

VINEYARD WIND

Draft Construction and Operations Plan

Volume III Appendices

Vineyard Wind Project

October 22, 2018

Submitted by

Vineyard Wind LLC 700 Pleasant Street, Suite 510 New Bedford, Massachusetts 02740

Submitted to

Bureau of Ocean Energy Management 45600 Woodland Road Sterling, Virginia 20166

Prepared by

Epsilon Associates, Inc. 3 Mill & Main Place, Suite 250 Maynard, Massachusetts 01754



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In Association with:

Biodiversity Research Institute C2Wind Capitol Air Space Group Clarendon Hill Consulting Ecology and Environment Foley Hoag Geo SubSea LLC Gray & Pape JASCO Applied Sciences Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP Public Archaeology Laboratory, Inc. RPS Saratoga Associates Swanson Environmental Associates Wood Thilsted Partners Ltd WSP

Appendix III-E

Fisheries Communication Plan

Fisheries Communication Plan

Rev. 6

Vineyard Wind LLC

6/28/2018

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Company	Vineyard Wind LLC	
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Authors:	Rachel Pachter, Crista Bank and Erik Peckar	



INTRODUCTION

Vineyard Wind's Fisheries Communication Plan (FCP) is a result of over one hundred meetings with fishermen potentially affected by the development of offshore wind projects as well as feedback on previous versions of the plan from fishermen, fishing organizations, and regulatory agencies. The FCP is a living document that will continue to be updated throughout permitting, installation, and operation of the Vineyard Wind project. If you would like to receive updated versions of this FCP when they become available or have any feedback on this version, please send an email to fisheries@vineyardwind.com.

OBJECTIVE

The purpose of this Fishery Communication Plan is to define outreach and engagement to potentially affected fishing groups during development, construction, operation and final decommissioning of the project, with five main objectives:

- 1. Enhance the safety of all who work on the ocean in the wind farm, cable corridors, and landfall sites;
- 2. Seek stakeholder concerns and strive for open, transparent resolution;
- 3. Quantify and avoid or mitigate adverse impacts on fisheries.
- 4. Understand, <u>as fully as possible</u>, historic, current and potential fisheries in the affected areas.
- 5. Identify gaps in information relating to fish and fisheries to inform research and monitoring strategies.

STRATEGY

The foundation for achieving these objectives will be to build on Vineyard Wind's existing relationships with the fishing communities, cultivated since 2010, to continuously work towards trusted and mutually respectful lines of communications with the diverse fishing communities of the region. Regular and open consultation is primary in ensuring all parties are well informed and can work towards the shared objective of coexisting and thriving fisheries and offshore wind industries in the region.

This fishery communication plan is based on best practice guidance and input from the fishing industry through feedback and consultation. Best practice guidance includes but is not limited to:

• Guidelines for Information Requirements for a Renewable Energy Construction and Operation Plan, Attachment A – Version 3.0: April 7, 2016;



- Development of Mitigation Measures to Address Potential Use Conflicts between Commercial Wind Energy Lessees/Grantees and Commercial Fishermen on the Atlantic Outer Continental Shelf, BOEM 2014 – 654
- Fishing and Submarine Cables Working Together International Cable Protection Committee, February 2009, Second Edition
- Options for Cooperation between Commercial Fishing and Offshore Wind Energy Industries: A review of relevant tools and best practices, SeaPlan November 2015
- MORL Commercial Fisheries Mitigation Strategy Moray offshore renewables ltd Developing Wind Energy in the Outer Moray Firth 2003

