

Empire Offshore Wind LLC

Empire Wind 2 Project

Appendix B

Public Involvement Plan

June 2022

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ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

BOEM	Bureau of Ocean Energy Management
bp	BP Wind Energy North America Inc.
CP-29	CP-29 Environmental Justice and Permitting
Empire or the Applicant	Empire Offshore Wind LLC
Empire HoldCo	Empire Offshore Wind Holdings LLC
Equinor	Equinor ASA
EW 2	Empire Wind 2
HVAC	high-voltage alternating-current
km	kilometer
kV	kilovolt
Lease Area	BOEM-designated Renewable Energy Lease Area OCS-A 0512
mi	mile
MW	megawatt
NATCP	Native American Tribes Communications Plan
nm	nautical mile
NYCRR	New York Codes, Rules and Regulations
NY Project	EW 2 Project transmission facilities in New York
NYSDEC	New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
NYSPSC or Commission	New York State Public Service Commission
PIP	Public Involvement Plan
POI	Point of interconnection at an expansion of the Barrett 138-kV Substation
PSL	New York Public Service Law

B.1 Introduction

Empire Offshore Wind LLC (Empire or the Applicant) proposes to construct and operate the Empire Wind 2 (EW 2) Project as one of two separate offshore wind projects to be located within the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) designated Renewable Energy Lease Area OCS-A 0512 (Lease Area) (**Figure B-1**). A portion of the proposed transmission system for the EW 2 Project is located within New York State jurisdictional boundaries (NY Project) and subject to review and approval by the New York State Public Service Commission (Commission or NYSPSC) as a major electric transmission line under Article VII of the New York Public Service Law (PSL) and the requirements of Title 16 of the New York Codes, Rules, and Regulations (NYCRR) § 85 (**Figure B-2** and **Figure B-3**).

For the purposes of this document, “EW 2 Project” is used to refer to the offshore wind farm and transmission facilities together, inclusive of the components located in federal waters outside of New York State. “NY Project” is used to refer specifically to the Article VII transmission facilities in New York State that are the subject of this document.

Empire has prepared this Public Involvement Plan (PIP) as part of its ongoing commitment to meaningful engagement and dialogue with interested stakeholders, including the community, and the general public. The key outreach objectives of Empire are to:

- Ensure the public is aware of and provided with information about the EW 2 Project;
- Explain and encourage public participation in the Article VII application process;
- Provide easily accessible means for stakeholders to locate EW 2 Project information;
- Identify the stakeholders that have a potential interest in the EW 2 Project;
- Gather information and input from stakeholders, including feedback on how the EW 2 Project affects the local community, including its goals and its needs;
- Document feedback and public comments received on the EW 2 Project; and
- Respect the principles of Environmental Justice, especially the fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people, regardless of race, color, national origin, income, or other considerations.

In order to achieve these objectives, this PIP outlines the processes, methods, channels, and documentation Empire will employ to support its efforts to identify, engage, share information with, and obtain comments from EW 2 Project stakeholders. This PIP also serves to document public outreach conducted for the EW 2 Project to date.

In implementing this PIP, Empire will take into consideration the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and will entertain policies that can address concerns related to social-distancing requirements and related public health and safety guidelines that may be issued by the Center for Disease Control, the State, and/or local entities. These policies will include providing virtual engagement alternatives for stakeholders and limiting in-person gatherings for as long as the pandemic continues and the related public health and safety guidelines are in place.

The implementing regulations for Article VII do not specifically set out requirements for engaging the public in the facility siting and review process. However, in its guidance document, *The Certification and Review Process for Major Electric and Fuel Transmission Facilities*, the Commission strongly encourages voluntary public outreach efforts by applicants to communicate with the public early in the planning phase and throughout the Article VII process. The guidance suggests that Empire should:

- Alert the public to Empire’s proposal through a public awareness campaign;

- Explain and provide information on the EW 2 Project proposal;
- Collect input and provide feedback;
- Establish a presence in the community; and
- Keep the public informed and updated.

