

VINEYARD



OFFSHORE

**SUBMISSION FOR PURCHASE OF
OFFSHORE WIND RENEWABLE
ENERGY CERTIFICATES**

ORECRFP24-1

PUBLIC

SEPTEMBER 9, 2024

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Section 1.0 Executive Summary

Response to New York State Energy Research and
Development Authority Request for Proposals ORECRFP24-1



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OFFSHORE**

PUBLIC

TABLE OF CONTENTS

SECTION 1	EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	1-1
1.1	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	1-2
1.2	OFFSHORE WIND GENERATION FACILITY MAPS	1-3
1.3	PORTS AND SUPPLY CHAIN FACILITIES MAPS	1-3
1.4	TURBINE, CABLE, AND INSTALLATION TECHNOLOGY	1-5
1.5	PROJECT TIMELINE AND KEY MILESTONES	1-5
1.6	ECONOMIC BENEFITS PLAN AND NEW YORK JOBS AND WORKFORCE PLAN	1-6
1.7	PROJECT TEAM, LOCAL SUPPORT, AND ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP	1-8
1.7.1	A TEAM YOU CAN TRUST	1-8
1.7.2	EARNING SUPPORT BY PUTTING COMMUNITIES FIRST	1-9
1.7.3	COMMITMENT TO ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP	1-9
1.7.4	UNPARALLELED EXPERIENCE	1-10

List of Figures

Figure 1.2-1	Offshore Wind Generation Facility.....	1-3
	1-4
Figure 1.5-1	Excelsior Wind Project Timeline	1-5
Figure 1.7-1	Vineyard Offshore Company and Project Team	1-8

List of Tables

Table 1.1-1	Excelsior Wind Proposals at a Glance.....	1-2
Table 1.6-1	Excelsior Wind Incremental Economic Benefits	1-6
Table 1.6-2	Excelsior Wind Directly Funded Initiatives	1-7

SECTION 1

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Excelsior Wind (the “Project”) will chart a new course for a more sustainable, resilient, and equitable economic future for New Yorkers—one that bolsters New York’s position as a national hub for offshore wind, while partnering with and maximizing opportunities for local communities and delivering abundant and affordable offshore wind energy to New York ratepayers, in accordance with the state’s Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act. Excelsior Wind will generate enough clean, reliable electricity to power more than 700,000 homes and will provide billions of dollars in incremental economic benefits over its lifetime. Vineyard Offshore is committed to realizing a minimum of 35% of in-state spend in Disadvantaged Communities (DACs) through the third year of operations. A product of Vineyard Offshore’s signature community-first approach to offshore wind development, Excelsior Wind is distinguished by three key features:

1. **Statewide Benefits for New York:** Excelsior Wind will be built and maintained exclusively using New York ports, with onshore construction centered on Long Island, providing thousands of jobs. [REDACTED]
2. **Community-first Development:** In trademark fashion, Vineyard Offshore has spent a great deal of time engaging with local officials, community-based groups, and other stakeholders in developing the ORECRFP24-1 submission (the “Submission”). As a result, Excelsior Wind has selected a landfall site and a preferred route that minimizes construction impacts to residential neighborhoods, especially DACs, while maximizing directly funded initiatives for the surrounding communities. This deep engagement has also led to dozens of partnerships with educational institutions, workforce and training organizations, and non-profit partners that will spread the benefits of offshore wind development broadly.
3. **Competitive and Cost-effective:** Excelsior Wind’s high voltage alternating current (HVAC) transmission system will speed construction and lower costs. The primary project configuration will maximize the benefits to ratepayers of federal tax credits from the Inflation Reduction Act and will use Propel NY Energy’s T051 Alternative 5 Project (the “Propel NY Energy project”) from the Long Island Offshore Wind Export Public Policy Transmission Need (LI OSW PPTN) to minimize grid upgrades, making our Project maximally cost-effective.

Offered by Vineyard Offshore—a team with industry-leading experience working collaboratively with local partners—the Excelsior Wind Proposals are submitted with more than 100 Letters of Support from local leaders and a host of stakeholders, including labor unions, fishermen, local businesses, workforce development agencies, and environmental organizations.

