



March, 18, 2024

RE: Notice of Intent for the Atlantic Shores Offshore Wind North Project

Dear Consulting Party,

On February 20, 2024, ICF, on behalf of the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM), sent you an invitation to consult on the Atlantic Shores Offshore Wind North Project (Project) under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. As you may recall from our prior correspondence, BOEM is using National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) substitution for the Section 106 process as laid out at 36 CFR § 800.8. NEPA substitution allows coordination of the Section 106 consultation schedule with the schedule for preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to ensure that the EIS includes appropriate scoping, identification of historic properties, assessment of effects on historic properties, and consultation leading to resolution of any adverse effects.

This letter is to notify you of the next step in the NEPA substitution schedule for the Section 106 consultation on the Project. BOEM has issued a Notice of Intent (NOI) to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Atlantic Shores Offshore Wind North Project in the *Federal Register*. The NOI can be viewed and comments can be submitted through www.regulations.gov (Docket No. BOEM-2024-0008). Project information can be found on the BOEM website at <https://www.boem.gov/renewable-energy/state-activities/new-jersey/atlantic-shores-north-ocs-0549>. This NOI commences the public scoping process for identifying issues and potential alternatives for consideration in the Project EIS.

BOEM has assigned ICF as the third-party contractor to facilitate the NEPA and Section 106 process. All Federal oversight and decisions will remain with BOEM. ICF's role in the NEPA process and Section 106 consultation is administrative; ICF will coordinate communication with the consulting parties; facilitate distribution of BOEM-approved documents; provide technical assistance; and arrange and lead meetings, webinars, or calls with consulting parties.

If approved, the Project will consist of up to 157 wind turbine generators (WTGs); up to eight (8) small, four (4) medium, or three (3) large offshore substations; up to one (1) permanent meteorological (met) tower; inter-array or inter-link cables linking the individual turbines and offshore substations; offshore export cables; an onshore export cable system connecting to up to three (3) onshore substations or converter stations in New Jersey and up to three (3) in New York; and connections to the existing electrical grid in New Jersey and/or New York. The WTGs and offshore substations, array cables, and substation interconnector cables would be located in Lease Area OCS-A 0549 in Federal waters approximately 7.3 nautical miles (8.4 statute miles) east of Long Beach, New Jersey. The offshore export cables would be buried below the seabed surface within Federal and state waters. The landfall locations, onshore export cables, onshore

substations and/or converter stations, and grid connections would be located in Monmouth County, New Jersey and/or Richmond County or Kings County, New York. The Project location is depicted on the maps in Enclosure 1.

Scoping Period

The NOI initiates a 45-day scoping period for the Project ending on May 2, 2024. BOEM intends to hold public scoping meetings to provide the public an opportunity to review project information and comment. You can find more information about the project Plan, as well as scoping meeting dates, times, and locations on BOEM's website at:

<https://www.boem.gov/renewable-energy/state-activities/new-jersey/atlantic-shores-north-ocs-0549>.

Through this notice, BOEM seeks comment and input regarding the identification of historic properties and/or potential effects to historic properties from activities associated with approval of the Project, as well as reasonable alternatives (e.g., size, geographic, or other restrictions on construction and siting of facilities and activities), and potential mitigation measures to be analyzed in the EIS, as well as provide additional information. Mitigation measures may include ways to avoid, minimize, or otherwise treat and resolve adverse effects on historic properties.

Scoping comments may be submitted the following ways:

Through the regulations.gov web portal: Navigate to <https://www.regulations.gov> and search for Docket No. BOEM-2024-0008. Click on the "Comment Now!" button to the right of the document link. Enter your information and comment, then click "Submit".

OR

In written form by mail, enclosed in an envelope labeled "Comment on the Atlantic Shores North Offshore Wind Project Draft EIS" and addressed to the Kimberly Sullivan, NEPA Coordinator, Office of Renewable Energy, Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, 45600 Woodland Road, VAM-OREP, Sterling, Virginia 20166.

Comments should be received or postmarked no later than May 2, 2024. If your comments contain confidential or sensitive information or to obtain more information on the Project or BOEM's policies associated with the NOI, please contact Maureen McCoy at asow_north_section106@icf.com or 443-718-4848. While comments can be submitted at any time, we encourage you to submit these during the scoping comment period, thus allowing BOEM to consider these comments in the development of the Draft EIS.

Section 106 First Consultation Meeting

BOEM is planning for the first virtual Section 106 consultation meeting for the Project to be held in early May 2024. ICF will email a Doodle poll requesting your availability for the first Section 106 consultation meeting. A meeting date and time will be chosen based on the availability of all consulting parties, and you will receive an invitation to the consultation meeting approximately 30 days before the meeting.