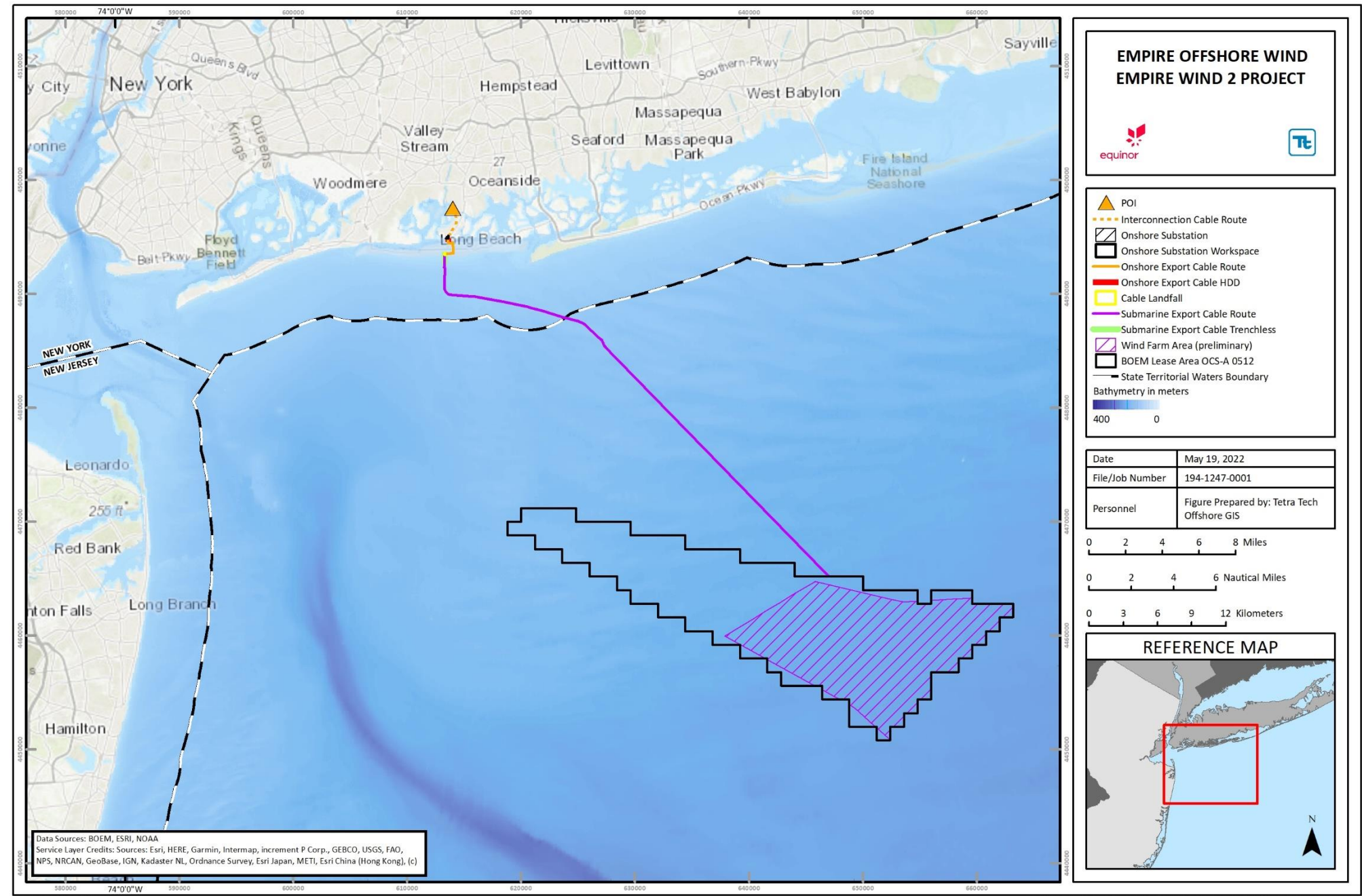


Figure B-1 Overview of the EW 2 Project

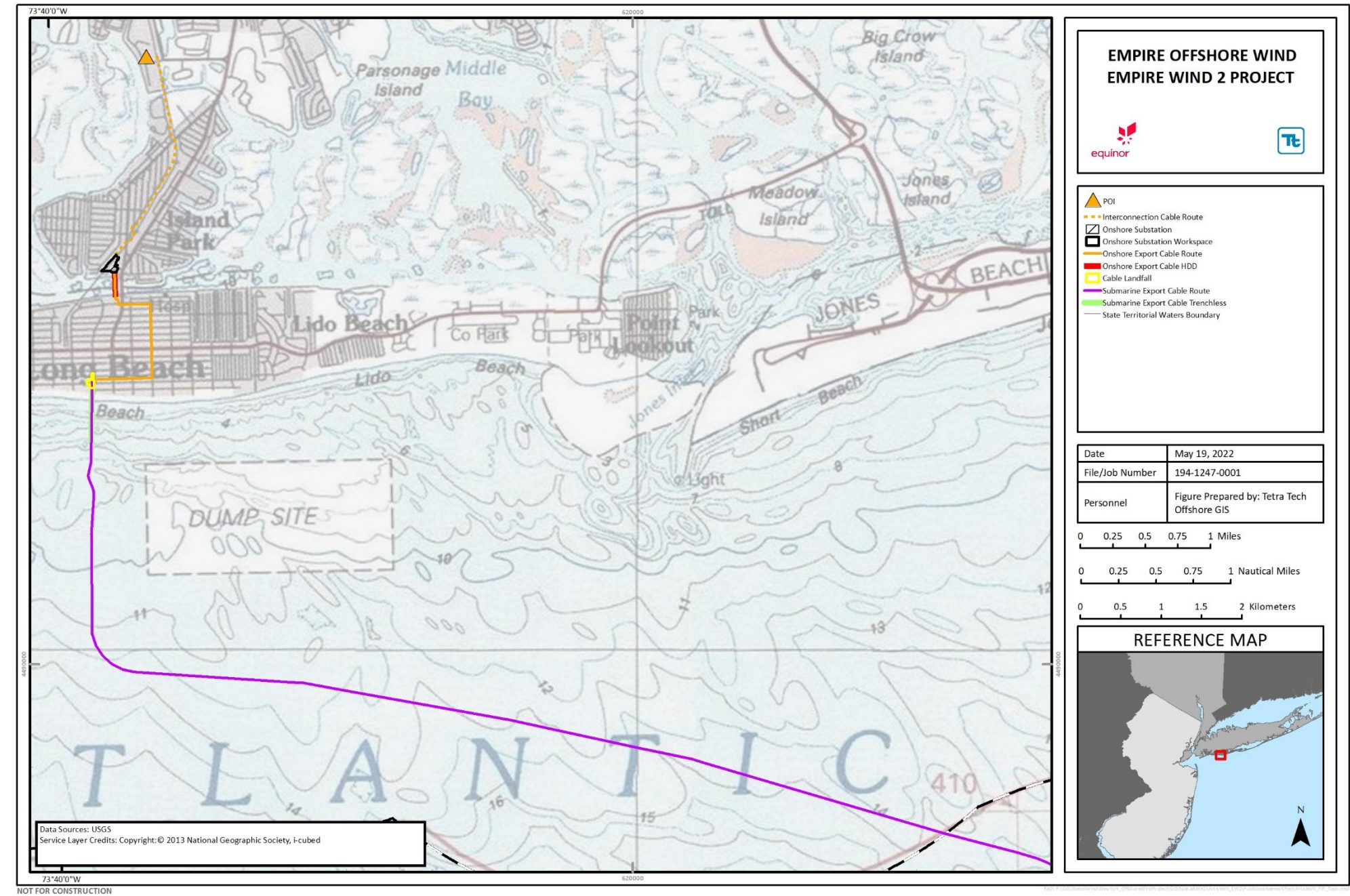


Figure B-2 Overview of the NY Project Subject to Article VII

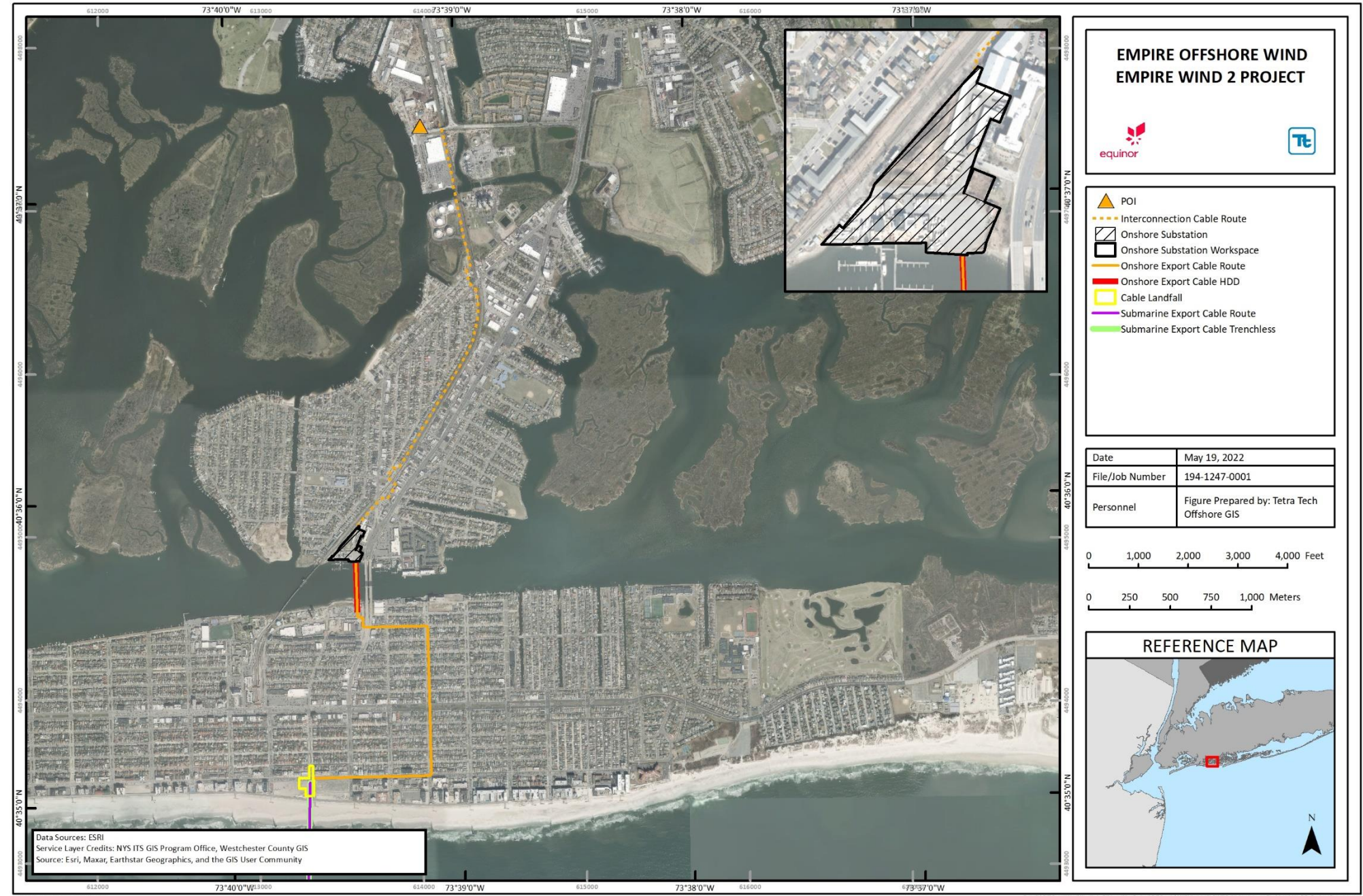


Figure B-3 Overview of the Onshore Facilities of the NY Project

Understanding the importance of public involvement, Empire has prepared this PIP to address each of these five aspects of the public engagement process and to ensure that the NY Project meets or exceeds the public participation guidance provided by the Commission. Empire's aims in executing this PIP are to ensure that the public is informed about the NY Project, to receive community feedback, and to cultivate relationships with stakeholders that will extend through the NY Project's operational life.

B.2 Applicant Description

Empire is a direct, wholly-owned subsidiary of Empire Offshore Wind Holdings LLC ("Empire HoldCo"). Empire HoldCo is jointly owned by (1) an indirect, wholly owned subsidiary of Equinor ASA (collectively, "Equinor") and (2) an indirect, wholly owned subsidiary of bp, plc, ("bp"), which acquired ownership interest in Empire HoldCo in a transaction that closed on January 29, 2021.

Equinor is an international energy company, headquartered in Norway, with operations in over 30 countries. Equinor has approximately 22,000 employees worldwide, is listed on the New York and Oslo stock exchanges (NYSE: EQNR, OSE: EQNR) and has a current market capital valuation in excess of \$50 billion.¹ With an extensive portfolio of offshore wind, oil, and gas facilities developed over its 50-year history, Equinor has a proven track record of successfully developing large-scale energy projects in some of the most challenging ocean environments around the world.