VINEYARD WIND LEASE AREA AND PROJECT

The Vineyard Wind Lease area (Figure 1) is part of the Massachusetts Wind Energy Area (WEA) which was selected by the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) after 6 years of review and public input by stakeholders and agencies to address environmental and socioeconomic concerns that began in 2010. In December of 2017, Vineyard Wind submitted to BOEM a Construction and Operations Plan (COP) for a proposed 800MW offshore wind project to be located in the northeastern end of Vineyard Wind's lease area. This submittal initiated the formal federal permitting process, and a petition to the Massachusetts Energy Facilities Siting Board, also submitted in December 2017, initiated the state permitting process. On May 23rd, 2018, Vineyard Wind was selected, by the Electrical Distribution Companies and the MA Department of Environmental Research (DOER), to negotiate a power purchase contract for Vineyard Wind's proposed 800 megawatt (MW) wind farm and electricity transmission project in order to build the first large-scale offshore wind farm in the United States. The proposed turbine locations and export cable routes for the project are shown in Figures 2 and 3 respectively. Buried inter-array cables will be used to connect each of the wind turbines to an Electric Service Platform (ESP). An example of the inter-array cable layout is shown in Figure 4. Additional project components that may be of interest to fishermen such as scour protection and foundation designs (both monopile and jacket) can be found at www.vineyardwind.com/fisheries. It is important to note that the project is permitting the 'maximum design scenario' and that representation of project components, including number of turbines, size of scour protection, etc., represents the maximum possible impact and what is eventually approved and constructed may be smaller.

VINEYARD WIND INITIATIVES

Vineyard Wind takes the concerns of the fishing community seriously and understands that while the conversations between stakeholders is not always easy, it is necessary. Furthermore, we acknowledge those in the fishing community that prefer not to see, or interact with, offshore wind projects and we greatly appreciate the willingness of those folks to communicate with us



nonetheless. We understand the time it takes to meet with us or attend working groups is potentially time away from fishing.

Some of the key initiatives from Vineyard Wind include:

- Engaging a fisheries representative in 2010 (prior to BOEM issuing guidelines recommending use of fisheries representatives).
- Providing thumb drive electronic charts, showing our lease area and areas of offshore survey work to area fishermen.
- Including Loran navigation lines to project charts to facilitate orientation for users of the area as well as discussion of fishing activities in the area.
- Orienting the wind turbines in a regular grid pattern to allow for navigable uninterrupted travel in multiple directions (to avoid 'zig-zagging').
- AIS will be installed on all wind turbines and Electric Service Platforms (ESP) to improve navigation and safety.
- Cables will be buried whenever possible given ground conditions and the use of cable protection methods (such as mattresses) will be minimized to the greatest extent possible.
- Cable burial techniques will be selected to minimize suspended sediments during construction.
- Communication will, at all times, continue to be Vineyard Wind's highest priority when it comes to fisheries stakeholders.
- Extensive outreach during offshore survey work including flyers, emails, newspaper ads, and meetings.
- Extensive continued communication during construction and the operational life of the project.

FISHERIES COMMUNICATION TEAM

Vineyard Wind's fisheries communication is conducted through several roles including Fisheries Liaisons (FLs) and Fisheries Representatives (FR). The FR is intended to represent a particular fishery industry, organization, gear type, port or region, or sector(s) to the project, communicating concerns, issues and other input for the life of the project, from development and pre-construction through decommissioning. Typically, the FR is an active fisherman, or group representing active fishermen, within the region, fishery, or sector they represent.

While FRs are compensated for their time and expenses by the project, their duty is to the fishing region, industry, organization, gear-type, or sector they represent. There is likely to be more than one FR inputting to the project at any time, given the diverse nature of the fisheries in the project area. FRs are solicited through a fair and equitable process by the Fishery Liaison(s) who ensures these individuals adequately represent their respective industry, gear type, port or region and interests and have the support of the fisheries stakeholders they represent.



The FL facilitates the work of the FRs by serving as a knowledgeable point of contact to which the FRs can efficiently and effectively communicate. The FL also serves to communicate on behalf of the project out to the fisheries sectors directly, and with the FRs. The FL communicates across fishery communities and regions in order to educate and disseminate vital information regarding the project to fishermen, and receive input back to the project. The FL works to validate fisheries information through cross-referencing among data sources.

The FL will seek to develop relationships and direct lines of communication with individuals that are representative of all potentially impacted fishing regions, industries and interests, identify and engage new FRs, confirm appropriate identification of potentially affected fisheries, develop communication methods and tools. The FL will also work with the FRs and scientists to develop measures to reduce potential impacts to fisheries prior to construction (before any impacts may occur), and develop resources and potential methods to monitor effectiveness of communications. The FL will be responsible for implementing this plan, and updating at least annually or as needed.