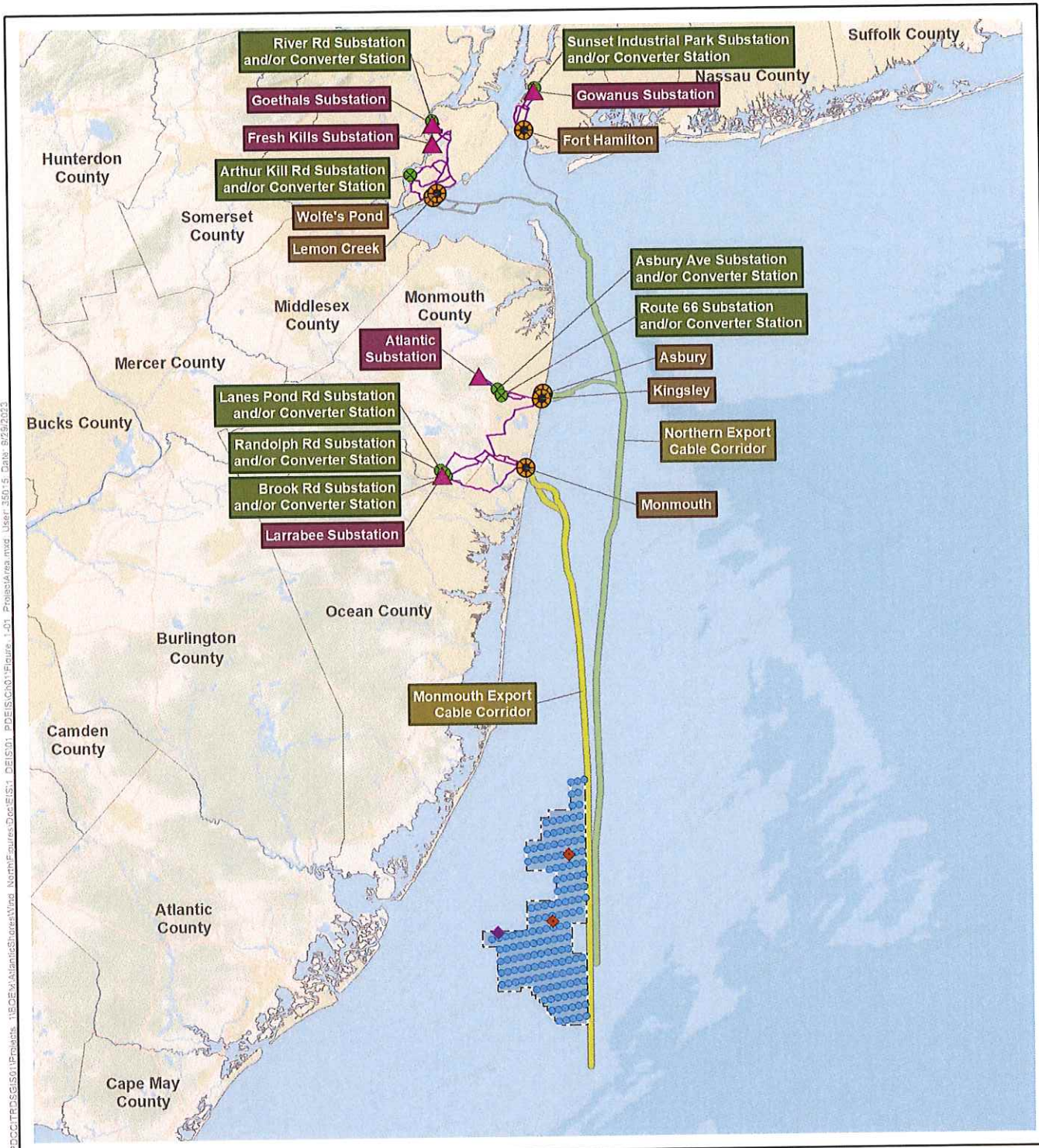
Please contact me if you require additional information. We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Maureen R. McCoy". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized 'M' and 'C'.

