



BOEM Bureau of
Ocean Energy Management

BOEM Activity Update to the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council

Kirby Rootes-Murdy & Seth Theuerkauf

Office of Renewable Energy Programs

February 7, 2024

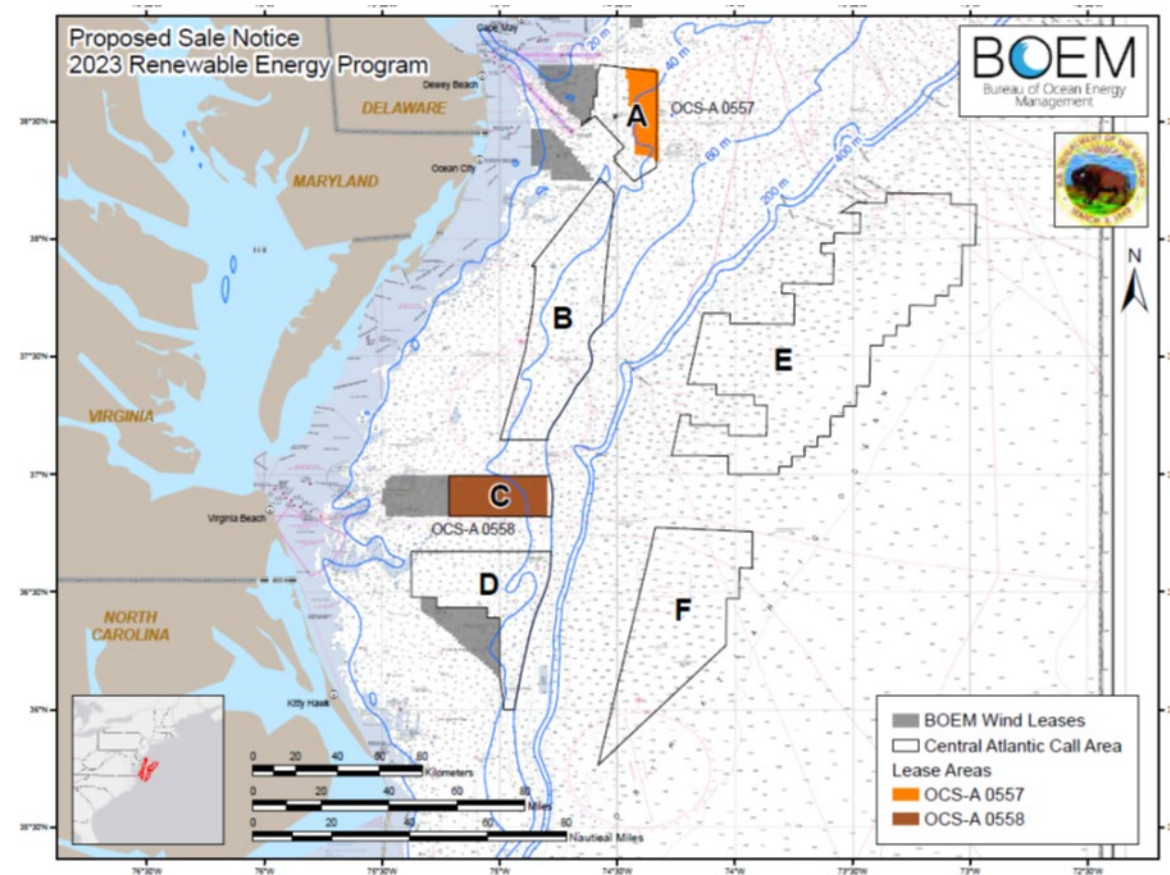
Topics to be Covered

- Proposed Sale Notice (PSN) for Central Atlantic Wind Energy Areas (WEAs)
- New York Bight Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)
- Status Updates for Coastal Virginia Offshore Wind (CVOW) and Empire Wind
- Status of Fisheries Mitigation Guidance
- Questions and Requests



Central Atlantic: Proposed Lease Areas

- **Proposal Sale Notice published on December 11, 2023.**
 - OCS-A 0557: approx. 101,443 total acreage, 26.4 nm from Delaware Bay
 - OCS-A 0558: approx. 176,505 total acreage, 35 nm from Chesapeake Bay
- **Public comments due no later than February 12, 2024**
- **Lease sale #1 anticipated in Summer 2024**
- **Anticipating second round of Planning and Leasing to address remaining needs for Central Atlantic states (sale #2 in 2025-2026)**