The FL and the FR will also report progress to BOEM. The frequency of these reports will vary over the course of the project. We anticipate up until offshore construction begins progress reports would be submitted at least once every year.

Currently, Crista Bank is the Vineyard Wind FL. Nate Mayo, Vineyard Wind, serves as the Fisheries Liaison specifically for scallopers and shellfish farmers in Lewis Bay. Their contact information, which is provided below, is posted on Vineyard Wind's website.

FL #1 Name: Crista Bank Phone: 508-525-0421

Email: cbank@vineyardwind.com

Lewis Bay FL: Nate Mayo Phone: 617-840-4045

Email: nmayo@vineyardwind.com

A full job description for the FL is included as Attachment I.

Fisheries Representative (FR)

Jim Kendall was Vineyard Wind's first FR, serving during 2010-2012 for the purpose of receiving input in early site evaluation. Mr. Kendall was engaged again starting in 2016, when Vineyard Wind began first conducting offshore geological surveys and continues to serve as an FR for the project. Jim's work has proven highly effective, validating the concept of this plan. Jim Kendall's biographical summary is provided in Attachment 2, and it is anticipated that he will continue with the project in this role. His contact information, which is provided below, is posted on Vineyard Wind's website. The FR contact information provided in this plan and on Vineyard Wind's website will be updated as needed.



FR Name: Jim Kendall
Phone: 508-287-2010
Email: nbsc@comcast.net

A full job description for the FR is included as Attachment 3.

Vineyard Wind continuously seeks additional fisheries representatives to provide regular input to the project development work.

In addition to the official FR roles, several organizations and working groups provide direct access to fishermen and have been helpful in disseminating information and providing feedback throughout the development of the project. These include, but are not limited to:

New Bedford Port Authority
Massachusetts Fisheries Working Group
Rhode Island Fisheries Advisory Board
Massachusetts Department of Marine Fisheries
Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management

Other organizations or sector managers that would like to be provided direct information for dissemination to fishermen should email us at fisheries@vineyardwind.com.

The various methodologies currently used and planned to be continued during the development, construction, and operation of the wind farm are shown in Attachment 4. The FL and FR's will work together to devise a methodology for assessing the effectiveness of the outreach. The methodology and results will be reviewed at least annually.

FISHERIES RESEARCH

Vineyard Wind has entered into a letter of intent with the New Bedford based UMass School for Marine Sciences and Technology (SMAST) to design pre/during/post construction study or studies of the project. As part of this agreement with SMAST, Vineyard Wind has requested that SMAST actively engage with the fishing industry to identify research questions that would be most useful to study. Any data collected and reports resulting from these studies will be made public through our website and this plan will be updated to reflect progress of these studies. As offshore construction is anticipated to begin in 2021, pre-construction studies are expected to start in 2018.

FEEDBACK

Vineyard Wind recognizes that local fishermen have geographical, biological and nautical knowledge as mariners in the region. Continued participation will allow for the regular flow of communication in order to best inform and let fishermen know what to expect as the wind



energy project progresses. Vineyard Wind invites fishermen to share with the project team the best ways to communicate under various circumstances, such as notifications about temporary closures or other messages that may need to be communicated during construction and operation.

Vineyard Wind is also seeking fishing data (VMS historic information, seasonal catch/gear information, fisherman contact and vessel details) and other information that can help with decisions about some aspects of design, construction and operation of the wind energy project infrastructure and construction timing, to reduce conflict with fishing during the development and life of the project.

The FL is available by phone and through our website for ongoing communication. There is a specific form on our website for fishermen to fill out their contact information and concerns. The form is sent directly to the FL's email, and a follow-up phone call and/or email will be made shortly after receipt of the contact information.