Maureen McCoy
ICF
Atlantic Shores North Offshore Wind Project
Section 106 Lead

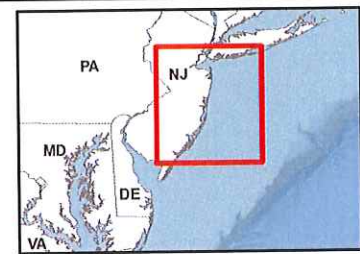
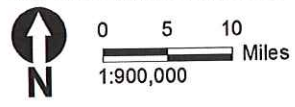
Enclosures: Enclosure 1 – Project Location Maps



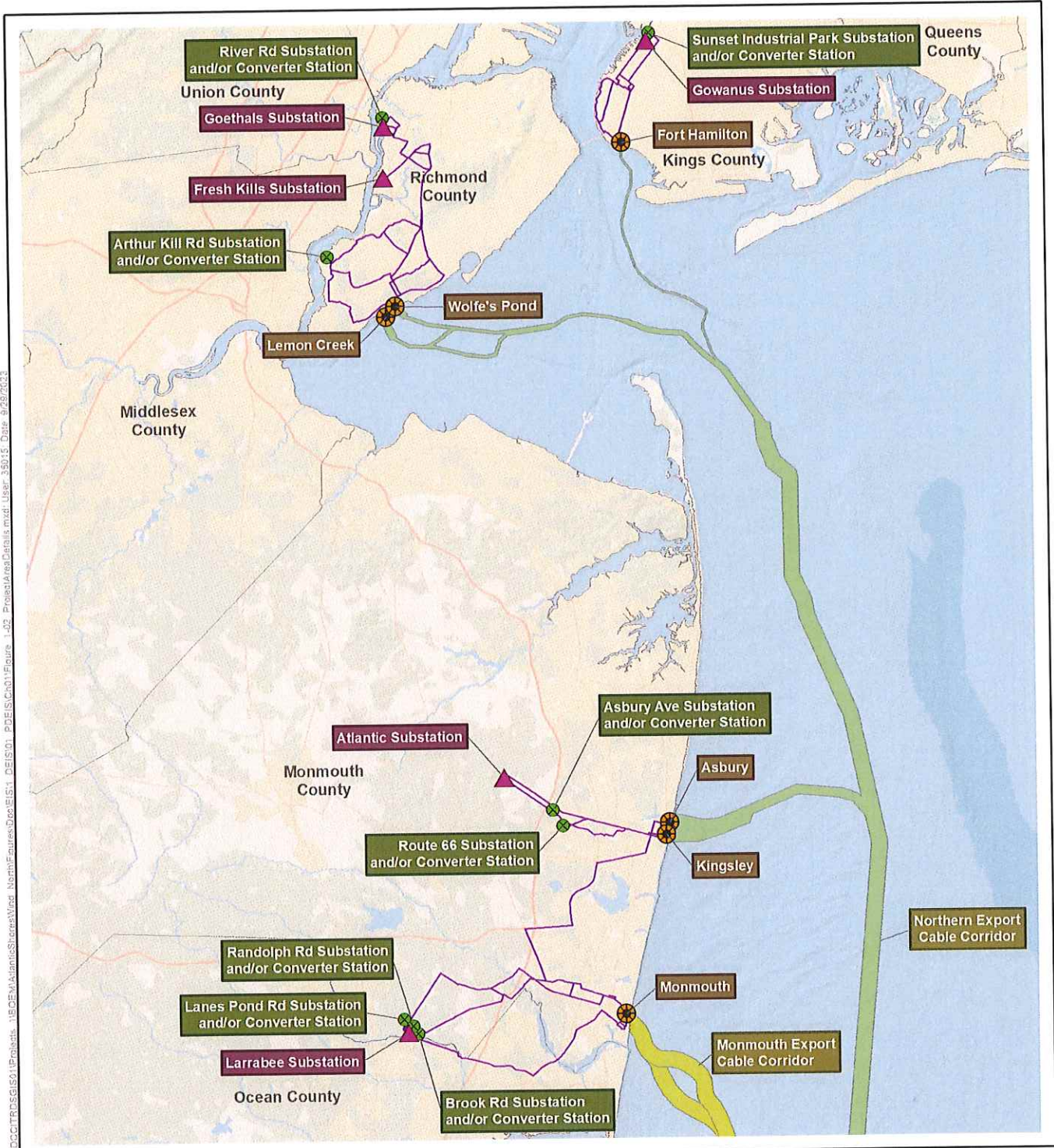
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- Lease Area (OCS-A 0549)
- Wind Turbine
- ◆ Potential Met Tower Location
- ◆ Temporary Metocean Buoy
- ▲ Point of Interconnection
- ⊗ Substation and/or Converter Station
- ⊗ Landfall Site
- Onshore Cable Route Option
- Northern Export Cable Corridor
- Monmouth Export Cable Corridor

Source: Atlantic Shores 2023.



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|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Lease Area (OCS-A 0549) | Point of Interconnection |
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