With significant in-house capabilities and resources focused specifically on meeting the challenges of offshore energy development, backed by ample financial resources, Equinor is quickly becoming a leader in the development of offshore wind throughout the world:

- Equinor has developed, constructed, and operates two major bottom-fixed offshore wind farms in the United Kingdom: (1) the 317-megawatt (MW) Sheringham Shoal offshore wind farm (opened in 2012) and (2) the 402-MW Dudgeon offshore wind farm (opened in 2017).
- Equinor also is the developer, owner, and operator of the 30-MW Hywind Scotland wind farm, the world's first floating offshore wind farm (opened in 2017).
- Equinor is a partner in the Arkona Offshore Wind Project, a 385-MW wind farm located in the Baltic Sea approximately 22 miles (mi) (35 kilometers [km]) from the German coastline. The Arkona offshore wind farm is in the final stages of development and has started delivering power to the grid.
- Equinor also owns an interest in the Dogger Bank offshore wind farms, a series of projects in the United Kingdom that entered construction in January 2020 with a projected total nameplate capacity of 3.6 gigawatts, resulting in one of the world's largest offshore wind farms.

Equinor is a global energy producer with experience in safely developing and operating large-scale offshore assets and infrastructure, including offshore wind resources and electric transmission systems.

Since 2008, Equinor has been pursuing renewable energy opportunities on both the west and east coasts of the U.S., with Lease OCS-A 0512 in New York representing the company's first significant U.S. offshore wind investment. Beacon Wind LLC, an affiliate of Equinor and bp, holds Lease OCS-A 0520, located offshore New England; it was acquired in 2018.

Additional information about Equinor can be found at www.equinor.com, and information about Empire Wind and the Article VII process is at <http://www.equinor.com/article-vii>.

¹ As of September 2020.

B.3 NY Project Description

The Article VII components of the EW 2 Project include:

- Three three-core 230-kV high-voltage alternating-current (HVAC) submarine export cables located within an approximately 7.7-nautical mile (nm, 14.2-km)-long submarine export cable corridor from the boundary of New York State waters 3 nm (5.6 km) offshore to the cable landfall;
- A cable landfall in the City of Long Beach, New York;
- Three 230-kV onshore export cable circuits, each with three single-core HVAC onshore export cables within an approximately 1.5-mi (2.4-km)-long onshore export cable corridor from the cable landfall to the onshore substation;
- An onshore substation in the Village of Island Park, within the Town of Hempstead, New York, which will step up the voltage to 345 kV for the onshore interconnection cables; and
- Up to three 345-kV interconnection cable circuits, each with three single-core HVAC interconnection cables within an approximately 1.7-mi (2.8-km)-long interconnection cable corridor from the onshore substation to the point of interconnection (POI) at an expansion of the Barrett 138-kV Substation in Oceanside, New York.

B.3.1 NY Project Area Demographics

The State of New York comprises 62 counties, 62 cities, 932 towns, and 551 villages. NY Project infrastructure and/or activities are proposed to be located within Nassau County. Nassau County is located on the western portion of Long Island and contains two cities and three towns. Within the three towns, there are 64 incorporated villages and over 100 unincorporated areas (Nassau County, n.d.). Nassau County has a significantly higher population density, higher per capita income and lower unemployment than the state average (New York State, n.d.). **Table B-1** presents the general demographics and economic conditions in the vicinity of the NY Project.

In the State of New York, counties are divided into cities or towns, with the towns being major subdivisions that contain multiple incorporated villages. These incorporated villages are clearly defined areas with their own governing bodies (New York State, n.d.). For the purpose of this section, only the cities, towns, and incorporated villages are discussed.

The NY Project crosses potential environmental justice areas. As defined by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Environmental Justice is “the fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people, regardless of race, color, national origin, or income with respect to the development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies.” Fair treatment means “no group of people should bear a disproportionate share of the negative environmental consequences resulting from industrial, governmental, and commercial operations or policies.” Meaningful involvement means that “people have an opportunity to participate in decisions about activities that may affect their environment and/or health,” that the public’s concerns will be considered, that the public will have an opportunity to influence the regulatory agency’s decision, and that those who may be affected will be sought out and encouraged to be involved.

Table B-1 Existing Demographics and Economic Conditions in the Vicinity of the NY Project

County/ Municipality	Total Population (2019 5-year estimates)	Population Density (persons per square mile) (2019)	Per Capita Income	Median Non-Family Income	Civilian Labor Force	Unemployment Rate	Top 3 Industries a/
New York	19,572,319	411.2	\$39,326	\$68,486	10,045,829	5.5%	E, P, R
Nassau County	1,356,509	4,704.8	\$51,422	\$52,177	715,543	3.9%	E, P, F
Town of Hempstead	767,417	6,406.1	\$44,958	\$50,416	408,113	4.2%	E, P, R
Village of Island Park	4,835	10,979.8	\$40,304	\$75,731	2,845	2.5%	E, A, F
City of Long Beach	33,507	15,022.6	\$53,579	\$65,242	19,432	4.4%	E, P, F

Note:

a/ E = Educational Services, and health care and social assistance; R = Retail trade; M = Manufacturing; P = Professional, scientific, and management, and administrative and waste management services; C = Construction; A = Arts, entertainment, and recreation, and accommodation and food services, F = Finance and insurance, and real estate and rental and leasing

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau 2018; American Community Survey 2019

Additionally, the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act, which codified New York State's ambitious climate change goals and mandates the development of 9 gigawatts of offshore wind capacity for New York by 2035, recognizes that "Climate change especially heightens the vulnerability of disadvantaged communities, which bear environmental and socioeconomic burdens as well as legacies of racial and ethnic discrimination. Actions undertaken by New York State to mitigate greenhouse gas emissions should prioritize the safety and health of disadvantaged communities, control potential regressive impacts of future climate change mitigation and adaptation policies on these communities and prioritize the allocation of public investments in these areas."

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) is responsible for implementing and incorporating the State of New York's environmental justice policy, detailed in CP-29 Environmental Justice and Permitting (CP-29), as part of NYSDEC's permit review process and application of the New York State Environmental Quality Review Act. In accordance with CP-29, when a project is located within a potential environmental justice area, the applicant must provide a Public Participation Plan, which requires active public participation throughout the application process, and a completed full environmental assessment form. While not required for this proceeding under PSL Article VII, Empire is committed to implementing and will continue to implement the spirit of CP-29 through a significant outreach plan as detailed in this PIP. Maps of potential environmental justice areas are provided in **Figure B-4**.

Onshore, the onshore export and interconnection cable route crosses potential environmental justice areas, as defined by NYSDEC in portions of the City of Long Beach, as well as in portions of the Village of Island Park and Barnum Island in the Town of Hempstead. Empire has consulted with community-based organizations and leaders, elected officials, business owners, and other citizens (including local residents and property owners) in each of these potential environmental justice areas since the process for considering potential cable landfall locations began. As part of this PIP, Empire will continue to consult with these stakeholders (see **Section B.4** for a more detailed list), as described in detail in **Section B.5**.

B.4 NY Project Stakeholders

Empire is committed to understanding the unique needs of each group of stakeholders, and to maintaining the most effective communication approach to ensure that those needs are considered. In formulating this PIP, Empire first identified potential stakeholders and then assessed their unique communication and information needs. By creating and implementing different communication strategies for different stakeholder groups, both the distribution of information and the effectiveness of those distributed messages will be greater than relying on a "one-size-fits-all" approach to public outreach. Empire identified the following stakeholder groups (categories) for the NY Project Area:

- Elected leadership and policymakers;
- Federal, state, and local agencies;
- Landowners in the immediate NY Project Area (properties traversed by the NY Project route or abutting);
- Civic, community, business, and labor groups;
- Fisheries and marine-based businesses;
- Special interest/advocacy groups and political groups;
- Native American tribal groups;
- Emergency responders; and
- Media.