PROJECT SITING, DESIGN, NAVIGATION & ACCESS

To better understand fishing effort and in order to avoid conflicts with fishermen, Vineyard Wind has met with over 100 fishery stakeholders including fishermen from various gear types, fishing advocacy organizations, regulatory agencies, sector managers and local fisheries groups who are most likely to be affected by offshore wind development in our lease area and potential submarine cable route. We have worked with the fishing industry and implemented feedback regarding vessel traffic into our wind turbine layout design. Vineyard Wind has also worked with, and will continue to work with, the fishing community to determine the configuration of the submarine cabling and foundation locations/design relative to known fishing and/or transit locations. Once the project is under construction Vineyard Wind will provide detailed guidelines on safe navigation within and through the project site during construction and operations. Communication protocols and procedures for emergencies will be developed as part of this communication plan and shared with the fishing industry.

Prior to construction and in consultation with the FR and local state and federal agencies, Vineyard Wind will develop a detailed publicly available schedule in order to reduce conflicts with fishing activities. Vineyard Wind will work with the FRs to determine a mutually workable update schedule, which will be maintained and updated as changes occur during the construction period.

The schedule will include, as necessary, methods such as alternating construction sites or schedules to minimize impacts to fishermen and other Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) user groups. It is recognized that different gear types, species, and fishing communities (recreational and commercial) may have different and sometimes conflicting seasonal needs. In such cases, Vineyard Wind will work with all impacted fishing communities to identify a construction



schedule that minimizes impacts to all or most users, to the extent possible, and that avoids or minimizes conflict among user groups.

Vineyard Wind is not authorized to exclude any fisheries operations from the project area, nor is it Vineyard Wind's intent to do so. For the purpose of safe construction, and in coordination with the US Coast Guard, vessel operations of all types may be excluded in very limited areas for short periods; this is typical of any offshore construction work.

Vineyard Wind will also evaluate scour and sedimentation potential through a modeling effort. Vineyard Wind will consider opportunities to maximize fisheries value through design of tower bases and installation of scour protection material such that the design results in improved quality of fisheries habitat.

Vineyard Wind will also work with local fishermen on cable route planning and installation techniques to ensure proper burial depths and minimize interactions with fishing gear. Vineyard Wind will adhere to the most current technical methods for minimizing electromagnetic fields.

Vineyard Wind will investigate any impacts to dock access, fuel access and other activities that might interfere with fishing operations. A marine coordinator will be employed during project construction to ensure good communication and avoid use conflicts.

FINANCIAL COMPENSATION

Vineyard Wind will consider measures that generate beneficial impacts, to the fishing industry to offset adverse impacts to affected fishing communities including hiring and using fishing vessels, where feasible. Vineyard Wind will also develop procedures for handling compensation to fishermen for potential gear loss and the loss or reduction of income to fishermen impacted by the lessee. The level of financial support would require detailed discussions between the impacted fishing community and Vineyard Wind.

Vineyard Wind will also create a process for filing fishery compensation claims. Fishermen must make any such request through the FL whose contact information can be found at www.vineyardwind.com/fisheries. If fishermen are displaced at any phase during the construction term, fishermen will be required to submit evidence of income and fishing location(s) to Vineyard Wind to be compensated.

Fixed Gear Conflict Protocols - Pots – Lobster, conch, black sea bass

To avoid conflict:

Vineyard Wind will forecast leading up to work exactly where vessels will be working with help from MA DMF, RI DEM, Massachusetts Lobstermen's Association, to publicize with specific



fishermen in work/survey area. Additional groups wishing to be updated on vessel movements should contact fisheries@vineyardwind.com.

In addition to issuing notices to mariners, Vineyard Wind will hire, with help from organizations, local fisherman respected among the fleet to help spread the word exactly when the survey/construction vessels will be in their immediate area, relay any work zone areas to stay clear of, and communicate when vessels have left the area.

Vineyard Wind Fixed Gear Interaction Protocols:

If an incident between a survey or construction vessel and static fishing gear does occur the following outlines the roles and procedures for such an event:

- 1) Fishing gear interaction is logged in daily vessel report.
- 2) Any gear that was moved, or if a line was cut, a spare float or buoy from the VW vessel will be attached, if safe and feasible.
- 3) GPS location and time of relocation is recorded. Buoy permit number and color is logged and relayed to FL along with any pictures of gear.
- 4) FL will cross reference buoy color and permit number with current fishing databases to identify owner of gear.
- 5) If FL is unsuccessful in finding owner of gear, FL will also give notice to FRs and other fishing organizations. If still unsuccessful FL will send notice to MA and RI Environmental Police of gear entanglement.
- 5) Once fisherman/owner of gear is identified, information regarding buoy location and timeline of interaction will be relayed.
- 6) Follow up with fisherman to confirm gear was found.