1.1 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Vineyard Offshore is proud to offer Excelsior Wind in response to ORECRFP24-1. The Project includes a 1,350 megawatt (MW) Offshore Wind Generation Facility (OWF), which will be installed in Lease Area OCS-A 0544 (the "Lease Area"), approximately 24 miles south from New York's nearest shoreline, and will deliver more than 5,000 gigawatt hours of clean, reliable electricity annually when it reaches full commercial operation in 2031. Excelsior Wind will avoid 1.2 million tons of carbon dioxide emissions from the NYISO electrical grid each year, equivalent to taking 268,000 cars off the road. Based on extensive outreach and community input, the landfall site and primary onshore cable route for Excelsior Wind have been uniquely selected to minimize construction impacts in Long Island's densely populated neighborhoods.

Offered in five possible Proposals (see Table 1.1-1), the OWF is planned to include [REDACTED]. The Project leverages the low-cost and schedule benefits of HVAC transmission technology and maximizes New York State assets by interconnecting to the LI OSW PPTN through a Delivery Point at either the Uniondale 345 kilovolt (kV) substation¹ in Uniondale, New York, or the proposed Ruland Road 345 kV substation in Melville, New York.

Table 1.1-1 Excelsior Wind Proposals at a Glance

Proposal ID	Required Proposals		Alternate Proposals		
	EW-A	EW-B	EW-C	EW-D	EW-E
Proposal Code	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Offer Capacity	1,350 MW [REDACTED]				
Lease Area	OCS-A 0544				
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]				
Contract Tenor	25 years				
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]

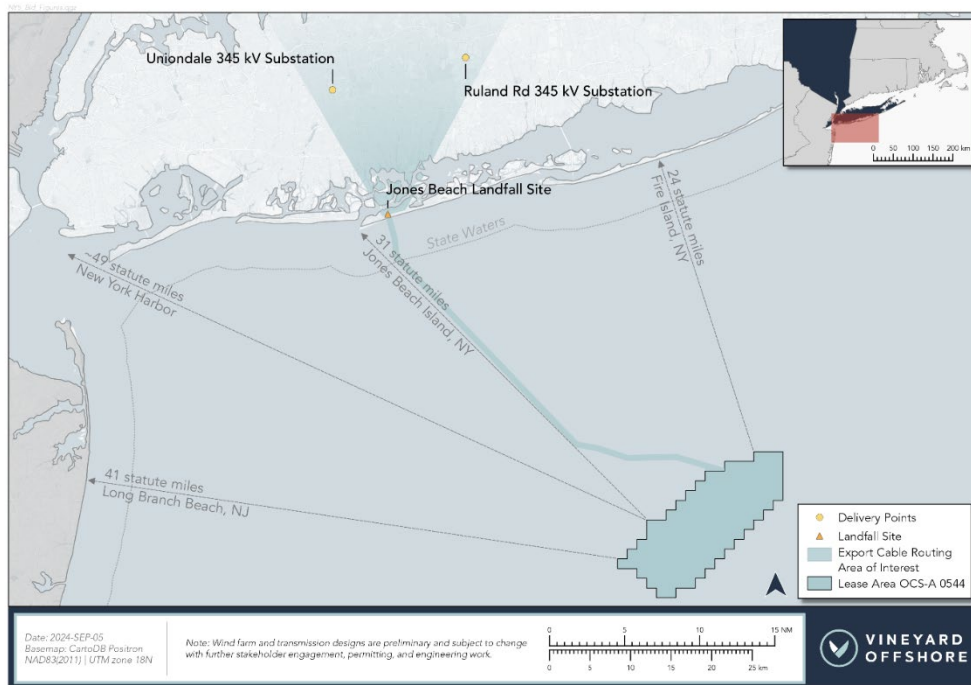
¹ The Uniondale Delivery Point refers to the proposed expansion of the existing 138/345 kV substation in Uniondale, referred to by NYISO as East Garden City 138/345 kV substation. After extensive community engagement, we have learned about the painful history and ongoing frustration community members have with the current designation. Vineyard Offshore advocates for the renaming of the substation and has adopted the Uniondale name in this bid. Furthermore, Vineyard Offshore has prepared a letter for submission to the president of the Long Island Power Authority advocating for this name change.