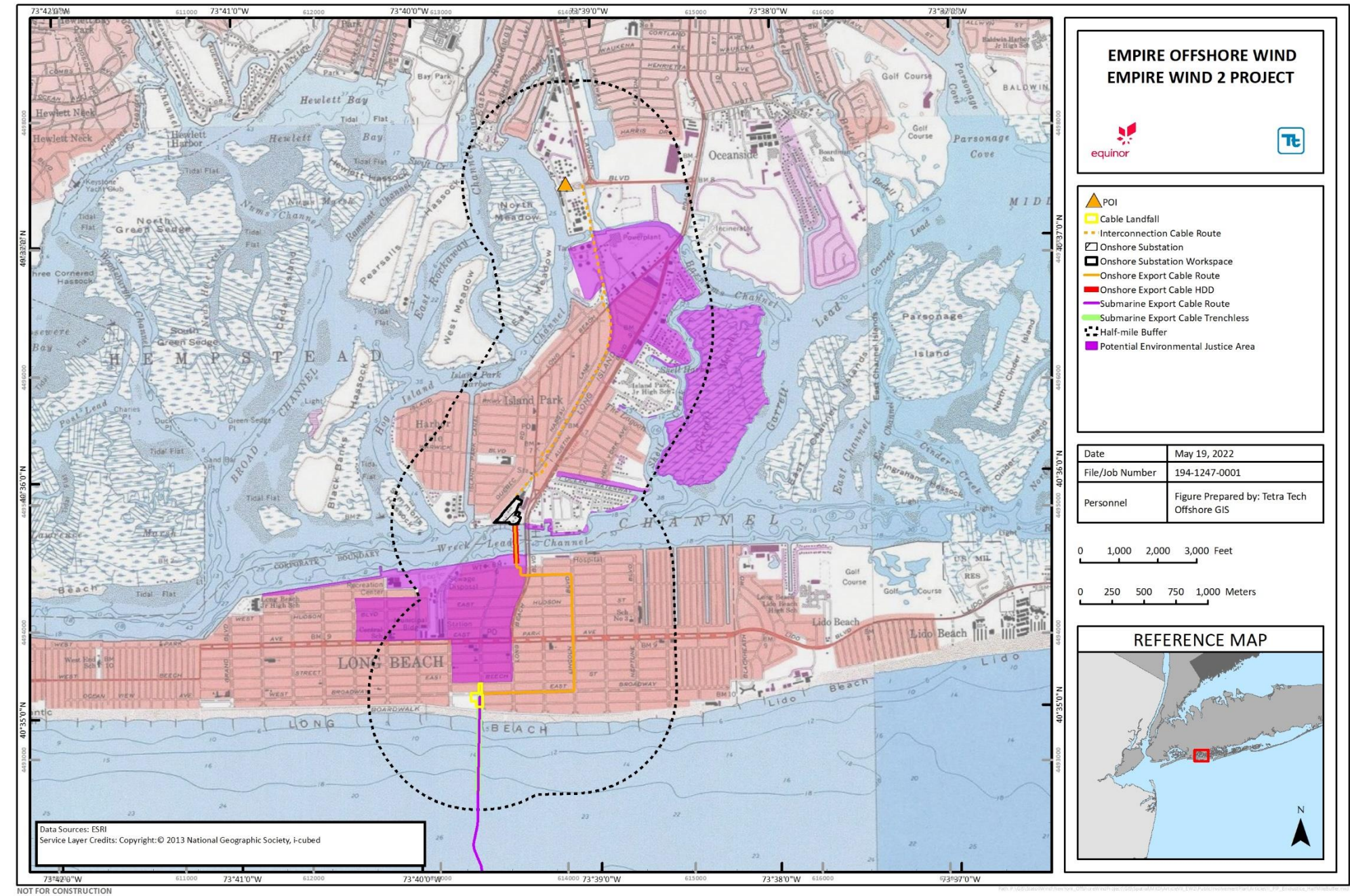


Figure B-4 Potential Environmental Justice Areas within a half mile of the NY Project

Within these categories, Empire prepared the following preliminary list of stakeholders in **Table B-2**, based on initial outreach activities conducted to date, past experience and guidance documents. Empire will continue to update the list of stakeholders throughout the development and permitting of the NY Project.

Table B-2 Preliminary List of Stakeholders

Elected Leadership and Policymakers	
Senator Todd Kaminsky, New York State	Senate District 9
Senator John Brooks, New York State	Senate District 8
Assemblymember David McDonough, New York State	Assembly District 14
Assemblymember Eric “Ari” Brown, New York State	Assembly District 20
Assemblymember Judy Griffin, New York State	Assembly District 21
Assemblymember Michaelle Solages, New York State	Assembly District 22
Legislator Denise Ford, Nassau County	District 4
Bruce Blakeman, Nassau County	Executive
Donna M. Gayden, City Manager, Long Beach	New York
Karen McInnis, President, Long Beach	City Council
Michael G. McGinty, Mayor, Village of Island Park	
Don Clavin, Town Supervisor, Town of Hempstead	
Hempstead Town Councilperson Anthony P. D’Esposito	
Hempstead Town Councilperson Chris Carini	
Hempstead Town Councilperson Melissa Miller	
Native American Tribal Groups	
Shinnecock Tribe	
Unkechaug Indian Nation	
Federal, State and Local Agencies	
Bureau of Ocean Energy Management	
Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement	
Federal Aviation Administration	
Nassau County Department of Labor	
Nassau County Planning Department	
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration’s National Marine Fisheries Service	
New York Hudson River Operations and Safety Committee	
New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets	
New York State Department of Environmental Conservation	
New York State Department of Health	
New York State Department of Public Service	
New York State Department of State	
New York State Department of Transportation	
New York State Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services	
New York State Empire State Development	
New York State Energy Research and Development	

Federal, State and Local Agencies (continued)

New York State Office of General Services

New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation

New York State Public Service Commission

Port Authority of New York and New Jersey

United States Army Corps of Engineers

United States Coast Guard

United States Department of Defense

United States Department of Homeland Security

United States Environmental Protection Agency

United States Fish and Wildlife Service

United States National Park Service

Property Owners, Property Interest Holders and Intervenors

City of Long Beach

New York State

Town of Hempstead

Village of Island Park

Potentially affected landowners and property interest holders

Civic, Community, Business, Labor Groups and Organizations

City of Long Beach

Climate Jobs New York

Cornell Cooperative Extension Nassau County – Jones Beach Energy & Nature Center

First Energy

International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers

Labor Unions local chapters

Lido Beach Civic Association

Long Beach Chamber of Commerce

Long Island Building Trades

Long Island Federation of Labor

Millers' Launch

Nassau Suffolk Building & Construction Trades Council

New York Building Trades

New York Green Bank

New York Utilities

NY Maritime Association

Ports America

SUNY Maritime

SUNY Farmingdale

SUNY Stony Brook

Vessel Traffic Services -VTS New York

Fisheries and Marine-Based Businesses	
Long Island Commercial Fishing Association	
Long Island Oyster Growers Association	
Oceanside Marine Terminals	
Special Interest, Advocacy and Political Groups	
All Our Energy	
Alliance for Clean Energy New York	
Atlantic Marine Conservation Society	
American Clean Power Association	
American Legion Victor Murtha Post, 972	
Artists in Partnership	
Citizens Campaign for the Environment	
Clean Water Action	
EAC Network	
Full Gospel Church, Island Park	
Great South Bay Audubon Society	
Hempstead Bay Sailing Club	
Island Park United Methodist	
Long Beach Latino Civic Association	
Long Beach Lions Club	
Long Beach Historical and Preservation Society	
Long Beach Island Landmarks Association	
Long Island Green Market@Kennedy Plaza	
National Wildlife Federation	
Natural Resources Defense Council	
New York Audubon	
New Yorkers for Clean Power	
New York Interfaith Power and Light	
New York League of Conservation Voters	
New York Offshore Wind Alliance	
Operation Splash	
Renewable Long Island	
Sacred Heart Church, Island Park	
Sane Energy	
Seatuck Environmental	
Sierra Club	
South Shore Jewish Center	
Surfrider Foundation	
Sustainability Institute at Molloy College	
The Nature Conservancy	

Special Interest, Advocacy and Political Groups (continued)	
Waterfront Alliance	
West End Arts	
Wildlife Conservation Society	
Win With Wind	
Emergency Responders	
Nassau County 4 th Precinct (in Hewlett)	
Long Beach Police Department	
Island Park Fire Department	
Point Lookout-Lido Fire Department	
Long Beach Fire Department	
United States Coast Guard	

If restrictions on in-person gatherings resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic continue or recur in the future, and if it is not possible or prudent to hold the in-person meetings, Empire will implement alternative meeting options for stakeholders, such as virtual gatherings.

B.4.1 Stakeholders' Information Needs

This section provides an overview of the involvement of the identified stakeholders in the NY Project and an assessment of the stakeholders' information and communication needs. This section also identifies key information and input that these stakeholders may be able to provide to Empire.

B.4.1.1 Elected Leadership and Policymakers

Empire is committed to ensuring that elected leadership and policymakers at the local, county, state, and federal levels remain informed about EW 2 Project progress so they can respond to the questions and concerns of their constituents. Additionally, Empire will ensure that elected leadership and policymakers have the ability to contact key company representatives with any questions as they arise.

Empire will seek input from elected officials and policymakers to understand their constituents' concerns and identify outlets for communicating with the public in the community. Empire also will seek information on local regulations and ordinances and the status of other planned developments and improvements in the area.