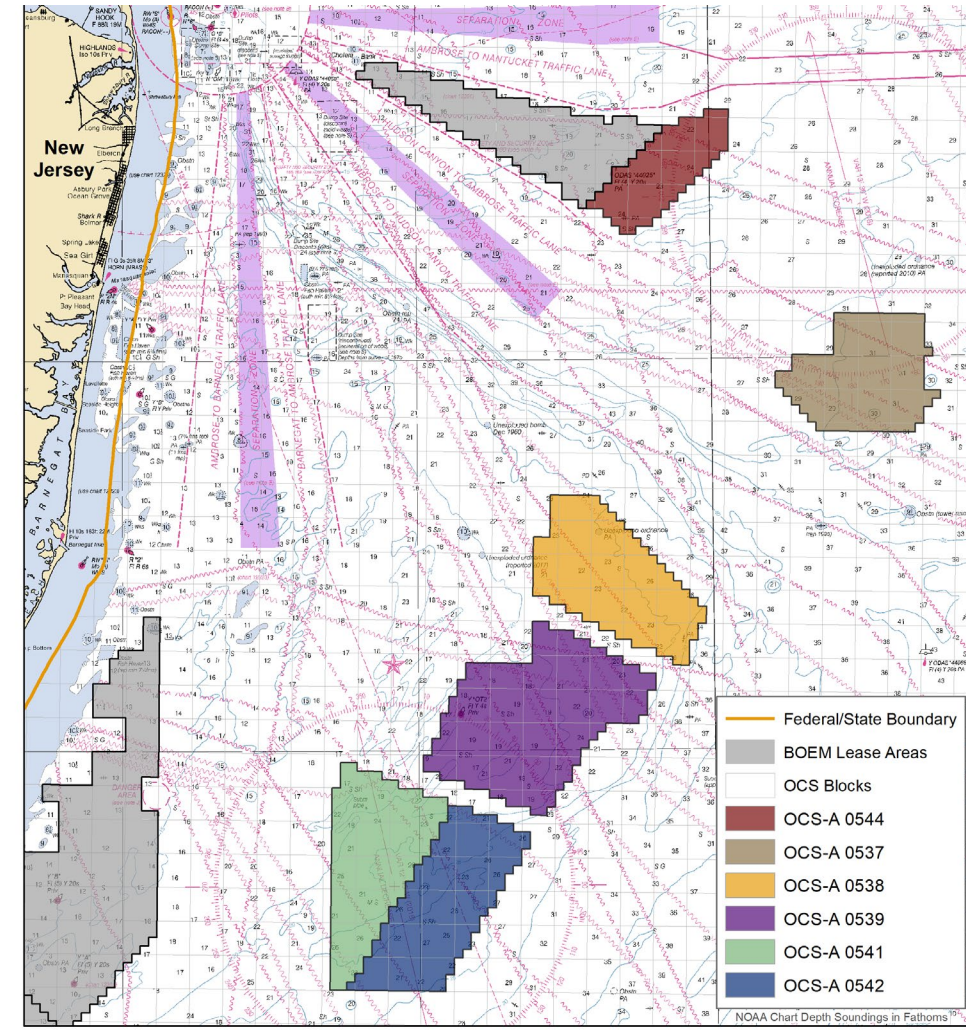
<https://www.boem.gov/renewable-energy/state-activities/central-atlantic>



NY Bight Programmatic EIS

- BOEM published a Notice of Availability (NOA) for the NY Bight Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS) on January 12, 2024.
 - Comments due by February 26
- Multiple upcoming public meetings:
 - (Tonight) February 7: Stony Brook, NY
 - (Tomorrow) February 8: Toms River, NJ
 - (Next week) February 13: [Virtual](#)

