

available for public inspection within weeks of publication of this notice at the following location: BLM North Dakota Field Office, 99 23rd Ave. West, Dickinson, ND 58601, telephone: (701) 227-7725. A limited number of printed copies will also be available upon request by contacting the BLM North Dakota Field Office listed above.

A copy of the Protest Resolution Report is available at: <https://www.blm.gov/programs/planning-and-nepa/public-participation/protest-resolution-reports>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kristine Braun, North Dakota Field Office; telephone: (701) 227-7725, email: kebraun@blm.gov. Individuals in the United States who are deaf, deafblind, hard of hearing, or have a speech disability may dial 711 (TTY, TDD, or TeleBraille) to access telecommunications relay services. Individuals outside the United States should use the relay services offered within their country to make international calls to the point-of-contact in the United States.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Approved RMP replaces the 1988 North Dakota RMP as amended. The Approved RMP provides guidance for managing approximately 58,500 acres of BLM-administered surface and 4.1 million acres of BLM-administered mineral estate, mostly split estate, across North Dakota.

The Approved RMP will guide management of these public lands for the next 15 to 20 years for the benefit of current and future generations as part of the BLM's multiple-use mission. This planning effort is updating management decisions for public land uses and resources, including mineral leasing and development.

The North Dakota Proposed RMP/Final EIS evaluated four full alternatives and one sub-alternative for managing the planning area. Alternatives B (preferred alternative from the Draft RMP/EIS), B.1, C, and D were developed using input from the public, Tribes, stakeholders, and cooperating agencies. Alternative D is the BLM's Approved RMP. This alternative was developed after considering public comments on the Draft RMP/EIS, internal BLM discussions, government-to-government consultation, and cooperating agency input.

The Approved RMP designates one Area of Critical Environmental Concern, encompassing approximately 960 acres (see Appendix A of the Approved RMP). The BLM provided the Proposed RMP/Final EIS for a 30-day public protest period starting on August 9, 2024, and

received six letters containing valid protest issues. The BLM addressed the protests and issued a Protest Resolution Report (see **ADDRESSES**); no changes to the North Dakota Proposed RMP/Final EIS were necessary.

The BLM provided the Proposed RMP/Final EIS to the Governor of North Dakota for a 60-day Governor's consistency review on August 9, 2024. The Governor's Office identified concerns and potential inconsistencies between the Proposed RMP/Final EIS and State and local plans, policies, and programs. The BLM considered the concerns and potential inconsistencies and responded to the Governor's Office on November 8, 2024. The BLM concluded that the Proposed RMP does not conflict with existing State plans. On December 12, 2024, the Governor of North Dakota appealed the State Director's decision not to accept the State's recommendations to the BLM Director. After careful review and consideration, the Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Land and Minerals Management determined that the State Director properly considered all applicable State and local plans, policies, and programs in the North Dakota planning effort, and that no changes are necessary to provide for a reasonable balance between the national interest and the State's interest. The Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Land and Minerals Management response to the State of North Dakota's Appeal was signed on January 7, 2025, and transmitted to State Officials on January 8, 2025, prior to approval of the ROD. Consistent with the BLM regulations at 43 CFR 1610.3-2 the Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Land and Minerals Management Response will also be published in the **Federal Register**.

(Authority: 40 CFR 1506.6, 43 CFR 1610.2)

Sonya Germann,
State Director, Montana/Dakotas.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[PO #4820000251]

Public Land Order No. 7958; Extension of Public Land Order No. 6597, as Extended; for White Mountain Petroglyphs Site, Wyoming

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Public Land Order.

SUMMARY: This order extends the duration of the withdrawal created by Public Land Order (PLO) No. 6597, as extended by PLO No. 7621, for an additional 20-year period. PLO No. 6597, as extended, withdrew 20 acres of public land administered by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) in Sweetwater County, Wyoming from settlement, sale, location, or entry under the general land laws, including the United States mining laws, but not from leasing under the mineral leasing laws, for 20 years, subject to valid existing rights, to protect the White Mountain Petroglyphs Site. Extension of the withdrawal is necessary to protect the Native American, cultural resource, wildlife, scenic, and educational values of, as well as the capital investment in, the White Mountain Petroglyphs Site.

DATES: This PLO takes effect on January 15, 2025.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Sarah Naranjo, Realty Specialist, at (307) 775-6189, Bureau of Land Management, Wyoming State Office, 5353 Yellowstone Rd., Cheyenne, Wyoming 82009. Individuals in the United States who are deaf, blind, hard of hearing, or have a speech disability may dial 711 (TTY, TDD, or TeleBraille) to access telecommunications relay services. Individuals outside the United States should use the relay services offered within their country to make international calls to the point-of-contact in the United States. The service is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, to leave a message or question with the above individual. You will receive a reply during normal business hours.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The extension of PLO No. 6597, as extended by PLO No. 7621, is required to continue the protection of Native American cultural resources; wildlife, scenic, and educational values; as well as the capital investment of the White Mountain Petroglyphs Site.

Order

By virtue of the authority vested in the Secretary of the Interior by Section 204 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, 43 U.S.C. 1714, it is ordered as follows:

1. PLO No. 6597 (50 FR 11865 (1985)), as extended by PLO No. 7621 (70 FR 1466 (2005)), which withdrew 20 acres of public land from settlement, sale, location, or entry under the general land laws, including the United States mining laws, but not from leasing under the mineral leasing laws, subject to existing rights, to protect the White Mountain Petroglyphs Site, is hereby

extended for an additional 20-year period. The lands are described as follows:

Sixth Principal Meridian, Wyoming

T. 22 N., R. 105 W.,
 Sec. 11, NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$,
 N $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$;
 Sec. 12, W $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$.

