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ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENCE



311 Summer Street | Suite 200 | Boston, MA 02210 525 Washington Boulevard | Suite 2407 | Jersey City, NJ 07310

Thomas Nies, Executive Director New England Fishery Management Council cc: NEFMC Habitat Committee 50 Water Street, Mill 2, Newburyport, MA 01950

RE: EnBW North America, Inc.'s Offshore Wind Outreach and Engagement with Fishing Community

Dear Tom,

EnBW North America is the US subsidiary of EnBW AG, the largest integrated utility in Germany and a trusted infrastructure partner. For over a decade, EnBW AG has demonstrated leadership in offshore wind development through the design, construction, and operation of offshore wind farms, with a portfolio of nearly 1,000 MW of offshore wind projects operating in Europe and more than 6,000 MW under development globally. EnBW AG, which built Germany's first commercial scale offshore wind project in 2011 and last year commissioned Germany's largest offshore wind project, is also developing a 900 MW offshore wind project in the North Sea that will not require any government subsidies. EnBW North America has established offices in Jersey City and Boston to pursue offshore wind opportunities on both coasts of the US. On the West Coast, EnBW North America is the majority owner of Castle Wind, the nation's first proposed floating offshore wind project off Morro Bay, California.

Although we do not yet hold a federal lease, EnBW has been active on the ground in the US for the last three years, using the time to understand and assess the market, learn from those who are coming before us, grow our team of US colleagues, and commence early investments into the industry and local communities, all before we hold a federal lease. For example, we are the first non-lease-holding developer to hire a Fisheries Liaison – Beth Casoni, who also works full-time as Executive Director of the Massachusetts Lobstermen's Association. Since 2019, jointly with Beth, we have delivered a multiplatform outreach effort that includes a dedicated fisheries communications plan, direct mailings to more than 2,000 fishermen, digital surveys, and the build-out of an online webpage. In the past months, Beth has traveled to ports in Eastern Long Island, Point Judith RI, and New Bedford MA, to meet with commercial and recreational fishermen in person. She is continuing these trips along the East Coast this summer, with her next trip to Cape May, Wildwood, Atlantic City, and Barnegat Light NJ scheduled for June 25-26.

Open communication is vital for fishermen and the offshore wind industry to find workable, mutually beneficial solutions. We will be in touch with further updates on our project planning and development and we encourage you and your team to reach out to us with any questions, concerns or recommendations for how to ensure we are reaching New England fishermen in the most clear and effective manner. We also welcome your support by sharing our news and updates across your network, when appropriate. Currently, we are fielding responses to our Fishing Community & Offshore Wind survey to receive early feedback from commercial and recreational fishermen. The survey can be accessed at <u>www.enbw.us/fishingsurvey</u>. All responses will remain confidential, and will be used to open

a direct line of communication to fishermen and help us understand fishing and transit activity in the New York Bight.

Finally, as I'm sure you are aware, BOEM just published a Proposed Sale Notice ("PSN") on June 14, 2021 for offshore wind leasing in the New York Bight, which includes questions to ocean users and other stakeholders. We want to encourage you and your fishermen to review the contents of the PSN and submit comments to BOEM in accordance with the instructions found at https://www.boem.gov/renewable-energy/state-activities/new-york-bight.

Please reach out if you or any fishermen would like to start a conversation. You can reach me at <u>c.wittman@enbw.com</u> or our Fisheries Liaison Beth Casoni at <u>b.casoni@enbw.com</u> or 508-738-1245.

Sincerely,

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Christen Wittman Permitting & Development Director