Initial outreach to elected leadership and policymakers will be in the form of a brief introductory meeting. As part of the Article VII process under PSL § 122, Empire must provide written notification and a copy of the application to the chief executive officer of each municipality and each member of the legislature whose district the NY Project would traverse, as well as to those whose districts would be traversed by alternative locations in the Article VII application. At this time, Empire anticipates that the onshore facilities and alternatives will be located within the Town of Hempstead, the Village of Island Park, and the City of Long Beach, New York. The submarine export cable corridor traverses Nassau County, New York. Empire will continue to brief the relevant stakeholders throughout the EW 2 Project via in-person meetings, e-mail, videoconference, and/or phone to share status updates and to receive feedback. Additionally, Empire will provide informational materials to elected leadership for subsequent distribution to their constituents.

B.4.1.2 Native American Tribes

Native American Tribal representatives fully understand the concerns and needs of their members, including their specific interests and concerns about the land to be developed within the vicinity of the EW 2 Project. As such, it is important that Tribal representatives are provided with information about the EW 2 Project and kept informed as the EW 2 Project progresses, so they are able to answer questions from their constituents as they arise. Empire has compiled a list of state and federally recognized Native American Tribes that are expected to have an interest in the project area and is actively seeking their input during the Construction and Operations Plan and National Environmental Policy Act processes in order to identify any potentially culturally significant areas, resources, or practices that could be affected by the EW 2 Project.

Empire has conducted initial outreach to New York Native American tribes, including introductory meetings with the Shinnecock Indian Nation and the Unkechaugue Indian Nation, the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe, and the Wampanoag Tribe of Gay Head (Aquinnah) and the Delaware Tribe of Indians. Empire will continue to brief interested Native American tribes throughout the EW 2 Project by phone, email, and/or postal mail.

Empire has developed a Native American Tribes Communications Plan (NATCP). The purpose of the NATCP is to ensure Empire communicates and interacts effectively with Tribes about the EW 2 Project. The NATCP outlines a broad approach and key steps to be undertaken by Empire to manage Tribal engagement activities throughout all stages of project implementation, including planning, construction, operations, and decommissioning. This is a voluntary “best management practices” plan and is not tied to a regulatory requirement. Communications protocols and contacts are anticipated to change throughout the duration of the Projects. Empire will review and revise this plan on an annual basis.

B.4.1.3 Federal, State and Local Agencies

Empire will coordinate with federal, state, and local agencies throughout the EW 2 Project development process to ensure that they have accurate information so they can satisfy their regulatory obligations and answer questions from members of the public. Through in-person introductory meetings, EW 2 Project update meetings, and regular phone and email communications, Empire will continue to ensure that these representatives have up-to-date EW 2 Project information. Empire also will support any required agency processes for public involvement by committing to meet or exceed related notification and outreach requirements, educating the public on the regulatory processes applicable to the EW 2 Project, and disseminating information on how the public can become involved where applicable. Empire anticipates that federal, state, and local agencies will also provide key information to Empire throughout the EW 2 Project’s development regarding regulatory requirements, guidelines, and ordinances.

Pursuant to the Article VII process under PSL § 122 and the Commission’s Rules and Regulations under 16 NYCRR § 85-2.11, Empire will provide written notification and a copy of the application to New York State’s Commissioner of Environmental Conservation, Commissioner of Economic Development, Secretary of State, Commissioner of Agriculture and Markets, Commissioner of Department of Transportation, and Commissioner of Recreation, Parks, and Historic Preservation, as well as the local municipality in which the proposed facility will be located.

B.4.1.4 Landowners and Intervenor

Public Service Law Article VII § 120 defines a landowner as the holder of any right, title, or interest in real property subject to a proposed site or right of way as identified from the most recent tax roll of the appropriate city or county. Empire considers affected landowners to include those holding properties crossed by the NY Project where Empire will have real estate agreements, as well as abutters to those properties. NY Project

intervenors may include other private individuals or entities who request intervenor status in application proceedings, because they have specific interests and issues of concern relative to the NY Project. Interested individuals and parties can also sign up for the service list (without becoming intervenors) in order to receive updates and monitor the Article VII proceedings² by entering the Commission-issued docket number shortly after the Application is filed with the Commission.

Throughout the planning, development and construction of the NY Project, Empire will maintain and update the list of affected landowners, intervenors, and any others who have signed up to receive EW 2 Project information. Communications and EW 2 Project updates will address the information needs of those parties in appropriate detail. Empire will also seek out comments from affected landowners and intervenors to help identify their specific concerns and obtain information relevant to the NY Project.

On or about June 17, 2022 Empire provided written notice of the Article VII application filing by sending a notification letter sent via first-class postal mail to affected landowners as defined under Article VII § 120, as well as to property owners with property abutting the proposed onshore export and interconnection cable corridors. This written notice provided recipients with information on how to request party status during the Article VII proceedings, as well as how recipients can access and view NY Project filings and communicate with Empire.

B.4.1.5 Civic, Community, Business, and Labor Groups

Many civic, community, business, and labor groups are active on Long Island and have an interest in the types and locations of development projects. These groups will be invaluable in developing the plan for the onshore assets throughout the EW 2 Project's development. Typically, members of these groups encourage the industries within their community as a way to ensure that well-paying local jobs and economic development remain in their communities. At the same time, it is important that other attributes of these local environs and neighborhoods be considered along with industrial and commercial activity. Empire expects that civic, community, business, and labor groups will continue to play an important role in communications related to the EW 2 Project, and those stakeholders will be kept current about the EW 2 Project through invitations to join public information meetings and opportunities to sign up for email updates, newsletters, and website postings. Empire will also attend relevant public meetings and conferences held by these groups in order to better understand the groups' needs and interests and offer them the opportunity to meet and converse with Empire staff.

B.4.1.6 Fisheries and Marine-Based Businesses

Fisheries and marine-based businesses are among the current users of the waters traversed by the NY Project's submarine export cable route, and these businesses have important knowledge of the area as well as concerns that require ongoing attention during NY Project construction and/or operation. Empire will continue to conduct outreach to fisheries groups and businesses, invite their participation in public information meetings, and provide opportunities to sign up for email updates, newsletters, and website postings. Communications and outreach with the commercial and recreational fishing industries will be guided by the Fisheries Mitigation Plan (**Attachment B-1**), which will be updated during EW 2 Project development.

B.4.1.7 Special Interest, Advocacy, and Political Groups

In addition to the representatives of civic, community, business, and labor interests described above, a variety of other special interest, advocacy, and political groups will be stakeholders in the EW 2 Project, representing

² <https://www3.dps.ny.gov/W/PSCWeb.nsf/All/FCFC9542CC5BE76085257FE300543D5E?OpenDocument>

various economic, environmental, recreational, and political interests in the EW 2 Project vicinity. This includes maritime interest groups and stakeholders. These groups are often able to identify special community concerns, resources, opportunities, and interests. These groups may also seek to become intervenors or sign up on NY Project service lists (see Section B.4.1.4). Special interest, advocacy, and political groups involved as stakeholders in the EW 2 Project will be invited to attend public information meetings and to sign up for EW 2 Project email updates, newsletters, and website postings.

Empire has conducted environmental non-governmental roundtables and hosted open houses within the local communities. Empire will attend relevant public meetings and conferences held by these groups in order to better understand the groups' needs and interests and offer them the opportunity to meet and converse with Empire staff.

B.4.1.8 Emergency Responders

Throughout the EW 2 Project, Empire has and will continue to engage with emergency responders to provide the EW 2 Project information required for these stakeholders to properly fulfill their job functions. Emergency responders' knowledge of emergency response planning in the community, as well as potential natural and environmental hazards, infrastructure, resources, and local response capabilities can contribute to EW 2 Project safety in the design, construction, and/or operations phases. Empire will schedule EW 2 Project development and introductory planning meetings and will continue to brief these stakeholders throughout the EW 2 Project, with in-person meetings or by phone, to share EW 2 Project status updates and receive feedback.

B.4.1.9 Media

Empire will issue regular press releases related to EW 2 Project milestones and will continue to offer EW 2 Project updates and briefings to local media outlets serving the communities in the vicinity of the EW 2 Project, in order to keep the media and the public apprised of the EW 2 Project's progress. This media outreach also will include the circulation of required public notices as part of the Article VII application process. Empire will distribute fact sheets and other materials to the media, and media representatives will be invited to attend public information meetings and to sign up for email updates, newsletters, and website postings. A list of media outlets is provided in **Table B-3**. A sample brochure is included in **Attachment B-2**.

