Construction and Operations Plan

30 CFR Part 585

South Fork Wind Farm

Submitted to:
Bureau of Ocean Energy Management
45600 Woodland Rd
Sterling, VA 20166

Submitted by:
South Fork Wind, LLC

South Fork Wind | Powered by Ørsted & Eversource

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Revision 2	**May 2019**
Revision 3	**February 2020**
	Updated July 2020
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This *South Fork Wind Farm and South Fork Export Cable Construction and Operations Plan* (COP) is being submitted by South Fork Wind, LLC (SFW or the Applicant)[1] to support the siting and development of the South Fork Wind Farm (SFWF) and the South Fork Export Cable (SFEC), collectively the Project.

The SFWF includes up to 15 wind turbine generators (WTGs or turbines) with a nameplate capacity of 6 to 12 MW per turbine, submarine cables between the WTGs (Inter-array Cables), and an offshore substation (OSS), all of which will be located within federal waters on the outer continental shelf (OCS), specifically in the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) Renewable Energy Lease Area OCS-A 0517 (Lease Area),[2] approximately 19 miles (30.6 kilometers [km], 16.6 nautical miles [nm]) southeast of Block Island, Rhode Island, and 35 miles (56.3 km, 30.4 nm) east of Montauk Point, New York. The SFWF also includes an Operations and Maintenance (O&M) facility that will be located onshore at either Montauk in East Hampton, New York, or Quonset Point in North Kingstown, Rhode Island.

The SFEC is an alternating current (AC) electric cable that will connect the SFWF to the existing mainland electric grid in East Hampton, New York. The SFEC includes both offshore and onshore segments. Offshore, the SFEC is located in federal waters (SFEC – OCS) and New York State territorial waters (SFEC – NYS) and will be buried to a target depth of 4 to 6 feet in the seabed. Onshore, the terrestrial underground segment of the export cable (SFEC – Onshore) will be located in East Hampton, New York. The SFEC – NYS will be connected to the SFEC – Onshore via the sea-to-shore transition where the offshore and onshore cables will be spliced together. The SFEC also includes a new Interconnection Facility where the SFEC will interconnect with the Long Island Power Authority (LIPA) electric transmission and distribution system in the town of East Hampton, New York.

The approximate location of the entire Project is shown on Figure ES-1. The landing site options and route variants of the SFEC – Onshore are shown on Figure ES-2.

The Project is scheduled to be installed starting in 2022 , and to be commissioned and operational by the end of 2023.

The Project components and locations presented in this COP have been selected based on environmental and engineering site characterization studies completed to date and will be refined in the Facility Design Report (FDR) and Fabrication and Installation Report (FIR), which will be reviewed by BOEM pursuant to Title 30 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (CFR) Parts 585.700-702 before the commencement of installation. In addition, a Certified Verification Agent (CVA), approved by BOEM, will conduct an independent assessment and verify that the Project components are fabricated and installed in accordance with both this COP and the FIR.

The purpose of the Project is to generate electricity from an offshore wind farm located in the Lease Area and to transmit it to the East Hampton Substation. The Project addresses the need identified by the LIPA for new sources of power generation that can cost-effectively and reliably supply the South Fork of Suffolk County, Long Island, as an alternative to constructing new transmission facilities. The Project will also help LIPA achieve its renewable energy goals. The Project will enable SFW to fulfill its contractual commitments to LIPA pursuant

[1] On September 4, 2020 a *Certificate of Amendment of Certificate of Formation of Deepwater Wind South Fork, LLC* was executed which changed the name of Deepwater Wind South Fork, LLC to South Fork Wind, LLC.

[2] The leaseholder of Renewable Energy Lease Area OCS-A 0517 is South Fork Wind, LLC. On March 23, 2020 BOEM approved the assignment of a portion of lease OCS-A 0486 to Deepwater Wind South Fork, LLC which had the effect of segregating this portion into a new lease, which was given lease number OCS-A 0517. Subsequent to BOEM's approval of this lease assignment, Deepwater Wind South Fork, LLC changed its name to South Fork Wind, LLC.

to a Power Purchase Agreement executed in 2017 resulting from LIPA's technology-neutral competitive bidding process.

This COP includes the following information:

- An overview of the Project, including details on the regulatory framework in which the Project will be reviewed, a description of the agency and stakeholder outreach, a tentative schedule and other key project information requested by BOEM (Section 1);
- A summary of the siting and route selection process for both the SFWF and SFEC, including a siting history, details on steps taken to identify and evaluate potential SFEC routes, and description of technologies and installation methods considered (Section 2);
- A description of all planned facilities, including onshore and support facilities; and all proposed activities, including construction activities, commercial O&M, and conceptual decommissioning plans (Section 3);
- A characterization and assessment of potential impacts during construction, O&M, and decommissioning activities, which will support relevant project reviews and consultations (Section 4);
- A list of supporting references and citations, organized by COP section (Section 5); and
- Additional supporting information provided in appendices (Appendix A to Appendix BB3), some of which include references to Deepwater Wind South Fork, as the previous name of the Applicant.

This COP was prepared in accordance with 30 CFR § 585. BOEM is expected to be the lead federal agency under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). For activities related to the SFEC – NYS and SFEC – Onshore in New York State, the New York Public Service Commission will lead the review of the Project activities under Article VII of the New York Public Service Law.

In addition to the federal and state level permits, the Project must also comply with applicable provisions of the Endangered Species Act, the Marine Mammals Protection Act, the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, the National Historic Preservation Act, the Coastal Zone Management Act, the Clean Air Act, the Rivers & Harbors Act, and the Clean Water Act.