The areas described aggregate 20 acres, according to the official plat of survey of the said lands, on file with the BLM.

2. This withdrawal will expire 20 years from the effective date of this Order unless, as a result of a review conducted prior to the expiration date pursuant to section 204(f) of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, 43 U.S.C. 1714(f), the Secretary determines that the withdrawal shall be further extended.

(Authority: 43 U.S.C. 1714)

Robert T. Anderson,
Solicitor.

[FR Doc. 2025-00776 Filed 1-14-25; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Ocean Energy Management

[Docket No. BOEM 2025-0002]

Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for the Proposed Vineyard Mid-Atlantic Project on the U.S. Outer Continental Shelf Offshore New York

AGENCY: Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of intent to prepare an environmental impact statement; request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) announces its intent to prepare an environmental impact statement (EIS) (Unique Identification Number DOI-BOEM-OREP-2025-0001-EIS) for a construction and operations plan (COP) of an offshore wind energy facility submitted by Vineyard Mid-Atlantic, LLC (hereinafter referred to as Vineyard Mid-Atlantic or Proponent). This notice of intent (NOI) initiates the public scoping and comment process under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and under section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA). Vineyard Mid-Atlantic proposes to construct and operate the facility in Renewable Energy Lease Area OCS-A 0544 (Lease Area), which is approximately 43,056 acres and located approximately 24 statute miles (mi)

offshore, south of Fire Island, New York, and approximately 60 statute mi offshore New Jersey. Vineyard Mid-Atlantic proposes to develop the entire Lease Area.

DATES: Your comments must be received by BOEM no later than March 3, 2025 for timely consideration. BOEM will hold three virtual public scoping meetings at the following dates and times (eastern time):

- Thursday, February 6, 5:00 p.m.—ending;
- Tuesday, February 11, 5:00 p.m.—ending; and
- Wednesday, February 19, 1:00 p.m.—ending.

Registration for the virtual public meetings may be completed here: <https://www.boem.gov/renewable-energy/state-activities/vineyard-mid-atlantic-ocs-0544> or by calling (888) 788-0099 (toll free). The meetings are open to the public and free to attend.

ADDRESSES: Written comments can be submitted in any of the following ways:

- Delivered by U.S. mail or other delivery service, enclosed in an envelope labeled “Vineyard Mid-Atlantic EIS” and addressed to Lindy Nelson, NEPA Coordinator, Environmental Branch for Renewable Energy, Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, 45600 Woodland Road, VAM-OREP, Sterling, Virginia 20166; or
- *Through the regulations.gov web portal:* Navigate to www.regulations.gov and search for Docket No. BOEM-2025-0002. Select the document in the search results on which you want to comment, click on the “Comment” button, and follow the online instructions for submitting your comment. A commenter’s checklist is available on the comment web page. Enter your information and comment, then click “Submit.”

For more information about submitting comments, please see the “Public Participation” heading under **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION.**

Detailed information about the proposed Project, including the COP and instructions for making written comments, can be found on BOEM’s website at: <https://www.boem.gov/renewable-energy/state-activities/vineyard-mid-atlantic-ocs-0544>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Lindy Nelson, Office of Renewable Energy Programs, Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, 45600 Woodland Road, Sterling, Virginia 20166, telephone (703) 787-1460, or email Lindy.Nelson@boem.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Purpose of and Need for the Proposed Action

In Executive Order 14008, “Tackling the Climate Crisis at Home and Abroad,” issued on January 27, 2021, President Joseph R. Biden stated that the policy of his administration is “to organize and deploy the full capacity of its agencies to combat the climate crisis to implement a government-wide approach that reduces climate pollution in every sector of the economy; increases resilience to the impacts of climate change; protects public health; conserves our lands, waters, and biodiversity; delivers environmental justice; and spurs well-paying union jobs and economic growth, especially through innovation, commercialization, and deployment of clean energy technologies and infrastructure.”

Through a competitive leasing process conducted under 30 CFR 585.211, BOEM awarded Commercial Lease OCS-A 0544 to Vineyard Mid-Atlantic, covering an area offshore New York. BOEM approved an assignment of 100 percent interest in the lease to Vineyard Mid-Atlantic in April 2022. Vineyard Mid-Atlantic has the exclusive right to submit a COP for activities within the Lease Area. Vineyard Mid-Atlantic submitted a COP to BOEM proposing the construction, operation, maintenance, and conceptual decommissioning of an offshore wind energy facility consisting of up to two commercial-scale offshore wind energy projects in Lease Area OCS-A 0544, referred to collectively as the Vineyard Mid-Atlantic Offshore Wind Project (the Project).

Vineyard Mid-Atlantic’s goal is to develop up to two commercial-scale offshore wind energy project(s) in the Lease Area to provide renewable energy to the State of New York. New York State’s Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act mandates that at least 70% of the State’s electricity come from renewable energy sources by 2030, calls for the development of 9 gigawatts (GW) of offshore wind energy by 2035, and mandates that greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions be reduced 85% below 1990 levels by 2050. Vineyard Mid-Atlantic’s ability to deliver ~2 GW of power is needed to meet the State’s clean energy goals. The Project will help further diversify New York State’s electricity supply, increase energy reliability, and reduce GHG emissions. Vineyard Mid-Atlantic is actively seeking one or more offshore renewable energy certificate or power purchase agreement awards.

Vineyard Mid-Atlantic proposes to use up to 118 positions in the Lease