

**PUBLIC NOTICE OF FEDERAL CLEAN AIR ACT PERMIT  
AND PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD  
UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION 3, AIR and RADIATION DIVISION  
FOR  
COASTAL VIRGINIA OFFSHORE WIND COMMERCIAL (CVOW-C)**

The United States Environmental Protection Agency Region 3 (EPA) is proposing to issue a Clean Air Act (CAA) permit to Dominion Energy (Dominion or the applicant) for the construction and operation of an Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) source that includes an offshore wind farm and export cables. The wind farm has the potential to generate roughly 2,640 megawatts (MW) of electricity (enough to power 660,000 homes). The proposed offshore wind farm will be located in federal waters about 26 to 38 nautical miles (NM) off the coast of Virginia Beach.

EPA is proposing to issue the OCS air permit pursuant to section 328 of the CAA and the applicable rules and regulations promulgated under 40 C.F.R. part 55, including applicable regulations by the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality that were incorporated by reference into part 55. The proposed permit includes requirements for the prevention of significant deterioration (PSD) permit program.

The EPA is soliciting comments related to the air emission impacts and the substance of the proposed CAA permit for the offshore wind farm, the CVOW-C project.

**Description of the Project:**

Dominion Energy (Dominion) is planning to build up to 176 wind turbine generators (WTGs) and 3 offshore substations (OSS) located about 26 to 38 NM off the coast of Virginia Beach. The CVOW-C project, will be the largest offshore wind project in the United States once completed. The Wind Development Area (WDA) consists of the WTGs, which each have a capacity of approximately 14.7 megawatts (MW), submarine cables between the WTGs (inter-array cables), three OSS, and submarine export cables. Up to nine export cables will make landfall at the cable landing location and eventually connect the CVOW-C wind farm to the existing Fentress Substation in Chesapeake, VA. Portions of the offshore windfarm will be located within federal waters within 25 NM of the State Seaward Boundary (SSB) of Virginia (inner OCS), and portions of the project will be located greater than 25 NM from the Virginia SSB (outer OCS) in the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) Renewable Energy Lease Area OCS-A-0483.

**Air Quality Impacts:**

The air quality analysis showed that the impacts from the WDA facility operations will not cause or contribute to a violation of applicable national ambient air quality standards (NAAQS) or prevention of significant deterioration (PSD) increments. The analysis also showed that construction phase emissions for the OCS source will not cause significant impacts for the PSD increments at any Class I area (national parks and wilderness areas). The NAAQS are health-

based standards that the EPA sets to protect public health with an adequate margin of safety. The PSD increments are designed to ensure that air quality in an area that meets the NAAQS does not significantly deteriorate from baseline levels. In addition, the air quality impact analysis demonstrated that operation of the OCS source will not adversely cause impairment to soils, vegetation, or visibility at Class I areas. Dominion utilized an alternative model (AERCOARE) in their air quality impact analysis. The use of a modified or substituted model must be subject to notice and opportunity for public comment in accordance with the CAA 165(e)(3)(D), 42 U.S. Code § 7475(e)(3)(D) and 40 CFR Part 52.21(l)(2). This public notice is also providing the opportunity to comment on Dominion's use of AERCOARE for the air quality impact analysis for the CVOW-C project.

### **EPA Permit Action:**

Dominion Energy submitted an initial air permit application for the project on September 15, 2022, which EPA determined was incomplete. Dominion submitted a revised permit application on January 12, 2023, and EPA determined that the permit application was complete on February 7, 2023. Dominion also provided EPA with updated applications on July 31, 2023, and November 15, 2023. In addition, Dominion submitted an addendum to its November 15, 2023 application on January 10, 2024. EPA is proposing to issue the federal CAA permit based on the information in Dominion's most recent November 15, 2023 application, the January 20, 2024, application addendum, and the applicable air permitting regulations. The proposed permit number for this action is OCS-R3-01.

### **Public Comment Process:**

The EPA is now taking public comments for the proposed action until February 28, 2024. Any interested person may submit written comments on the proposed OCS air permit during the public comment period. The EPA will consider all submitted comments in its final decision-making process.

All data submitted by the applicant is available as part of the administrative record. Members of the public may review a copy of the proposed permit prepared by the EPA, the fact sheet for the proposed permit, the application, and supporting materials, at the U.S. EPA Region 3 office at Four Penn Center, 1600 John F. Kennedy Boulevard, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103-2852. All documents will be available for review Monday through Thursday from 8:00 am to 4:00 p.m. To obtain information, please contact Gwendolyn K. Supplee at 215-814-2763.

The proposed permit, fact sheet, and all supporting materials are available for review through <https://www.regulations.gov> (Docket ID #EPA-R03-OAR-2023-0632). Information about the CVOW-C project is also available on EPA's website at: <https://www.epa.gov/caa-permitting/caa-permitting-epas-mid-atlantic-region>.