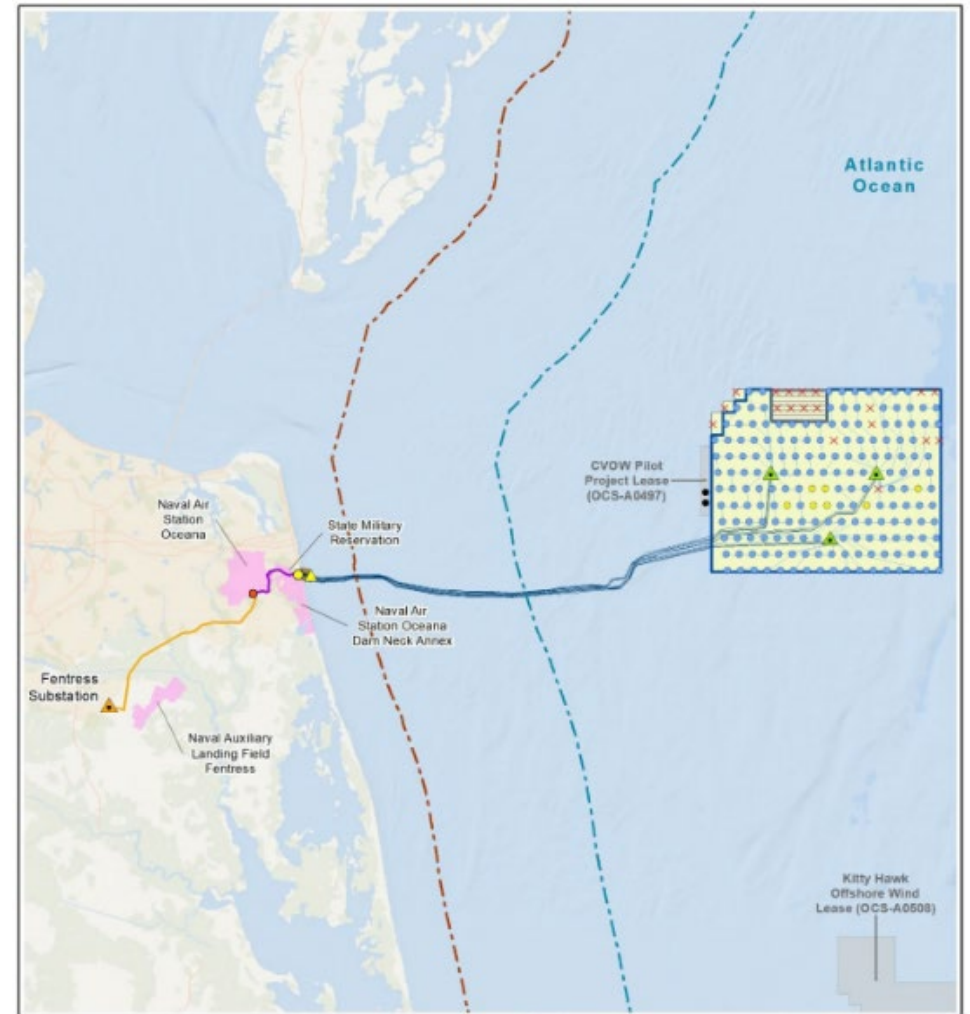
<https://www.boem.gov/renewable-energy/state-activities/new-york-bight>



Status Update: Coastal Virginia Offshore Wind - Commercial (CVOW)

