



# STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

## Energy Facility Siting Board

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Chairman Ronald T. Gerwatowski  
Board Member Meredith E. Brady  
Board Member Terrence Gray

July 3, 2023

*SENT BY EMAIL*

Raymond C. Coia, Chair  
Jeffrey Willis, Executive Director  
Coastal Resources Management Council  
Stedman Government Center, Suite 3  
4808 Tower Hill Road  
Wakefield, RI 02879-1900

**Re: EFSB Docket No. SB-2-2022-2, SouthCoast Wind LLC**  
**Email Communication from CRMC Staff to EFSB**

Dear Chair Coia and Executive Director Willis,

As the Coastal Resources Management Council (CRMC) is aware, the Energy Facility Siting Board (EFSB) has before it an application of SouthCoast Wind (formerly Mayflower Wind) for the construction of a transmission cable which is proposed to traverse up the Sakonnet River and across a portion of Portsmouth to reach Brayton Point in Massachusetts. The transmission cable is intended to deliver power from a proposed offshore wind project to be located in federal waters.

The EFSB recently held a show cause hearing to determine whether the application process should be stayed in light of uncertainties relating to the ability of SouthCoast Wind to finance its projects, and its recent decision to terminate its power purchase agreements with certain Massachusetts utilities. During the hearing, SouthCoast Wind provided a Gantt Chart, a copy of which is included with this letter as Attachment 1, estimating the time that SouthCoast Wind expects the completion of the CRMC permitting processes (among other permits).

Following the show cause hearing, the Coordinator for the EFSB received an email communication from a staff member of CRMC, dated June 29, 2023. A copy of the email is included with this letter as Attachment 2. In the email, the CRMC staffer questions some of the assertions that were made by SouthCoast Wind to the EFSB regarding the status and timing of the CRMC review of the project. The email also contains troubling allegations relating to SouthCoast Wind's representations. Because the email communication goes beyond procedural matters by addressing issues that relate to the application, and shares information which relates

to testimony that was given by the applicant during the show cause proceedings, the email needs to be disclosed to the parties involved in our proceeding.

Given these events, the purpose of this letter to the CRMC is threefold: (1) to formally notify the CRMC of the EFSB's receipt of the communication, (2) to transmit copies to the parties in our EFSB proceeding, and (3) to respectfully request the CRMC or its staff to review the estimates in the attached Gantt Chart to formally comment upon the reasonableness of SouthCoast Wind's timeline estimates for completion of the CRMC Category B Assent process and Federal Consistency Determination relating to SouthCoast Wind, in light of the comments in the email communication. We would, of course, include any response in our docket that is now pending.

The EFSB understands that the CRMC is under no obligation to respond, but we would appreciate any information that CRMC or its staff may be able and willing to provide through an authorized communication that might clarify the situation.

Sincerely,



Ronald T. Gerwatowski  
Chairman

c. (by email)

Anthony DeSisto (CRMC Counsel)  
Patti Lucarelli (EFSB Counsel)  
Emma Rodvien (EFSB Coordinator)  
Meredith Brady (EFSB Member)  
Terry Gray (EFSB Member)