

APPENDIX A. Clean Ocean Action Offshore Wind Energy Development Acronym List

Acronym	Term	Definition
BOEM	Bureau of Ocean Energy Management	The Bureau of Ocean Energy Management is an agency in the U.S. Department of Interior responsible for managing development of the nation’s offshore resources.
COP	Construction and Operations Plan	The Construction and Operations Plan provides a description of all proposed activities and planned facilities a developer intends to construct and use for their offshore wind project. This document is reviewed for compliance under the National Environmental Policy Act by BOEM to ensure the project meets environmental requirements.
CMP	Coastal Management Program	<p>A core component of the Coastal Zone Management Act. The CMP is a federally approved program focused on protecting, preserving and managing the coastal zone.</p> <p>New Jersey Coastal Management Program</p> <p>New York Coastal Management Program</p>
CZMA	Coastal Zone Management Act	<p>The Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA) of 1972 provides for the management of the nation’s coastal resources, including the Great Lakes. The goal is to “preserve, protect, develop, and where possible, to restore or enhance the resources of the nation’s coastal zone.” It is administered by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).</p> <p>The act created the federal consistency process which ensures that actions performed by or approved by the federal government with a reasonably foreseeable effect on coastal uses and resources must be consistent with the state’s approved coastal management program.</p>

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EEZ	Economic Exclusion Zone	A jurisdictional boundary prescribed by the United Nations which governs the area of the ocean which nations have special rights regarding the exploration and uses of marine resources. The zone stretches from the shoreline out 200 nautical miles.
EFH	Essential Fish Habitat	<p>Essential fish habitat is defined by the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Convention and Management Act as those waters and areas necessary to fish for spawning, breeding, feeding or growth to maturity. These areas are necessary for the healthy production of fishery resources.</p> <p>Learn more about Essential Fish Habitat here.</p>
EIS	Environmental Impact Statement	The Environmental Impact Statement is an environmental review document performed by a federal agency that outlines the impacts of a proposed project on its surrounding environment. The project is mandated by the National Environmental Policy Act.
EMF	Electromagnetic Field	Electromagnetic fields are a combination of invisible electric and magnetic fields of force. They are generated by natural phenomena like the Earth's magnetic field but also by human activities, mainly through the use of electricity. The electricity produced by offshore wind turbines is transmitted by cables over long distances to reach the shore. The electricity in these cables generates EMF.
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency	The EPA is an independent executive agency of the U.S. government charged with protecting human health and the environment. The EPA is responsible for several major environmental laws such as the Clean Water Act and Clean Air Act.

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ESA	The Endangered Species Act	<p>The ESA is a critical environmental law designed to protect threatened and endangered species. The law requires federal agencies, in consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and/or the NOAA Fisheries Service, to ensure that actions they authorize, fund, or carry out are not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of any listed species or result in the destruction or adverse modification of designated critical habitat of such species. The law also prohibits any action that causes a "taking" of any listed species of endangered fish or wildlife.</p> <p>The two agencies that administer the Act are the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS). These two agencies are often collectively referred to as “the Services” and lead the consultation process. FWS is responsible for the recovery of terrestrial, freshwater, and catadromous species. NMFS is responsible for marine species and anadromous fish.</p>
FWS	Fish and Wildlife Service	<p>The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is an agency of the federal government within the Department of Interior dedicated to the management of fish, wildlife, and natural habitats. Along with the National Marine Fisheries Services, the Fish and Wildlife Service is responsible for administering the Endangered Species Act. FWS is responsible for the recovery of terrestrial, freshwater, and catadromous species.</p>
GW	Gigawatt	<p>A gigawatt is a unit of energy that is equal to 1000 megawatts (MW).</p> <p>New Jersey plans to develop 7.5 GW of offshore wind energy by 2035.</p> <p>New York plans to develop 9 GW of offshore wind energy by 2035.</p>

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IHA	Incidental Harassment Authorization	<p>The Marine Mammal Protection Act prohibits the taking (harm and death) of protected marine mammals. However, the law does allow for unintentional takes that are incidental to certain activities.</p> <p>U.S. citizens, the federal government and companies can apply for Incidental Harassment Authorizations which permits the incidental take of marine mammals for activities including construction projects, scientific research, military exercises, and offshore energy development. Learn more about Incidental Take Authorizations here.</p>
MBTA	Migratory Bird Treaty Act	<p>The Migratory Bird Treaty Act implements four intentional conservation treaties that the U.S. entered into with Canada, Mexico, Japan and Russia. The law prohibits the take (killing, capturing, selling, trading, and transport) of protected migratory birds without prior authorization by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.</p>
MMPA	Marine Mammal Protection Act	<p>The Marine Mammal Protection Act prohibits the taking (harm and death) of protected marine mammals.</p> <p>Exceptions can be made through a permitting process for “takes” that are incidental to otherwise lawful activities, including commercial fishing and scientific research.</p>
MPA	Marine Protection Area	<p>Marine protected areas (MPAs) in the U.S. come in a variety of forms and are established and managed by all levels of government. There are marine sanctuaries, estuarine research reserves, ocean parks, and marine wildlife refuges. Each of these sites differ. MPAs may be established to protect ecosystems, preserve cultural resources such as shipwrecks and archaeological sites, or sustain fisheries production.</p>