1.2 OFFSHORE WIND GENERATION FACILITY MAPS

The OWF will be located in the Lease Area [REDACTED]. The offshore export cable corridor travels 35.7 miles from the Lease Area boundary to a landfall site at Jones Beach State Park, located in a paved parking area (Field 1). [REDACTED]

Based on extensive outreach and community input, the landfall site and proposed onshore cable route to the Uniondale Delivery Point have been identified and selected to minimize disruption to residential communities, including DACs. Delivery Points for the Project were selected to provide Excelsior Wind the maximum injection capacity with minimal grid upgrades, increasing access to clean energy at the lowest cost. This was achieved by prioritizing the use of the Propel NY Energy project (LI OSW PPTN).

Figure 1.2-1 Offshore Wind Generation Facility



1.3 PORTS AND SUPPLY CHAIN FACILITIES MAPS

Vineyard Offshore plans to use a New York port as a logistical hub for Excelsior Wind assembly and marshaling. [REDACTED]

[Redacted text block]

[Redacted text block]

[Redacted text block]

[Large redacted area]

1.4 TURBINE, CABLE, AND INSTALLATION TECHNOLOGY

[REDACTED]

Keeping in mind that WTG manufacturers continue to develop new models, Vineyard Offshore will carefully select the appropriate WTG for Excelsior Wind, taking account of technical development risk, energy yield potential, manufacturing, and installation costs, as well as Project schedule.

Installation of the WTGs will require the use of either a feeder vessel or a wind turbine installation vessel (WTIV), with the selection of the feeder vessel coupled with a selection of the WTG supplier. [REDACTED]

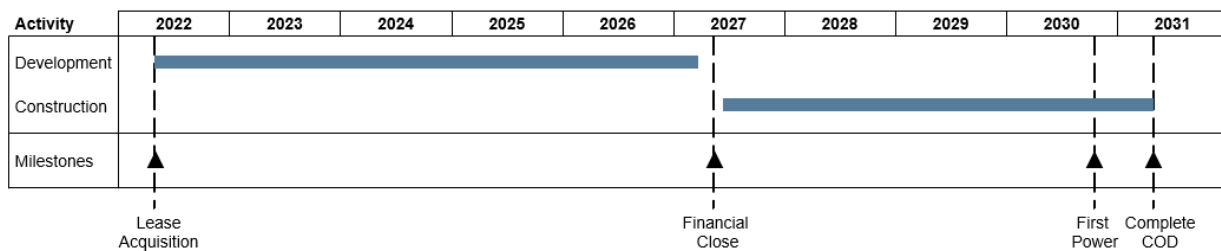
[REDACTED]

In our cost-effective, fast-to-deploy HVAC transmission system, export cables will be 275 kV HVAC cross-linked polyethylene (XLPE) cables. Inter-array cabling will be 66 kV XLPE cables. Though aware of ongoing developments in cable technology, we have optimized the transmission system for Excelsior Wind using currently available and proven technology. Cables will be transported directly from the fabrication facilities to the OWF in a cable transport or cable laying vessel and installed to a target depth of 5 to 8 feet below the seafloor using jetting techniques or mechanical plow.

1.5 PROJECT TIMELINE AND KEY MILESTONES

With federal permitting moving ahead, state permitting set to begin, and the scheduling advantages of HVAC transmission, Excelsior Wind will reach full commercial operation directly after the grid upgrades from the LI OSW PPTN are complete (see Figure 1.5-1). Vineyard Offshore understands the complexities associated with permitting our Project, and we remain ready and committed to working with all New York State agencies to progress permitting status of the Project.

