

## **Short Environmental Assessment Form**

### **Part 1 - Project Information**

#### **Instructions for Completing**

**Part 1 – Project Information.** The applicant or project sponsor is responsible for the completion of Part 1. Responses become part of the application for approval or funding, are subject to public review, and may be subject to further verification. Complete Part 1 based on information currently available. If additional research or investigation would be needed to fully respond to any item, please answer as thoroughly as possible based on current information.

Complete all items in Part 1. You may also provide any additional information which you believe will be needed by or useful to the lead agency; attach additional pages as necessary to supplement any item.

<b>Part 1 – Project and Sponsor Information</b>			
Name of Action or Project: Additional Procurement of Offshore Wind			
Project Location (describe, and attach a location map): The North Atlantic and Mid-Atlantic Outer Continental Shelf.			
Brief Description of Proposed Action: The Proposed Action under consideration is the near-term competitive procurement of approximately 1,800 MW of additional offshore wind resources (i.e., in addition to the 2,400 MW assessed in 2018) with the ability to deliver energy into New York.  Please see Attachment A for a narrative description of the intent of the proposed action.			
Name of Applicant or Sponsor: New York State Public Service Commission		Telephone: (518) 474-6530  E-Mail: secretary@dps.ny.gov	
Address: Three Empire State Plaza			
City/PO: Albany		State: NY	Zip Code: 12223-1350
1. Does the proposed action only involve the legislative adoption of a plan, local law, ordinance, administrative rule, or regulation? If Yes, attach a narrative description of the intent of the proposed action and the environmental resources that may be affected in the municipality and proceed to Part 2. If no, continue to question 2.			NO <input type="checkbox"/>
			YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2. Does the proposed action require a permit, approval or funding from any other government Agency? If Yes, list agency(s) name and permit or approval:			NO <input type="checkbox"/>
			YES <input type="checkbox"/>
3. a. Total acreage of the site of the proposed action? _____ acres b. Total acreage to be physically disturbed? _____ acres c. Total acreage (project site and any contiguous properties) owned or controlled by the applicant or project sponsor? _____ acres			
4. Check all land uses that occur on, are adjoining or near the proposed action:			
5. <input type="checkbox"/> Urban <input type="checkbox"/> Rural (non-agriculture) <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Residential (suburban) <input type="checkbox"/> Forest <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture <input type="checkbox"/> Aquatic <input type="checkbox"/> Other(Specify): <input type="checkbox"/> Parkland			

5. Is the proposed action,	NO	YES	N/A
a. A permitted use under the zoning regulations?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Consistent with the adopted comprehensive plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Is the proposed action consistent with the predominant character of the existing built or natural landscape?	NO	YES	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
7. Is the site of the proposed action located in, or does it adjoin, a state listed Critical Environmental Area? If Yes, identify: _____	NO	YES	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
8. a. Will the proposed action result in a substantial increase in traffic above present levels? b. Are public transportation services available at or near the site of the proposed action? c. Are any pedestrian accommodations or bicycle routes available on or near the site of the proposed action?	NO	YES	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
9. Does the proposed action meet or exceed the state energy code requirements? If the proposed action will exceed requirements, describe design features and technologies: _____ _____	NO	YES	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
10. Will the proposed action connect to an existing public/private water supply? If No, describe method for providing potable water: _____ _____	NO	YES	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
11. Will the proposed action connect to existing wastewater utilities? If No, describe method for providing wastewater treatment: _____ _____	NO	YES	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
12. a. Does the project site contain, or is it substantially contiguous to, a building, archaeological site, or district which is listed on the National or State Register of Historic Places, or that has been determined by the Commissioner of the NYS Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation to be eligible for listing on the State Register of Historic Places?  b. Is the project site, or any portion of it, located in or adjacent to an area designated as sensitive for archaeological sites on the NY State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) archaeological site inventory?	NO	YES	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
13. a. Does any portion of the site of the proposed action, or lands adjoining the proposed action, contain wetlands or other waterbodies regulated by a federal, state or local agency?  b. Would the proposed action physically alter, or encroach into, any existing wetland or waterbody? If Yes, identify the wetland or waterbody and extent of alterations in square feet or acres: _____ _____ _____	NO	YES	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	



**Attachment A**  
***Short Environmental Assessment Form***  
***Part 1 - Project Information***

Intent of the proposed action

The Proposed Action is intended to take advantage of the rapidly falling costs of offshore wind development and advance the achievement of the State's renewable goals and directives. These goals and directives include the Order Adopting a Clean Energy Standard (CES or CES Order), whereby the Commission recognized the development of offshore wind generation as one of numerous avenues required to achieve the State's renewable energy goals. In particular, the CES sets forth a goal that 50% of New York's electricity is to be generated by renewable energy resources by the year 2030 (referred to as the 50 by 30 goal) as part of a strategy to reduce statewide greenhouse gas emissions by 40% by 2030 (Case 15-E-0302, et al.).

The procurement contemplated by the Proposed Action would likely encourage the development of new offshore wind development in the Atlantic Ocean. However, those projects, if developed, could be undertaken in a broad range of scenarios with variables, including, but not limited to, the geographic area of the marine environment subject to development, project timing, spatial scale, and technology. Therefore, it is not possible at this stage to meaningfully assess the specific potential environmental impacts of future offshore wind projects. Project-specific reviews would assess, at a site-specific level, all relevant potential environmental impacts as required under SEQRA. Those reviews will occur once a specific project is selected in the procurement and subsequently advances to the deployment stage.