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MSA	Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act	<p>The Magnuson-Stevens Act is the primary law governing marine fisheries management in U.S. federal waters.</p> <p>The law established Regional Fishery Management Councils are charged with developing and recommending fishery management plans, both to restore depleted stocks and manage healthy stocks.</p>
MW	Megawatt	<p>A megawatt is a unit for measuring power that is equivalent to one million watts. This is one of the most common forms of measuring large scale energy production.</p> <p>For reference, most are familiar with single-watt lightbulbs. Generally speaking, one megawatt can supply power for around 650 homes.</p>
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act	<p>The National Environmental Policy Act is a cornerstone environmental law that requires federal agencies to give proper consideration to potential environmental impacts prior to undertaking any major federal action that significantly affects the environment.</p> <p>Offshore wind development requires BOEM to undergo environmental analysis under NEPA at two points: First the development of Wind Energy Areas; second, when the Construction and Operation Plan is submitted.</p> <p>The evaluations under NEPA tend to incorporate other key environmental statutes and reviews, such as consultation under the Endangered Species Act.</p> <p>Learn more about BOEM’s requirements under NEPA for offshore wind development here.</p>

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NMFS	National Marine Fisheries Service	<p>The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), informally known as NOAA Fisheries, is the federal agency responsible for the stewardship of national marine resources. The agency conserves and manages fisheries to promote sustainability and prevent lost economic potential associated with overfishing, declining species, and degraded habitats.</p> <p>NMFS is one of the agencies responsible for carrying out the provisions of the Endangered Species Act.</p>
NOAA	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration	<p>The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration is a scientific agency within the United States Department of Commerce that focuses on the conditions of the oceans, major waterways, and the atmosphere.</p> <p>To learn more about NOAA’s work on offshore wind energy, click here.</p>
OCS	Outer Continental Shelf	<p>The Outer Continental Shelf is an area of the ocean defined under law as all submerged lands controlled by the United States. Generally speaking, it refers to the seafloor and submerged lands lying between three nautical miles and one hundred and ninety-nine nautical miles off the coast of the U.S. Under the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act, the Department of Interior is responsible for managing the offshore energy resources of the area, including the development of offshore wind.</p>
O&M	Operation and Maintenance	<p>Operation and Maintenance refers to the operations necessary to prevent degradation of offshore wind energy systems to ensure continued power supply. This includes monitoring and maintaining the physical turbines as well as the cable infrastructure.</p>

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OREC	Offshore Wind Renewable Energy Credit	<p>An Offshore Wind Renewable Energy credit is the funding mechanism provided to accepted offshore wind energy projects. The OREC compensates the offshore wind project based on the energy produced at a predetermined price.</p> <p>The New Jersey Board of Public Utilities is responsible for determining which projects will connect to New Jersey’s energy grid through a competitive solicitation process. The selected project receives funding through the OREC mechanism.</p> <p>Learn more about New Jersey’s solicitation process here.</p>
OSW	Offshore Wind	<p>The development of wind turbines in offshore waters for the purpose of energy development. Both New York and New Jersey have established ambitious offshore wind energy goals with each state committed to developing 9,000 MW and 7,500 MW of offshore wind capacity by 2035, respectively.</p>
SAP	Site Assessment Plan	<p>A Site Assessment Plan is a document submitted by an offshore wind developer that outlines the activities and processes a developer will use to understand their lease area to determine how to best build offshore wind resources.</p>
USCG	U.S. Coast Guard	<p>The Coast Guard is a maritime, military, multi-mission service unique among the U.S. military branches for having a maritime law enforcement mission with jurisdiction in both domestic and international waters.</p> <p>In terms of offshore wind energy, the USCG has several important roles including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cooperating on NEPA evaluations to provide recommendations and identify

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		<p>potential impacts related to navigational safety;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protection of traditional uses of the waterways, maintaining a safe, secure, and efficient Marine Transport System; and • Protecting efficient and safe navigation routes to major U.S. Ports. <p>The USCG is also responsible for determining whether the fishing community will retain access to the areas used by the wind energy projects.</p>
WEA	Wind Energy Area	<p>Wind Energy Areas are areas of the ocean designated by BOEM as potential areas for offshore wind development.</p> <p>If BOEM determines there is competitive interest in a given geographical area they develop draft wind energy areas which are essentially large plots of the ocean they are considering for potential development. Through a public comment period, stakeholder process and environmental review BOEM finalized wind energy areas which will later be divided into lease areas.</p>