Figure 1.5-1 Excelsior Wind Project Timeline



1.6 ECONOMIC BENEFITS PLAN AND NEW YORK JOBS AND WORKFORCE PLAN

The development, construction, and operation of Excelsior Wind will directly introduce **billions of dollars in incremental economic benefits** over the Project's lifetime and multiples of that when including indirect and induced economic benefits. The Project will also directly **create thousands of unique jobs** with many job-years of employment. Excelsior Wind is committed to realizing a minimum of 35%, with a goal of 40%, of dollars spent in New York in DACs through the third year of operations.

The Economic Benefits Plan for Excelsior Wind commits to investing in grid infrastructure on Long Island, using New York port infrastructure, educating and empowering New York's diverse business community to integrate into and grow with the offshore wind industry, and maximizing opportunities for DACs to ensure the benefits of offshore wind are accessible to all New Yorkers.

Table 1.6-1 Excelsior Wind Incremental Economic Benefits

Category	Activity	Incremental Economic Benefits
Supply Chain Investments	O&M Port Development on Staten Island	[REDACTED]
	WTG and Monopile Foundation Pre-assembly, Marshaling, and Load-out at a New York Port	[REDACTED]
	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Project Development and Construction	Onshore Installation Activities on Long Island: Transmission Infrastructure and Grid Upgrades	[REDACTED]
	Offshore Installation Activities from New York Ports	[REDACTED]
	Development Costs, Real Estate Acquisition, Local Fees, Taxes	[REDACTED]
	Other Directly Funded Initiatives	[REDACTED]
Operations	Operations Activities	[REDACTED]
Total Incremental Economic Benefits through the Third Year of Contract		[REDACTED]
Total Incremental Economic Benefits through the Project's Useful Life		[REDACTED]
Total Incremental Direct, Indirect, and Induced Economic Benefits		[REDACTED]

The New York Jobs and Workforce Plan for Excelsior Wind outlines Vineyard Offshore’s community-driven approach to jobs and workforce development related to the Project, prioritizing a just transition centered on racial justice, equity, and environmental justice. Excelsior Wind will be built with union labor. Vineyard Offshore has entered into a memorandum of agreement with the New York State Building and Construction Trades Council to negotiate one or more project labor agreements (PLAs) for Excelsior Wind. We have also signed an LOI with Climate Jobs New York to negotiate a labor peace agreement and a memorandum of understanding to support development of a robust offshore wind industry and its manufacturing supply chain in New York and across the US with good jobs. As the team that signed and implemented the nation’s first PLA for offshore wind on Vineyard Wind 1, Vineyard Offshore fully understands the complexities associated with integrating union labor into an offshore wind project while also working to diversify union labor. We will leverage that experience to deliver opportunities for union labor while building an equitable and inclusive offshore wind workforce.

For Excelsior Wind, Vineyard Offshore commits **\$50 million to directly funded initiatives** aimed at promoting a diverse, inclusive, and environmentally responsible offshore wind sector in New York (see Table 1.6-2). This package includes \$39 million for workforce development, supply chain, and Minority- and Women-Owned Business Enterprise (MWBE)/Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned Business (SDVOB) programs. Several of these programs are already up and running, established on a pilot basis in advance of project selection in ORECRFP24-1. Included is up to \$20 million for the implementation of a collaborative, flexible, and community-led workforce development framework to advance training initiatives aligned with the Project’s needs and timelines, tailored to the communities they aim to benefit, and implemented by Vineyard Offshore in collaboration with its local partners. These funds also support a wraparound services scholarship fund, a key element created to help DACs take advantage of the many workforce opportunities that will be available. An additional \$11 million will be devoted to environmental, fisheries, and habitat initiatives.