The above processes will be updated prior to construction and will reflect any feedback and incidents Vineyard Wind encounters or learns about.

POTENTIALLY AFFECTED FISHERIES

Through our outreach and in conversations with over 100 fishery stakeholders we have concluded that the following fisheries could be most affected during construction of the offshore wind farm and the submarine cable through Nantucket Sound.

- Ground fish/Bottom trawl mobile gear (squid/fluke/Atlantic mackerel)
- Static gear fisheries (gill nets, traps/pots)
- Recreational fishermen (large pelagics)
- Shellfisheries in Lewis Bay

These groups will be prioritized during the implementation of this plan. Regular reviews will be used to modify or confirm this prioritization, as needed.



SAFETY

An important objective of this plan is to use the project's fisheries communications to enhance safety of all those who work on the ocean in the project area through construction, operations and decommissioning. Vineyard Wind's Safety Management System (SMS) will outline clear communication protocols and procedures for emergency events such as: collision of a vessel with a turbine structure, gear entanglement, or damage to cabling by fishing activity, catastrophic failure of a turbine or other event. Tower lighting will adhere to current US Coast Guard, Federal Aviation Administration, and BOEM requirements. Safety planning will be further elaborated in this plan as details become available and the SMS will be a publicly available document and completed prior to the start of project construction.



Role & responsibilities of the FL include but are not limited to:

- The FL represents the project to fishermen, on behalf of Vineyard Wind, and is the principal contact to the fishing community
- The FL is not someone currently actively engaged in commercial fishing
- During project pre-construction development, the FL will communicate directly with FRs
 via email, in person meetings and conference calls and will provide monthly written
 reports to management on this outreach. Project management will provide feedback,
 when necessary to ensure timely dissemination of information regarding all project
 activities.
- During project construction, the FL will have direct access to the project management team in order to ensure updated project information is available to the fishing community. It should be noted that changes may take place in real time during construction. Vineyard Wind will endeavor to disseminate that information as quickly and widely as possible either through our website or a 24-hour phone line.
- Refine and enhance this communications plan, given learning experiences and new information received.
- Ensure the project's fisheries communication and communication strategy is effective across all relevant fishing communities, organizations, sectors, regions/ports, seasons, and gear types.
- Establish a clear line of communication with entities from affected fishing regions to ensure all states where the fishing industry could be impacted are well informed during all phases of development and through decommissioning.
- Maintain awareness of ongoing fishery management action development by the New England and Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Councils and the Atlantic States Fisheries Commission.
- Help develop and refine communication materials in addition to communication plans to ensure effective messaging.
- Develop or recommend mitigation measures.
- Provide a record of relevant project information and communications.
- Participate in BOEM, MA Fishery Working Group Meetings
- Maintain a fishery stakeholder database and contacts list for all identified fisheries operating within the vicinity of the offshore development area and export cable corridor throughout all stages of the project.
- Investigate and follow-up on complaints and concerns received from FRs.
- The FL shall have a direct line of communication to the project company's senior management, through which to make recommendations for improvement and address complaints, concerns, and other input received.
- Pro-actively make fisheries aware of upcoming efforts and activities related to the project so as to facilitate shared use of the lease area.



- Be available to meet with fishermen representatives in person, via email or social media, phone or radio.
- Participate in weekly calls with the project team on conversations, activities, suggestions, questions, and concerns from the fishing community about the project.
- Coordinate and work with Fisheries Representatives, who are active fishermen and serve to facilitate communications between the project and specific fisheries sectors. Identify potential Fisheries Representatives.
- Attend meetings with fisheries groups, regulators, non-government organizations, policy makers, contractors working on the project, and other offshore wind project developers to best ensure shared use of the lease area and good, working relations among the offshore wind industry, fisheries, government, and other stakeholders.



