

Penobscot Bay Watch

POB 1871, Rockland ME 04841

October 18, 2010

Department of Energy Golden Field Office
NEPA Division
Attn: Kurt Rautenstrauch
116117 Cole Boulevard
Golden, Colorado 80403

Re: Scoping - University of Maine Deepwater Offshore Wind Test Site, Gulf of Maine

Dear Mr Rautenstrauch

Attached is additional information that the Department of Energy needs to take into consideration during its development of the environmental assessment of this development proposal.

1. We ask that consideration of offsite cumulative impact of the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Regulation and Enforcement (BOEMRE) ocean wind leasing process be incorporated into the Scope of Review. The BOEMRE has convened an interagency federal/state Maine Ocean Wind Task Force, that is tasked by charter to develop maps designating areas off Maine in federal and EEZ waters that are appropriate for windpower development. BOEMRE is open to both monopile windturbines -those set directly into the seafloor- as well as floating wind turbines similar to those presently being considered for funding by DOE.

It will be important for DOE to calculate the combined likely impacts to marine life and nature based industries, including fishing and tourism, of both the release of DOE funds for the University of Maine's Deepwater Offshore Wind Test Site, and the BOEMRE's planned windpower leasing of large areas of federal Gulf of Maine waters to commercial windfarm applicants.

While the University has made an effort to understand the impacts of their Deepwater Offshore Wind Test Site project, it has not to the best of our knowledge factored in the cumulative impacts that the planned BOEMRE leases would have on the scenic, hydrologic, avian, fishery and tourism resources that the University's project will impact.

Will the final location for mooring the University's proposed full sized prototype 5 megawatt floating wind turbine be a location leased from BOEMRE? How is the Department of Energy's Environmental Assessment going to treat BOEMRE's parallel ocean windturbine leasing process in nearby waters?

Please contact me if you have any difficulties downloading these files or if you have any questions My telephone # is 207-691-7485e: coastwatch@gmail.com

See attachments, below.

Sincerely

Ron Huber

Ron Huber
Penobscot Bay Watch

Attachments (pdf files)

- *BOEMRE Atlantic Map**
- * BOEMRE Maine Charter**