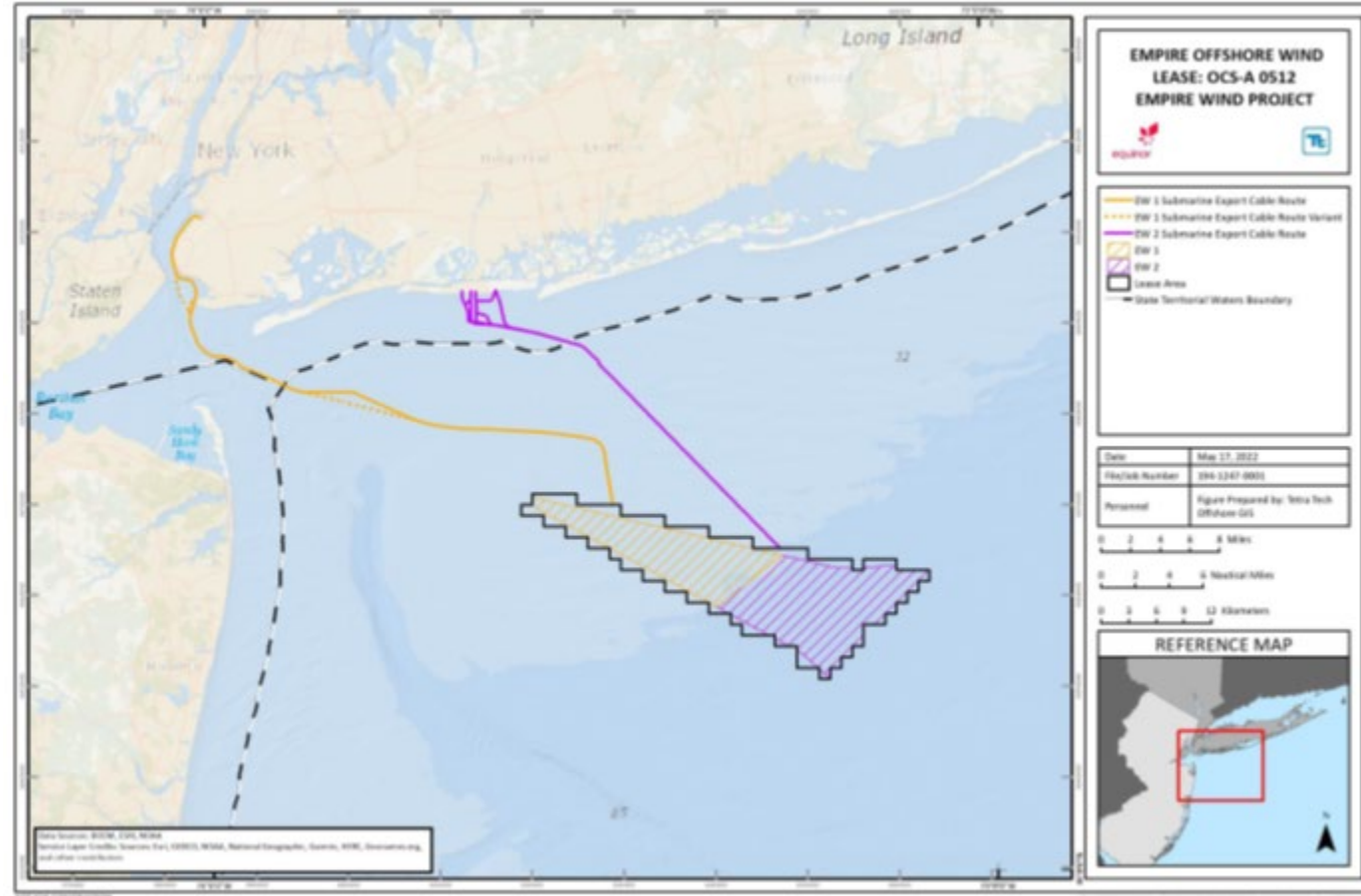
- Record of Decision
 - October 30, 2023
- Preferred Alternatives selected
 - (Alt B) Revised layout to accommodate the Fish Haven and Navigation
 - (Alt D-1) Onshore Habitat Impact Minimization
- Next Steps
 - COP Approved January 28, 2024
 - FDR/FIR to be submitted

<https://www.boem.gov/renewable-energy/state-activities/CVOW-C>



Status Update: Empire Wind

- Record of Decision
 - November 21, 2023
- Preferred Alternatives selected
 - (Alt C-1) Gravesend Anchorage Area
 - (Alt D) Submarine Export Cable Route Options to Minimize Impacts on the Sand Borrow Area
 - (Alt F) Wind Resource Optimization w/modifications for Environment and Technical Considerations
 - (Alt G) Cable Bridge Cross of Barnums Channel
 - (Alt H) Dredging for EW 1 Export Cable Landfall
- Next Steps
 - COP Approval scheduled for Feb 21, 2024



<https://www.boem.gov/renewable-energy/state-activities/empire-wind>



Fisheries Mitigation Guidance Development

- The comment period on the Draft Fisheries Mitigation Guidance closed on Aug. 22, 2022.
- Input from Tribal Nations: concluded in the summer of 2023
- Final guidance
 - Plan to complete in 2024
 - Planning to hold public meeting after guidance document is released to review changes based on public comment.

<https://www.boem.gov/renewable-energy/request-information-reducing-or-avoiding-impacts-offshore-wind-energy-fisheries>



Completed/Recently Awarded Fisheries Studies

- Recently completed Studies

- Squid and Black Sea Bass Acoustic Study

https://espis.boem.gov/final%20reports/BOEM_2022-004.pdf

- Ongoing Studies

- Nature Inclusive Design Study

https://www.boem.gov/sites/default/files/documents/environment/environmental-studies/Evaluating%20Effectiveness%20of%20Nature%20Inclusive%20Design%20Materials_0.pdf

- Connectivity Study

https://www.boem.gov/sites/default/files/documents/environment/environmental-studies/Exploring%20the%20Connectivity%20Among%20Offshore%20Wind%20Turbines_0.pdf





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Thank you!