Please see Parts 2 and 3 of the Short Environmental Assessment Form for a discussion of environmental resources that may be affected by the proposed action.

Project:

Date:

**Short Environmental Assessment Form  
Part 2 - Impact Assessment**

**Part 2 is to be completed by the Lead Agency.**

Answer all of the following questions in Part 2 using the information contained in Part 1 and other materials submitted by the project sponsor or otherwise available to the reviewer. When answering the questions the reviewer should be guided by the concept "Have my responses been reasonable considering the scale and context of the proposed action?"

	No, or small impact may occur	Moderate to large impact may occur
1. Will the proposed action create a material conflict with an adopted land use plan or zoning regulations?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Will the proposed action result in a change in the use or intensity of use of land?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Will the proposed action impair the character or quality of the existing community?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Will the proposed action have an impact on the environmental characteristics that caused the establishment of a Critical Environmental Area (CEA)?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Will the proposed action result in an adverse change in the existing level of traffic or affect existing infrastructure for mass transit, biking or walkway?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Will the proposed action cause an increase in the use of energy and it fails to incorporate reasonably available energy conservation or renewable energy opportunities?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. Will the proposed action impact existing:		
a. public / private water supplies?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. public / private wastewater treatment utilities?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. Will the proposed action impair the character or quality of important historic, archaeological, architectural or aesthetic resources?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. Will the proposed action result in an adverse change to natural resources (e.g., wetlands, waterbodies, groundwater, air quality, flora and fauna)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
10. Will the proposed action result in an increase in the potential for erosion, flooding or drainage problems?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11. Will the proposed action create a hazard to environmental resources or human health?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Project:

Date:

### **Short Environmental Assessment Form Part 3 Determination of Significance**

For every question in Part 2 that was answered “moderate to large impact may occur”, or if there is a need to explain why a particular element of the proposed action may or will not result in a significant adverse environmental impact, please complete Part 3. Part 3 should, in sufficient detail, identify the impact, including any measures or design elements that have been included by the project sponsor to avoid or reduce impacts. Part 3 should also explain how the lead agency determined that the impact may or will not be significant. Each potential impact should be assessed considering its setting, probability of occurring, duration, irreversibility, geographic scope and magnitude. Also consider the potential for short-term, long-term and cumulative impacts.

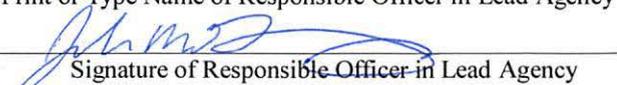
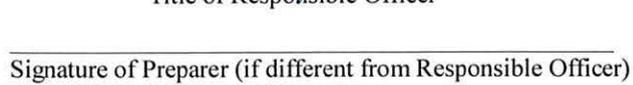
The 2018 Generic EIS for procurement of 2,400 MW of offshore wind concluded that the resources for which potential unavoidable adverse impacts may occur and, therefore, potential cumulative impacts that could occur include: (1) displacement, disturbance, or loss of habitat for marine mammals and sea turtles; (2) sensory disturbance to fish; (3) conflict with use of space for commercial and recreational vessels; and (4) displacement, disturbance, or loss of habitat and mortality/injury to birds. Therefore, the procurement of approximately 1,800 MW of additional offshore wind also has the potential to cause significant adverse impacts on these resources.

The 2018 Generic EIS identified federal and state regulations that will help ensure, to the maximum extent practicable, avoidance, minimization, or mitigation of adverse environmental impacts that may occur due to the procurement of 2,400 MW of offshore wind. Such measures would similarly avoid, minimize and mitigate impacts from the proposed additional procurement. These measures would be implemented on a project-specific basis, as required by the necessary state and federal permits and authorizations, in accordance with federal and state laws and regulations. Project-specific reviews would assess, at a site-specific level, all relevant potential environmental impacts as required under SEQRA.

In addition, 6 NYCRR §617.10(d)(4) states a supplement to a Generic EIS must be prepared if a subsequent proposed action was not addressed or was not adequately addressed in the Generic EIS and the subsequent action may have one or more significant adverse environmental impacts. The procurement of an additional 1,800 MW of offshore wind represents new information regarding changes to the proposed action for which prior potential significant adverse impacts should be evaluated. Therefore, the Commission has determined that a Supplement Generic EIS should be prepared.

Check this box if you have determined, based on the information and analysis above, and any supporting documentation, that the proposed action may result in one or more potentially large or significant adverse impacts and an environmental impact statement is required.

Check this box if you have determined, based on the information and analysis above, and any supporting documentation, that the proposed action will not result in any significant adverse environmental impacts.

<i>Public Service Commission</i>	<i>1-31-20</i>
Name of Lead Agency	Date
<i>John M. Garvey - DPS</i>	<i>Utility Supervisor</i>
Print or Type Name of Responsible Officer in Lead Agency	Title of Responsible Officer
	
Signature of Responsible Officer in Lead Agency	Signature of Preparer (if different from Responsible Officer)