Table B-3 Media Outlets

Nassau County	New York City Metropolitan Area
Cablevision/News 12 TV	ABC 7 NY (WABC-TV)
Newsday	Spectrum News NY1
Long Island Herald (Island Park and Long Beach Edition)	New York Daily News/New York Post
AM 970 The Answer	100 Wins Radio/WCBS 880 AM
Greaterlongisland.com	El Diario (Spanish-language)
	World News/Chinese Daily News, NY (Chinese-language)

B.4.2 Environmental Justice Community Participation

Additional efforts will be conducted to reach out to and encourage participation by potential environmental justice areas, including low-income, minority, and non-English-speaking populations. This includes ensuring that information is available to community members who may not have internet access, by distributing easy-to-read EW 2 Project informational materials, presented in an understandable format and translated into

languages other than English (e.g., Spanish, Mandarin), to local community centers and libraries and via postal mail. Application documents and supporting materials also will be made available in publicly accessible locations. Contact numbers and information on opportunities for the public to provide comments and feedback directly to Empire and government agencies during the permitting processes also will be provided. Empire also will hold public information meetings throughout the permitting process within potential environmental justice areas to keep them informed of EW 2 Project progress.

B.5 Public Involvement Methods and Channels

As part of Empire's desire to ensure that all members of the stakeholder communities have easy access to information, can have their questions answered, and can readily provide feedback, Empire will communicate with stakeholders through the channels that are easiest and most convenient for them. The following communication methods will provide stakeholders with ample access to information and to the EW 2 Project team when desired and will assist in identifying additional potential stakeholders. As part of the Article VII process, individuals, and groups can request party status to participate in the case, monitor the proceedings by subscribing to the service list, and/or submit written comments for the Commission's consideration of the NY Project. Empire's outreach materials will provide information about the various options for involvement in the Article VII process, including options to subscribe to Empire's distribution list and telephone and email contact numbers.

B.5.1 Website

EW 2 Project and contact information is available online.³ Specifically, the websites contain:

- EW 2 Project and developer descriptions;
- EW 2 Project benefits information;
- Contact information;
- Mailing/email list sign-up;
- Key documents;
- Information on the Article VII process; and
- Schedules of meetings and outreach events.

B.5.2 Pre-Application Outreach

Empire has been meeting with Article VII stakeholders since prior to acquiring the Empire Wind Lease Area in 2016 and will continue to organize and engage in such meetings. Empire conducted extensive outreach in the community and with elected leaders in Nassau County, New York prior to submittal of the Article VII application. Additional outreach has also been conducted for the EW 2 Project as part of the processes established by the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority and by the federal Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, and as part of the overall development of the Empire Wind Project Lease Area and EW 2 Project. That outreach included a series of open houses throughout New York in the fall of 2019.

Empire has conducted a number of virtual and in-person Community Meeting for members of the community on the South Shore of Long Island. The meetings were publicized through social media, phone outreach, and email outreach to stakeholder groups informing them of the meeting. The meeting had live Spanish interpreters available. The meeting format consisted of a presentation by the Empire team, followed by an interactive feedback exercise for participants. When possible the recordings from meetings are made available for viewing

³ Information is available at www.empirewind.com and <https://www.empirewind.com/environment-and-sustainability/environmental-protection/article-vii>.

to the [on the EW 2 Project website](#). The Empire team also met with several key Town/Village Supervisors in 1:1 meetings to invite them to the meeting. Empire intends to periodically conduct virtual community meetings throughout the EW 2 Project planning and development process.

B.5.3 Meetings and Outreach Events

Empire will continue to hold meetings with stakeholders throughout the EW 2 Project's development. In addition, the Article VII process includes a public statement hearing that will be held between 60 and 90 days after the Commission finds that Empire's Article VII Application is compliant with PSL. Empire will comply with public notification requirements for public statement hearings and comment periods and will support the Commission with outreach to stakeholders by providing legal notices, display advertisements, an email contact, and press releases. If the restrictions on in-person gatherings resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic continue, it is Empire's understanding that the public statement hearings might be held virtually. If that is the case, Empire will coordinate with the Department of Public Service and provide any assistance that Department of Public Service Staff may need. In addition to supporting hearings required by Article VII, Empire has hosted and will continue to host informational sessions (virtual or in-person, depending on the pandemic restrictions) to provide stakeholders with ample opportunities to obtain EW 2 Project information and share questions and comments. Empire also will continue to conduct direct outreach to elected officials and agency representatives to provide EW 2 Project updates and information on the Article VII process, as appropriate.

B.5.4 Presentations to Local Groups, Boards, and Elected Officials

Empire will continue to coordinate presentation opportunities with local groups, boards, and elected officials within the NY Project Area. Meeting materials such as comment cards and/or questionnaires will be utilized as appropriate.

B.5.5 Notices to Local Groups, Boards, and Elected Officials

On or about June 17, 2022, notices were mailed via first-class postal mail directly to landowners along the proposed NY Project route, providing notice of the upcoming Article VII filing. EW 2 Project introductory letters have also been sent as appropriate to federal, state, and local agencies and Native American Tribes.

B.5.6 Public/Legal Notices and Advertisements

Public notices will be prepared in compliance with all applicable regulations. Empire, at minimum, has published a statement of Article VII Notice once a week for two consecutive weeks prior to the filing of the Article VII Application, in a newspaper or newspapers of general circulation in all the areas through which the facility would pass, both as primarily and alternatively proposed. Notices of public meetings and NY Project filings such as the Application and the Environmental Management and Construction Plan will be published in, at minimum, the *Long Island Herald* and *Newsday*, the newspapers of record in the NY Project Area. Notices will also be posted on the EW 2 Project website. A sample public notice is provided in **Attachment B-3**.

At appropriate times, Empire also will place voluntary advertisements in daily and weekly newspapers to promote attendance at outreach events.

As part of the overall Empire Wind Project, additional public notices will be issued by the BOEM and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers at various stages of the overall Federal permitting process. These public notices will include the EW 2 Project, as proposed in the Article VII application.

B.5.7 Ongoing Outreach Activities

Empire is committed to continuing community outreach and stakeholder engagement throughout the Article VII process and construction to communicate with the public, respond to questions, and provide important updates.

B.5.8 Electronic Communications/Newsletters

Empire maintains a database of stakeholders who have opted-in for EW 2 Project communications, as well as those who have attended an event or otherwise expressed interest in being kept informed about the EW 2 Project. Communications may include project updates sent to everyone and/or emails to inform specific groups of upcoming events or other opportunities.. The database meets strict electronic data privacy standards and stakeholders can easily opt-out from communications. Empire will continue to grow the database. Members of the public can join the database through the Empire Wind webpage.⁴

A print and/or email newsletter will be developed and will be distributed regularly with updates to keep stakeholders informed on the NY Project's progress and opportunities to participate. The newsletter circulation will be developed based on the NY Project opt-in communications database, and Empire will distribute the newsletter to local businesses and other interested stakeholders in the NY Project vicinity. This NY Project-area newsletter is in addition to subject-matter newsletters that Empire will send to recognized stakeholder groups with an interest in such subject matter.

B.5.9 Community Outreach Office

Empire has established a local community outreach office at 220 36th St., Brooklyn, NY 11232.

A toll-free hotline has been established for the overall Empire Wind Project as follows: 833-699-1965. This hotline will allow individuals to contact Empire for more information or to have specific questions or concerns answered. The public can also contact Empire via the project email address: EmpireWind@Equinor.com. The hotline number and email address will also be provided with educational materials that will be distributed as part of Empire's public outreach efforts for the EW 2 Project.

B.5.10 Tabling and Participation at Events

Booths, display tables, or exhibits may be used at local events such as fairs to bring EW 2 Project information to local residents, supplementing the formal meeting structure. If COVID-19 related restrictions continue during the Article VII proceeding, Empire will focus on contact-free information distribution for local residents, such as directing any interested individuals to the EW 2 Project website for more information and conducting virtual meetings.

B.5.11 Social Media Outlets

Twitter, the Empire Wind Project Fisheries Facebook page, and other social media platforms will continue to provide information in a user-friendly manner. The EW 2 Project team will provide updated information on EW 2 Project status, milestones, and press releases by using posts, images, and videos on its Twitter page and other social media throughout the EW 2 Project.

B.5.12 Project Brochure, Notices and Flyers

Brochures will be developed to provide an overview of the EW 2 Project, describe resources for additional EW 2 Project information, and provide information on how stakeholders and other members of the public may

⁴ <https://www.empirewind.com/#subscribe>

participate in the Article VII process. A sample of public outreach materials is provided in **Attachment B-2**. If substantial changes are made to the project as it advances through the permitting process, additional brochures may be created to capture these changes.