The public comment period on this proposed permit action will begin upon publication of this notice and will end on February 28, 2024. EPA prefers that all comments be submitted via email to Gwendolyn K. Supplee at [supplee.gwendolyn@epa.gov](mailto:supplee.gwendolyn@epa.gov). If email submittal of comments is not feasible, hard copy comments may be submitted to the address below.

Gwendolyn K. Supplee  
Air and Radiation Division (Mail code: 3AD10)  
U.S. EPA Region 3  
Four Penn Center  
1600 John F. Kennedy Boulevard  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103-2852

Comments may also be submitted electronically through <https://www.regulations.gov> (Docket ID #EPA-R03-OAR-2023-0632).

All significant comments received at or before the end of the public comment period will be considered in arriving at a final decision on the permit. The final permit is a public record that can be obtained upon request. A statement of reasons for any changes made to the draft permit and responses to all significant comments received will be sent to all persons who submitted comments (and contact information) on the draft permits, or who requested notice of the final permit decisions.

If you believe any conditions in the draft permit are inappropriate, or that the EPA's initial decision to prepare the permit is inappropriate, you must raise all reasonably ascertainable issues and submit all reasonably ascertainable arguments supporting your position by the end of the public comment period. Any supporting materials that you submit must be included in full and may not be incorporated by reference, unless they are already part of the administrative docket for the permit proceeding or consist of State, Tribal, or Federal statutes and regulations, EPA documents of general availability, or other generally available referenced materials.

All comments received will be included in the public docket without change and will be available to the public, including any personal information provided, unless the comment includes Confidential Business Information (CBI) or other information whose disclosure is restricted by statute. Information that is considered to be CBI or otherwise protected should be clearly identified as such and should not be submitted through email. If a commenter sends an email directly to the EPA, the email address will be automatically captured and included as part of the public comment. Please note that an email or postal address must be provided with comments if the commenter wishes to receive direct notification of the EPA's final decision regarding the draft permits.

In addition, the EPA will hold a public hearing for the OCS air permit at 6:00 p.m. EST on Wednesday, February 28, 2024. The hearing will be held virtually via Zoom.gov (<https://usepa.zoomgov.com/j/1619383642?pwd=M0FudENyd0lpakdCUytmSjFZZy9wUT09>)

The hearing will be conducted in the English language. If you need a reasonable accommodation or have translation/interpretation needs, please contact Karen Del Grosso at [delgrosso.karen@epa.gov](mailto:delgrosso.karen@epa.gov) or 215-814-2765 no later than February 19, 2024. The hearing will end when all attendees wishing to speak have spoken, or at 8:00 p.m., whichever is sooner. If no

parties join the hearing by 7:00 p.m. EST, the EPA will close the hearing. Depending on the number of attendees that wish to speak, the Presiding Officer may set reasonable limits on the time allowed for oral statements. The EPA requests, if possible, that you provide a written copy of any testimony you intend to present during the hearing. A written transcript of the public hearing will be made available afterwards. The public hearing will be conducted according to the rules and procedures of 40 C.F.R. § 124.12. More information regarding the public hearing and registration instructions are included on the EPA's website at: <https://www.epa.gov/caa-permitting/caa-permitting-epas-mid-atlantic-region>.

The EPA will proceed with issuance of the final permit consistent with the regulations at 40 C.F.R. part 55 and administrative procedural requirements at 40 C.F.R. part 124. Following the close of the public comment period, and after the public hearing, the EPA will issue a Final Permit decision and forward a copy of the final decision to the applicant and each person who has submitted written comments, provided comments at the hearing, or requested notice. Within 30 days following notice of the permit decisions, any interested parties may submit a petition for review of either of the permits to the EPA's Environmental Appeals Board consistent with 40 C.F.R. § 124.19.

In accordance with 40 C.F.R. § 124.15, the final permits become effective 30 days after permit issuance, unless: (1) a later effective date is specified in the permit; or (2) the permit decision is appealed to the EPA's Environmental Appeals Board pursuant to 40 C.F.R. § 124.19; or (3) no comments resulted in a change to the draft permit or a denial of the permit, in which case the EPA may make the final permit effective immediately upon issuance.

The EPA will add the final OCS air permit upon issuance to the EPA Region 3 website at <https://www.epa.gov/caa-permitting/caa-permitting-epas-mid-atlantic-region>. Anyone may request a copy of the final OCS air permit at any time by contacting Gwendolyn K. Supplee at [supplee.gwendolyn@epa.gov](mailto:supplee.gwendolyn@epa.gov) or 215-814-2763.

If you would like to be added to the EPA's mailing list to be informed of future actions on this or other CAA permits issued by EPA Region 3, please send your name and address to Air Permits Team, Air and Radiation Division (Mail code: 3AD10)), U.S. EPA Region 3, Four Penn Center, 1600 John F. Kennedy Boulevard, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103-2852 or sign up to receive notifications on our website at: <https://www.epa.gov/caa-permitting/caa-permitting-epas-mid-atlantic-region>.