

**PUBLIC NOTICE OF FEDERAL CLEAN AIR ACT PERMIT  
AND PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD  
UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION 1, AIR & RADIATION DIVISION**

**For**

**Southcoast Wind, LLC  
101 Federal St., Suite 1900  
Boston, MA 02110**

The United States Environmental Protection Agency Region 1 office (EPA) is proposing to issue a Clean Air Act (CAA) permit to Southcoast Wind, LLC (SCW 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 an estimated maximum production capacity of 2,400 megawatts (MW) of renewable energy. The proposed wind development area (WDA) will be located in federal waters in OCS Lease Area 0521. At its nearest points, the WDA will be approximately 26 nautical miles (nm) south of Martha's Vineyard, Massachusetts. The 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 Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection that were incorporated by reference into part 55. We are soliciting comments related to the air emission impacts and the substance of the proposed CAA permit for the wind farm.

**Description of the Project:**

SCW submitted a permit application for the proposed construction and operation of a 2,400 MW of electricity wind farm in Renewable Energy Lease Area 0521. This wind farm is located in federal waters off the Massachusetts coast about 26 nautical miles (nm) south of Martha's Vineyard, Massachusetts. The WDA facility will consist of up to 147 wind turbine generators (WTGs), submarine cables (inter-array cables) between the WTGs, and two (2) Offshore Substation Platforms (OSPs). The draft WDA facility permit includes, among other requirements, requirements for the prevention of significant deterioration (PSD) and nonattainment new source review (NNSR) permit programs.

**Air Quality Impacts:**

The air quality analysis showed that the impact from the WDA facility operation will not cause or contribute to a violation of applicable national ambient air quality standards (NAAQS) or PSD increments. The analysis also showed that construction phase emissions for the facility will not cause significant impacts for the PSD increments at any Class II area. 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 WDA facility will not adversely cause impairment to soils, vegetation, or visibility at Class II areas.

**EPA Permit Action:**

On November 23, 2022, SCW submitted to EPA Region 1 an initial application requesting a CAA preconstruction permit under Section 328 of the CAA for the construction and operation of its Southcoast Wind Offshore Windfarm. The EPA is proposing to issue the federal CAA permit based on the information in SCW's application, including subsequent application materials received thereafter, and applicable air permitting regulations. The draft permit number for this action is EPA Permit No. OCS-R1-09.

**Public Comment Process:**

The EPA is now taking public comments for the proposed action until **January 06, 2025**. 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 draft permit prepared by the EPA, the fact sheet for the draft permit, the application, and all supporting materials, at the U.S. EPA Region 1 office, at 5 Post Office Square, Suite 100, Boston, MA 02109. All documents will be available for review Monday through Thursday from 8:00 am to 4:00 p.m. To obtain information, please contact Andre Turner at 617-918-1216.

Electronic copies of the draft permit, fact sheet, and all supporting materials are also available for review on EPA's website at: <https://www.epa.gov/caa-permitting/epa-issued-caa-permits-region-1>

The public comment period for this proposed permit action will begin upon publication of this notice and will end on **January 06, 2025**. EPA prefers that all comments be submitted via email to Andre Turner at [turner.andre@epa.gov](mailto:turner.andre@epa.gov). If email submittal of comments is not feasible, hard copy comments may be submitted to the address below.

Andre Turner  
Air and Radiation Division (Mailcode: 5-MO)  
U.S. EPA Region 1  
5 Post Office Square, Suite 100  
Boston, MA 02109.

Comments may also be submitted electronically through <https://www.regulations.gov> (Docket ID #EPA-R01-OAR-2024-0393).

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 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 permit, or who requested notice of the final permit decision.

If you believe any conditions in the draft permit are inappropriate, or that our initial decision to prepare a 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 this permit proceeding or consist of State, Tribal, or Federal statutes and regulations, EPA documents of general availability, or other generally available reference 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 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 permit.

In addition, the EPA will hold a public hearing for the OCS Air Permit at 6:00 p.m. EST on December 18, 2024. The hearing will be held virtually via Zoom.gov ([https://usepa.zoomgov.com/meeting/register/vJIsfu6vrjMtGAiTL\\_u444yYehq1lawCCl8](https://usepa.zoomgov.com/meeting/register/vJIsfu6vrjMtGAiTL_u444yYehq1lawCCl8)). The hearing will be conducted in the English language. If you need a reasonable accommodation or have translation/interpretation needs, please contact Patrick Collins at [collins.patrick@epa.gov](mailto:collins.patrick@epa.gov) or (617) 918-1196 by no later than December 04th, 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, 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. We request, 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 EPA's website at <https://www.epa.gov/caa-permitting/caa-public-comment-opportunities-region-1>.

The EPA will proceed with final permit issuance 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 decision, any interested parties may submit a petition for review of the permit to the EPA's Environmental Appeals Board consistent with 40 C.F.R. § 124.19. Any person who filed comments on the draft permit or participated in a public hearing on the draft permit may file a petition for review. Additionally, any person who failed to file comments or failed to participate in the public hearing on the draft permit may petition for administrative review of any permit conditions set forth in the final permit decision, but only to the extent that those final permit conditions reflect changes from the proposed draft permit.

In accordance with 40 C.F.R. § 124.15, the final permit becomes effective 30 days after the service of notice of the final permit decision, 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 OCS Air Permit to the EPA Region 1 website at <https://www.epa.gov/caa-permitting/epa-issued-caa-permits-region-1>. Anyone may request a copy of the final OCS Air Permit at any time by contacting Andre Turner at [turner.andre@epa.gov](mailto:turner.andre@epa.gov) or (617) 918-1216.

If you would like to be added to our mailing list to be informed of future actions on this or other CAA permits issued by EPA Region 1, please send your name and address to the address below or sign up to receive notifications on our website at: <https://www.epa.gov/caa-permitting/caa-permitting-epas-new-england-region>

Air Permits Team  
Air and Radiation Division (Mailcode: 5-MO)  
U.S. EPA Region 1  
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