EW 2 Project materials such as notices or flyers will also be prepared and when possible posted on community bulletin boards and distributed in high-traffic areas, such as post offices and libraries, to inform the public of upcoming meetings and to encourage visits to the EW 2 Project website.

B.5.13 Media Relations

Press releases will be used to announce the achievement of project milestones, outreach events, meetings, updates, and other EW 2 Project news. The EW 2 Project team has developed the list of media contacts (**Table B-3**), which includes local, regional, and special interest media (print, radio, and electronic), as well as publications for required legal notices. The list of media outlets will be updated as appropriate. Special interest media will include media outlets directed specifically to ethnic populations and those with limited English proficiency. News outlets will be encouraged to include links that direct those that consume such news to the EW 2 Project website.

B.5.14 Document Repository

The EW 2 Project website will provide links and information on where the public may access application documents. Hard copies will be available at libraries as listed in **Attachment B-4**.

B.6 References

American Community Survey. 2019.

U.S. Census Bureau. 2018. "QuickFacts New York." Available online at:
<https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/NY>. Accessed April 12, 2019.

Nassau County. No Date. Cities, Towns, and Villages. Available online at:
<https://www.nassaucountyny.gov/3406/Cities-Towns-Villages>. Accessed October 15, 2018.

New York State. No Date. Counties: The counties of New York State. Available online at:
<https://www.ny.gov/counties>. Accessed October 15, 2018.

Attachment B-1 Fisheries Mitigation Plan

This Attachment to the Public Involvement Plan is a living document, updated at appropriate milestones for the EW 2 Project, in consultation with applicable stakeholders. As such, the current version is available at <https://www.nyftwg.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/Fisheries-Mit-Plan-Empire-Wind-v1.0-Oct-2019.pdf>.

Attachment B-2
Outreach Material Samples

Permitting and Public Involvement

Equinor welcomes input and feedback from stakeholders and local communities. Members of the public can follow the permitting process at both the federal and state levels as well as submit comments on the project.

To read Empire Wind's Construction and Operations Plan (COP) currently under review by the federal Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, visit:

www.boem.gov/renewable-energy/empire-wind-construction-and-operations-plan

Please note that, to allow for the use of emerging technologies, the COP includes a wide array of potential design scenarios.

To follow the federal permitting process, visit the Federal Infrastructure Projects Permitting Dashboard at:
www.permits.performance.gov/projects
Search: "Empire Wind"

To follow the state permitting process, visit the New York Public Service Commission Article VII process at:

www.dps.ny.gov

EW1 – Case 21 – T – 0366

EW2 – Case # will be assigned upon filing

More information can be found on the project website:

www.empirewind.com/article-vii

To tour the virtual open house for Empire Wind, visit:

voh.tetrattech.com/equinor/index.htm

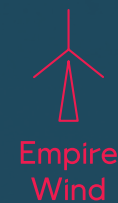
To submit comments directly to Empire Wind:



833-699-1965

empirewind@equinor.com

www.empirewind.com



LET'S POWER NEW YORK TOGETHER

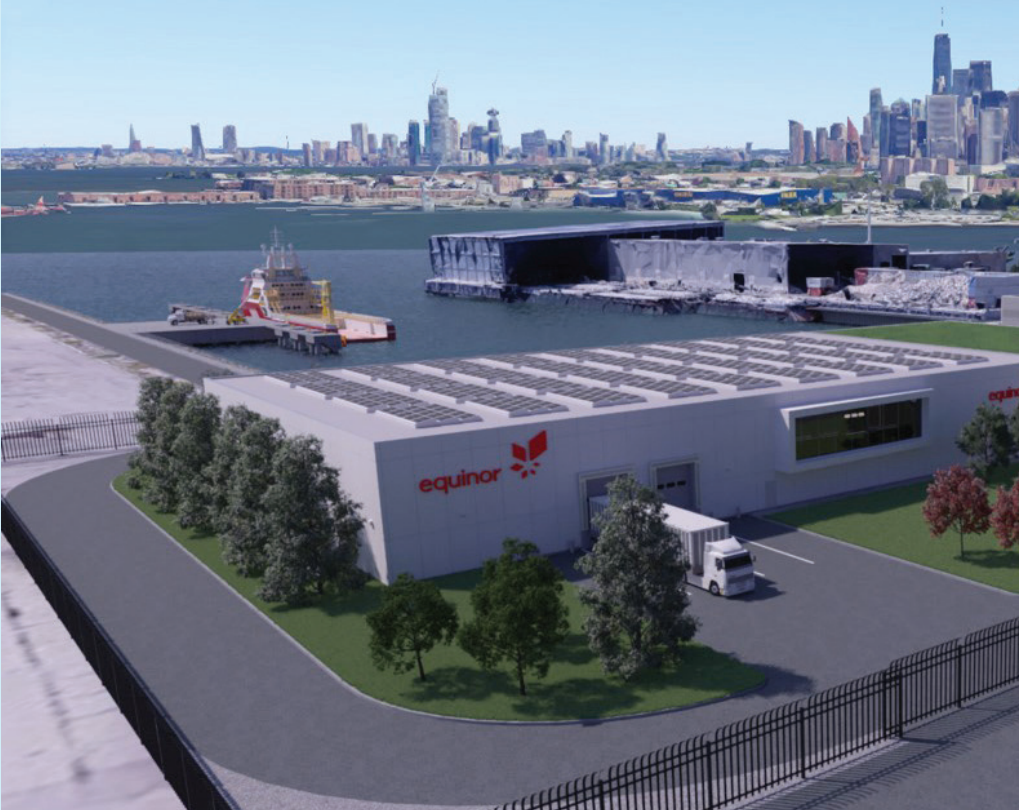
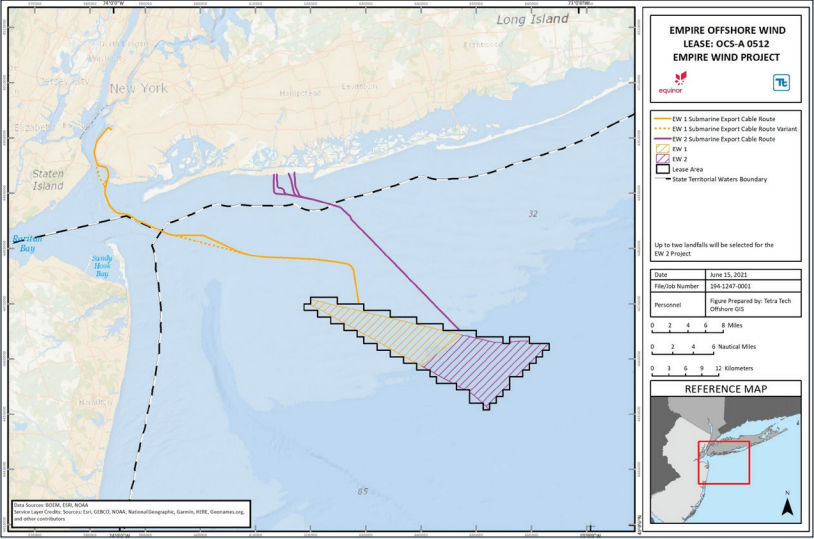


Empire Wind

Empire Wind is a large-scale—2.1 gigawatt (GW)—offshore wind project designed to bring renewable energy to New Yorkers, helping the state achieve its ambitious renewable energy development goals and creating exciting new opportunities for economic growth in New York—including in South Brooklyn. The project will result in substantial health and economic development benefits for New Yorkers.

Empire Wind encompasses two projects— Empire Wind 1 & 2— and will be developed in the ocean waters approximately 15–30 miles south of Long Island. When completed, Empire Wind’s 130+ total wind turbines will power over 1 million New York homes. First power is expected in the mid-2020s. Empire Wind is part of a portfolio of offshore wind projects providing renewable energy to New York, including Equinor’s Beacon Wind 1.

Empire Wind is owned by Empire Offshore Wind LLC, a joint venture between Equinor and bp. Equinor is the operating partner. The commercial lifespan of Empire Wind is expected to be 35 years.



Infrastructure Investment

Equinor and our partners are investing \$200 to \$250 million to turn the storied South Brooklyn Marine Terminal (SBMT) complex in Brooklyn, New York into a major regional hub for offshore wind. We are also pursuing the development of SBMT as a low-emissions facility. The port investment will result in an estimated 1,000 short-term jobs and 200 long-term jobs.

Protecting the Environment

Responsible project development is our priority.

Empire Wind aims to proactively avoid or minimize potential impacts on the environment and local fishing industry. We are investing millions in wildlife survey research, working closely with government agencies, the commercial and recreational fishing communities, and environmental nonprofits, and making that research available to the public. For example, Equinor engaged fishermen early on in the design of turbine layout to help achieve coexistence, and sustainability between our industries.

