identified in this notice and to any other consulting parties.

Authority: Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act, 25 U.S.C. 3004 and the implementing regulations, 43 CFR 10.9.

Dated: August 29, 2024.

Melanie O'Brien,

Manager, National NAGPRA Program.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Ocean Energy Management

[Docket No. BOEM-2024-0046]

Notice of Availability of a Joint Record of Decision for US Wind Inc.'s Proposed Maryland Offshore Wind Project

AGENCY: Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Interior; National Marine Fisheries Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Commerce.

ACTION: Record of decision; notice of availability.

SUMMARY: The Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) announces the availability of the joint record of decision (ROD) on the final environmental impact statement (EIS) for the construction and operations plan (COP) submitted by US Wind Inc. (US Wind) for its proposed Maryland Offshore Wind Project (Project). The joint ROD includes the Department of the Interior's (DOI) decision regarding the COP and National Marine Fisheries Service's (NMFS) decision, pending completion of all statutory processes, regarding US Wind's requested Incidental Take Regulations (ITR) and an associated Letter of Authorization (LOA) under the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA). NMFS has adopted the final EIS to support its decision about whether to promulgate the requested ITR and issue a LOA to US Wind under the MMPA. The joint ROD concludes the National Environmental Policy Act process for each agency.

ADDRESSES: The joint ROD and associated information are available on BOEM's website at <https://www.boem.gov/renewable-energy/state-activities/maryland-offshore-wind>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For information related to BOEM's action, please contact Lorena Edenfield, BOEM Office of Renewable Energy Programs, 45600 Woodland Road, VAM-OREP, Sterling, Virginia 20166, (907) 231-7679, or lorena.edenfield@boem.gov. For information related to NMFS' action, contact Katherine Renshaw, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Office of General Counsel, (302) 515-0324, noaa.nepa@noaa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: US Wind seeks approval to construct, operate, and maintain a wind energy facility and the associated export cables on the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) offshore Maryland. The Project would be

developed within the range of design parameters outlined in the Maryland Offshore Wind COP, subject to the applicable mitigation measures.

A notice of availability for the final EIS was published in the **Federal Register** on August 2, 2024. On August 22, 2024, BOEM published an errata on its website that included certain edits to chapter 2, chapter 3, and appendix G. None of these edits are substantive or affect the analysis or conclusions in the final EIS.

The Project (full build-out) as proposed in the COP would include up to 121 wind turbine generators (WTGs), 1 meteorological tower, up to 4 offshore substations, and up to 4 offshore export cables, distributed across the lease area (OCS-A 0490). The lease area is located 10.1 statute miles (16.2 kilometers) off the coast of Maryland. The onshore components of the Project would include a cable landfall area in Sussex County, Delaware. From the landfall, onshore cables would continue along an inshore cable export route in Indian River Bay to connect to onshore substations adjacent to the point of interconnection in Millsboro, Delaware.

After carefully considering public comments on the draft EIS and the alternatives described and analyzed in the final EIS, DOI selected Alternative B, "Proposed Action". Alternative B reduces the total number of WTGs from 121 to 114. Development of the wind energy facility would occur within the range of design parameters outlined in the COP, subject to applicable mitigation measures. The anticipated mitigation, monitoring, and reporting requirements, which will be included in BOEM's COP approval as terms and conditions, are included in the ROD, which is available at <https://www.boem.gov/renewable-energy/state-activities/maryland-offshore-wind>.

NMFS has adopted BOEM's final EIS to support its decision about whether to promulgate the requested ITR and issue the associated LOA to US Wind. NMFS' final decision will be documented in a separate Decision Memorandum prepared in accordance with internal NMFS policy and procedures. The final ITR and a notice of issuance of the LOA, if issued, will be published in the **Federal Register**. The LOA would authorize US Wind to take small numbers of marine mammals incidental to Project construction and would set forth permissible methods of incidental taking; means of affecting the least practicable adverse impact on the species and their habitat; and requirements for monitoring and reporting. Pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act (ESA), NMFS

issued a final Biological Opinion to BOEM on June 18, 2024, evaluating the effects of the proposed action on ESA-listed species. The proposed action in the Biological Opinion includes the associated permits, approvals, and authorizations that may be issued.

The US Army Corps of Engineers plans to adopt the final EIS to support its decision whether to issue a Department of the Army permit under sections 10 and 14 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899, section 404 of the Clean Water Act, and section 103 of the Marine Protection, Research, and Sanctuaries Act at a later date under an independent ROD.

Authority: National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended, (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*); 40 CFR 1505.2.

Karen Baker,

*Chief, Office of Renewable Energy Programs,
Bureau of Ocean Energy Management.*

[FR Doc. 2024-20242 Filed 9-6-24; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Ocean Energy Management

[Docket No. BOEM-2024-0030]

Notice of Availability of a Final Environmental Assessment for Commercial Wind Lease Issuance, Site Characterization Activities, and Site Assessment Activities on the Atlantic Outer Continental Shelf in the Gulf of Maine Offshore the States of Maine and New Hampshire and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts

AGENCY: Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Interior

ACTION: Notice of availability.

SUMMARY: The Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) announces the availability of the final environmental assessment (EA) and its finding that possible wind energy-related leasing, site assessment, and site characterization activities on the U.S. Atlantic Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) (the Proposed Action) will not significantly impact the human environment. The draft EA analyzes the potential impacts of the Proposed Action and a No Action Alternative. The EA will inform BOEM's decision about whether it will issue commercial wind energy leases in the Gulf of Maine offshore the States of Maine and New Hampshire and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and its subsequent review of site assessment plans in the lease areas.

ADDRESSES: The final EA and detailed information about proposed commercial

leases can be found on BOEM's website at: <https://www.boem.gov/renewable-energy/state-activities/maine/gulf-maine>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Brandi Sangunett, BOEM, Environment Branch for Renewable Energy, 45600 Woodland Road, Mail Stop VAM-OREP, Sterling, VA 20166, (703) 787-1015 or brandi.sangunett@boem.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Proposed Action: The final EA analyzes the Proposed Action, which is to issue commercial wind energy leases in the Gulf of Maine wind energy area (WEA) and grant rights-of-way (ROWs) and rights-of-use and easement (RUEs). A BOEM-issued lease provides lessees the exclusive right to submit plans to BOEM for possible approval. The EA considers the reasonably foreseeable environmental consequences associated with site characterization activities (geophysical, geotechnical, archaeological, and biological surveys) and site assessment activities (including the installation and operation of meteorological buoys). BOEM prepared an EA for this proposed action to inform its planning and decision-making (40 CFR 1501.5(b)).

Alternative: In addition to the Proposed Action, BOEM considered a No Action Alternative. Under the No Action Alternative, BOEM would neither issue commercial wind energy leases nor grant ROWs and RUEs in the Gulf of Maine WEA. BOEM's preferred alternative is the Proposed Action.

Finding of no significant impact: After carefully considering the alternatives and comments from the public and cooperating and consulting agencies on the draft EA, BOEM finds that issuing commercial wind energy leases and granting ROWs and RUEs in the Gulf of Maine WEA would not significantly impact the environment.

Availability of the final EA: The final EA and associated information are available on BOEM's website at: <https://www.boem.gov/renewable-energy/state-activities/maine/gulf-maine>.

Authority: 42 U.S.C. 4231 *et seq.* (NEPA, as amended) and 40 CFR 1506.6.

Karen Baker,

*Chief, Office of Renewable Energy Programs,
Bureau of Ocean Energy Management.*

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