CAPE COD COMMISSION
SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING

New England Wind 1 Connector
CCC No. 22005

DATE: MONDAY, May 1, 2023

TIME: 5:00 P.M

The meeting will be held virtually, with members of the subcommittee participating remotely, pursuant to Chapter 20 of the Acts of 2021

CAPE COD COMMISSION

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MEETING AGENDA

- **Announcements**
- Attendance – Roll Call
- Approval of Minutes
- Staff Comments
- Applicant Comments
- Subcommittee Discussion/Actions

OPENING ANNOUNCEMENTS

- This meeting is being held virtually as allowed pursuant to Chapter 20 of the Acts of 2021.
- Because there are members remotely participating, we will be taking a roll call vote on any action.
- This meeting is being recorded for the purposes of creating minutes.
- If anyone is having a technical issue, use either the chat box on your screen or email **support@capecodcommission.org** and staff will assist you.

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SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS:

- Fred Chirigotis, Chair
- Kevin Grunwald
- Harold Mitchell
- Richard Roy
- Thomas Wilson

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APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- March 27, 2023

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COMMENTS FROM COMMISSION STAFF

- Staff Comments (Jeffrey Ribeiro)

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Findings

- F21. These proposed methods are consistent with best practices for construction in historic areas, and with Objective CH1, provided that vibration monitoring during construction be included to ensure vibration levels caused by other equipment do not exceed 0.2 inches per second, which is commonly used as a threshold to prevent damage in historic resource areas.

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Findings

New Change:

- F98. The Applicant is seeking a comprehensive zoning exemption from the Massachusetts Department of Public Utilities (DPU) pursuant to MGL c. 40A Section 3 for the entirety of the Project, including the onshore export cable and the substation. ~~Under the Host Community Agreement, the Town of Barnstable has agreed to publicly support this request.~~ An Order of Conditions from the Barnstable Conservation Commission will be required.

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Benefits

- The Project provides over 800 Megawatts of clean, renewable energy brought to the New England grid, powering approximately 400,000 homes and businesses and to be used primarily in southeastern Massachusetts.
- The Project reduces greenhouse gas emissions by 1.59 million US tons per year.
- The Applicant has signed a Host Community Agreement with the Town, providing significant benefits to the Town, financial and otherwise.
- The Applicant has committed to fund a large portion of any town led streetscape improvement projects post construction on Centerville Main Street.
- On-shore cable installation along the preferred route will be coordinated with sewer installation by the Town, reducing the Town's costs, speeding the environmental benefits of sewer installation, and minimizing disruption to residents by limiting construction to two seasons and not during summer months.

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Benefits

- The Shootflying Hill substation is appropriately sited as it is already developed and adjacent to existing energy and transportation infrastructure.
- The Applicant has agreed to provide an easement along Shootflying Hill Road to accommodate a proposed extension of the Cape Cod Rail Trail.
- The Project will result in the permanent protection of at least 12.6 acres of high value, forested land as open space.

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Detriments

- The Project is likely to result in disruption of businesses and residents during construction period, with acute impacts in the village of Centerville.
- Construction of the substation and other interconnection infrastructure requires approximately 6.39 acres of tree clearing.
- ~~The Project may negatively impact historic structures.~~
- The Project may result in damage to trees along the cable on-shore route.

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Conditions

- ~~C10. The Applicant shall continue to pursue and meet its obligations under the HCA with the Town, including making all payments to the Town required under said HCA.~~
- C17. Wherever existing infrastructure, such as roads, sidewalks, ~~and~~ street trees, and streetscape are impacted, they shall be repaired or replaced to same or ~~better~~ enhanced condition as specified in the HCA in coordination with the Town of Barnstable and state agencies. The Applicant shall restore the full width surface of impacted roadways, not to include non-impacted lanes of divided roadways, or a mutually acceptable alternative developed in coordination with the Town.

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Conditions

- C19. The Applicant shall make all reasonable efforts to publicize construction activities, detours or road closures utilizing various media outlets, such as media outreach and Variable Message Signs ("VMS") located at key points within the study area, in particular impacts to roadways that will span over an extended period of time and impacts that will occur on a major regional roadway. The Applicant shall prepare a communications plan for the work and provide that plan to the Commission and Town of Barnstable for comment. The Applicant shall designate and widely publicize a single point of contact to respond to construction related issues.

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Conditions

- C20. If the currently contemplated extension of the Cape Cod Rail Trail must be placed on a certain portion of the substation site situated along Shootflying Hill Road, which extension includes the Trail itself, any vegetative screening, and/or retaining wall, the Applicant will work with the Town of Barnstable to convey an easement to the Town for such use. Said easement will be on terms mutually acceptable to Applicant and the Town.

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Next Steps

- Comment from applicant
- Subcommittee discussion/questions
- Motion to recommend draft DRI decision
  - Full Commission hearing noticed for May 11, 2023 at 3:00pm
- Motion to Adjourn

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COMMENTS FROM APPLICANT

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SUBCOMMITTEE DISCUSSION/ACTIONS

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SUBCOMMITTEE DISCUSSION/ACTIONS

Recommended Motions:

- Move to recommend the draft written decision [*with amendments as discussed*] for adoption by the full Cape Cod Commission and approval of the project.
- Move to adjourn.

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THANK YOU FOR ATTENDING

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