As part of our sustainability efforts, Empire Wind proposes to use best-available technology for cable installation like trenchless HDD or Direct Pipe and Aircraft Detection Lighting System (ADLS) to minimize lights at night.

Empire Wind is subject to rigorous federal and state permitting reviews, which evaluate the purpose and need for the project and examine its potential environmental impacts. These years-long processes provide the opportunity for expert oversight and public comment on our proposed plans.

Building Renewable Power

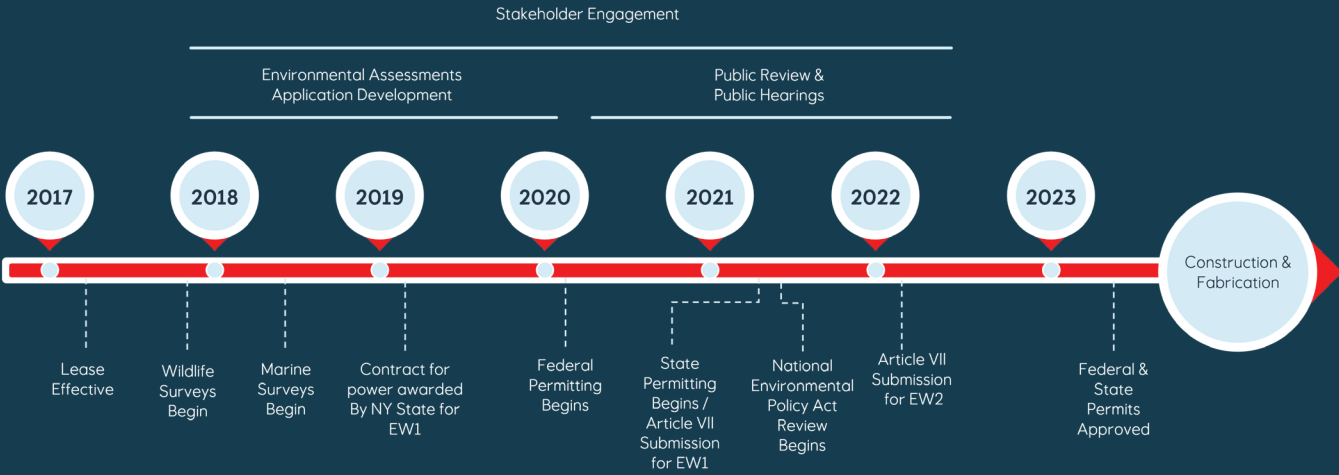
In the coming years, the 73-acre SBMT will transform into one of America’s largest dedicated offshore wind port facilities, capable of staging and assembling the largest, most sophisticated components for Empire Wind 1 & 2 and for the growing offshore wind industry along the East Coast.

SBMT’s redevelopment will create new jobs and provide an economic boost to the community. The facility will also be home to a substation that converts the renewable power generated by Empire Wind 1 to the voltage level we use in our homes, making it ready to plug into the grid.

The proposed point of interconnection for Empire Wind 2 is Oceanside on Long Island. Currently, a number of landfalls are being evaluated with feedback from local, state, and federal stakeholders.



Empire Wind Project Schedule



Attachment B-3
Public Notice of Filing EXAMPLE

PUBLIC NOTICE**In the Matter of the Application of Empire Offshore Wind LLC for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the Construction of Approximately 12 Miles of Transmission Lines from the Boundary of New York State Territorial Waters to a Point of Interconnection in Town of Hempstead, Nassau County, New York.**

Pursuant to Article VII of the Public Service Law of the State of New York, Empire Offshore Wind LLC (Applicant) is providing public notice of its intent to file an application (Application) for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need (Certificate) for the proposed construction and operation of the portion of the transmission system for the Empire Wind 2 offshore wind generating facility located in New York State (the NY Project).

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE THAT, on or about June 17, 2022, the Applicant will file an Application in the above-entitled matter with the New York State Public Service Commission (Commission) for a Certificate pursuant to Article VII of the Public Service Law to construct, operate, and maintain the NY Project, which is the portion of a transmission facility that is located within New York State and that will connect the offshore wind farm to be located in the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management designated Renewable Energy Lease Area OCS-A 0512 within federal waters (Lease Area) to the existing mainland electrical grid in the Town of Hempstead, New York. The NY Project is necessary in order to transmit renewable energy from the Lease Area to the downstate area and to assist New York State in achieving its clean energy mandates under the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act.

During the course of the Article VII proceedings, alternative routes not included in the Application or affected by the proposed primary route may be offered without further notice by publication. In addition, the Commission may ultimately approve an alternative route for the NY Project that traverses municipalities not presently affected by the NY Project or included in the Application.

DESCRIPTION OF THE NY PROJECT

The NY Project includes: (i) three 230-kV high-voltage alternating-current (HVAC) submarine export cables located within an approximately 7.7-nautical miles (nm, 14.2-km)-long submarine export cable corridor from the boundary of New York State waters (3 nautical miles from shore) to the cable landfall in the City of Long Beach, New York; (ii) three 230-kV onshore export cable circuits, each with three single-core HVAC onshore export cables, buried underground within an approximately 1.5-mile-long (2.4-km-long) onshore export cable corridor from the cable landfall to the onshore substation; (iii) an onshore substation in the Village of Island Park, within the Town of Hempstead, New York; and (v) up to three 345-kV interconnection cable circuits, each with three single-core HVAC interconnection cables, buried underground within an approximately 1.7-mile-long (2.8-km-long) interconnection cable corridor from the onshore substation to the point of interconnection (POI) at an expansion of the Barrett 138-kV Substation in Oceanside, New York owned by the Long Island Power Authority (LIPA).

The Empire Wind 2 offshore wind farm is proposed to be located in the Lease Area approximately 20 miles south of Long Island and outside of New York State waters. As such, the Empire Wind 2 offshore wind farm will be permitted in a separate federal proceeding.

A copy of the Application will be filed with the Commission and served upon the Town Supervisor of the Town of Hempstead, the Mayor of Village of Island Park, the City Manager of the City of Long Beach, New York, and other statutory parties, and copies will be made available at the following local public libraries for public inspection. A copy of the Application will also be available on the Department of Public Service website (www.dps.ny.gov) once the Commission assigns a case number to the NY Project. Additional information can be found on the NY Project website at <https://www.empirewind.com/article-vii>.

Long Beach Public Library
111 West Park Avenue
Long Beach, NY 11561

Island Park Library
176 Long Beach Road
Island Park, NY 11558

Point Lookout Branch
79 Lido Blvd.
Point Lookout, NY 11569

Hempstead Public Library
115 James A. Garner Way
Hempstead, NY 11550

West End Branch
903 West Beech Street
Long Beach, NY 11561

West Hempstead Public Library
500 Hempstead Avenue
West Hempstead, NY 11552

Seaford Public Library
2234 Jackson Avenue
Seaford, NY 11783

Queens Public Library - Arverne
312 Beach 54 Street
Arverne, NY 11692

Queens Public Library - Peninsula
92-25 Rockaway Beach Boulevard
Rockaway Beach, NY 11693

ADDITIONAL ASSISTANCE

For further information concerning the NY Project, interested persons may contact the following:
<mailto:empirewind@equinor.com>

Michelle L. Phillips
Secretary to the Commission
New York State Public Service Commission
Empire State Plaza, Agency Building 3
Albany, New York 12223-1350
Fax: (518) 474-9842
Email: secretary@dps.ny.gov

Harrison Feuer
NY Director of Public Affairs
Empire Offshore Wind LLC
Phone: 833-699-1965
Email: empirewind@equinor.com

Attachment B-4
Document Repositories (Libraries)

Name	Address	Phone
Long Beach Public Library	111 West Park Avenue, Long Beach, NY 11561	(516) 432-7201
Point Lookout Branch	79 Lido Blvd., Point Lookout, NY 11569	(516) 432-3409
West End Branch	903 West Beech Street, Long Beach, NY 11561	(516) 432-2704
Seaford Public Library	2234 Jackson Ave Seaford 11783	(516) 221-1334
Island Park Library	176 Long Beach Road Island Park, NY 11558	(516) 432-0122
Hempstead Public Library	115 James A. Garner Way, Hempstead, NY 11550	(516) 481-6990
West Hempstead Public Library	500 Hempstead Avenue West Hempstead, NY 11552	(516) 481-6591
Queens Public Library - Arverne	312 Beach 54 Street Arverne, NY 11692	(718) 634-4784
Queens Public Library - Peninsula	92-25 Rockaway Beach Boulevard Rockaway Beach, NY 11693	(718) 634-1110