Vineyard Wind Fishery Representative - Jim Kendall

Mr. Kendall is the Executive Director of New Bedford Seafood Consulting. He is a former scallop fisherman and Executive Director of New Bedford Seafood Coalition with over 50 years of experience in the fishing industry and with fisheries issues. Mr. Kendall was a member of a research team for the Commercial Fisheries Research Foundation that focused on discard mortality rates of Southern New England flatfish. Mr. Kendall has served as a New England Fishery Management Council member for numerous terms. He has also served on the Massachusetts Fisheries Recovery Commission, the New England Commercial Fishing Law Enforcement Working Group, and is a founding member of the Massachusetts Fishermen's Partnership. Mr. Kendall was featured in the book A Doryman's Reflection: A Fisherman's Life. Additionally, Mr. Kendall has been interviewed on WBSM radio and by the New Bedford Standard Times, the Gloucester Times, and the Boston Globe on fisheries issues.



An individual or group's time serving as the FR will be compensated by Vineyard Wind, but the FR is considered to be independent, third party agent, serving the fisheries interests, not the project's interests. Role & responsibilities of FRs include but are not limited to:

- Be available to meet with fellow fishermen in person, via email or social media, phone or radio.
- Pro-actively make the project team aware of fisheries practices, upcoming efforts and seasons, so as to facilitate shared use of the lease area.
- Meet directly with the project team every quarter to help evaluate communication and outreach efforts, and learn more about project plans.
- Provide a monthly email report to the project team on conversations, activities, suggestions, questions, and concerns from the fishing community about the project; communicate with the project management in real time, if needed.
- On occasion, Fisheries Representatives may be asked to serve as guides and points of contact during a particular activity offshore. This may involve, for example, using their own vessel as a guide or scout vessel to the survey vessels, helping to monitor for fishing activities in the area of operation, and communicating with fishing vessels working in the same area.
- Communicate directly with FL for the purpose of effectively disseminating project information to the FR's constituency.
- Disseminate project information to the fishermen who are based in or visit ports in Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New Jersey and New York and may fish in the Vineyard Wind lease area and cable route area(s).
- Be available and accessible to their represented fishery.
- Communicate to FL any potential conflicts regarding surveys and project development.
- Assist FL to understand fishing activity in the Vineyard Wind lease area and the submarine cable proposed to connect to Cape Cod (e.g. gear types, specific fisheries).
- Work with FL to develop and refine fisheries communication plan(s).
- Communication planning, identification of communication methods and frequency, outreach meeting facilitation and support and other tasks, as needed, for engaging local fishermen during all project phases to ensure effective messaging.
- FR will meet directly with the FL and project management every quarter and evaluate communication and outreach efforts and review quarterly outreach and mitigation measures employed by Vineyard Wind
- Maintain awareness of ongoing fishery management action development by the New England and Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Councils and the Atlantic States Fisheries Commission.
- Develop or recommend mitigation measures.



- Documenting activities and making them publically available.
- Participate in working group meetings, such as the Massachusetts Fisheries Working Group, when appropriate for the fishery they represent.



Target Audience	Principle Channels	Supporting Tactics
Fishing sector, fishing region, seasonal fisheries, specific fishery gear types, fishermen at sea, charter fishermen, fishery ports	 Fishing Representatives and Fishing Liaison Other fishermen Media – newspapers, internet, e-mail subscriptions, fliers, thumb-drives Fishing organizations, alliances, partnerships, commissions, coalitions, councils, councils/commission staff, state agencies, federal agencies, and advocacy groups Local elected officials Friends and family Employers 	 Access to information via internet, e-mail lists (state and Vineyard Wind), social media Industry specific publications or e-mails 24-hour phone service for up to date project info and emergencies. Project specific radio alerts to fishermen at sea FL contact info on website Attending and speaking at fishermen working group meetings Fishermen open house information meetings. FL/FR communication channels Clear daily two-way communication channels between fishery/fishermen and project during construction (contractors and sub-contractors)
Recreational fisherman, recreational boaters	Same as above	 Access to information via Vineyard Wind's website, social media, and newsletters Advertisements through recreational fishing magazines and websites FL contact info on website Attending and speaking at fishermen working group meetings Fishermen open house information meetings.