Table 1.6-2 Excelsior Wind Directly Funded Initiatives

Category	Fund Name	Funding
Supply Chain and Workforce Development	Workforce Development Fund	████████
	Supply Chain Enabling Fund	████████
	MWBE, SDVOB Initiatives	████████
	Innovation Initiatives	████████
Community Benefits, Fisheries, and Environment	Wildlife, Marine Ecosystem, and Coastal Habitat Fund	████████
	Fisheries Sustainability, Research, and Support Fund	████████
	Community and Climate Resilience Fund	████████
Total		\$50 million

1.7 PROJECT TEAM, LOCAL SUPPORT, AND ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP

1.7.1 A TEAM YOU CAN TRUST

Vineyard Offshore is the strongest, most reliable offshore wind development team in the US, backed by investors with a long-term commitment to offshore wind development here and around the world. Vineyard Offshore forms deep partnerships that share the benefits of offshore wind development and earn the support of communities that host our projects. Our team on the ground on Long Island is already deep into the process of collaboration that is essential to building trust among key constituencies. With states, local communities, partners, and stakeholders alike, we promise only what we can deliver, and we deliver what we promise.

Figure 1.7-1 Vineyard Offshore Company and Project Team



Vineyard Offshore is a woman-led company with several additional women on the senior leadership team, including the Chief Executive Officer, Chief Development Officer, and Chief Legal Officer. Our Project team, which is also woman-led, is diverse and reflective of the community. As a company, we have established an employee-led wellness, equity, diversity, and unity initiative that consults with the senior leadership team in developing policies and proposals for a future diversity, equity, inclusion, and justice plan. In addition, Vineyard Offshore has provided company-wide training on working with Tribal Nations, which we believe to be unique among offshore wind developers. [REDACTED]

Key contacts for Excelsior Wind are as follows:

- **Executive:** Alicia Barton, CEO, and Ben Koffel, CCO
- **Project:** Nora DeDontney, Development Director, and Andrea Bonilla, External Affairs
- **Public Communications:** Kathryn Niforos, Senior Communications Manager

1.7.2 EARNING SUPPORT BY PUTTING COMMUNITIES FIRST

Heavily developed, densely populated, and increasingly experiencing the effects of climate change in its coastal communities, Long Island deserves the respectful, collaborative approach to offshore wind development that Vineyard Offshore prides itself with. As demonstrated on Vineyard Wind 1, Vineyard Offshore puts communities first, forming trusting relationships and collaborative partnerships with public officials, community institutions, and private citizens. We are already hard at work earning community support for Excelsior Wind. It is through this collaborative, community-first method that we came to propose a landfall site and primary onshore cable route that largely avoid construction disruption to Long Island communities.

After submitting a proposal to New York for Excelsior Wind in ORECRFP22-1, Vineyard Offshore continued engaging with Tribal Nations, state and local elected officials, residents, business owners, fishermen, environmental organizations, and other stakeholders. Since January 2023, our outreach team has reached over 20,000 stakeholders through more than 200 individual and small group meetings, over 100 community events and presentations, and over 60 sponsored community events. Vineyard Offshore has held office hours in 13 locations across Nassau County—from Long Beach to Elmont to Massapequa—and participated in seven NYSERDA open houses. We have identified over 100 institutions, local businesses, and non-profit and community-based organizations that have become collaborative partners.

[REDACTED]

Time and again, we have received feedback that echoes an appreciation for consistent, transparent, and frequent engagement, which has resulted in input that has significantly helped shape Excelsior Wind for success. This is further endorsed by more than 100 Letters of Support for Vineyard Offshore and Excelsior Wind from local leaders and a host of stakeholders, including labor unions, fishermen, local businesses, workforce development agencies, and environmental organizations. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Members of the public can find information on Excelsior Wind and contact our outreach team via email at <https://www.vineyardoffshore.com/excelsiorwind>.

1.7.3 COMMITMENT TO ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP

Vineyard Offshore is committed to developing, constructing, operating, and decommissioning well-sited offshore wind projects with minimal impacts. We intend to continue our industry-

leading efforts to proactively conserve and protect threatened and endangered species while considering new technologies, the best available data, and lessons learned from other projects.

The Project's Environmental and Fisheries Mitigation Plans are informed by several years of desktop analysis, stakeholder engagement, site surveys, regional data efforts, and the latest best practices in impact mitigation. These measures aim to reduce noise impacts (e.g., temporal constraints on pile driving, use of noise attenuation systems, protective zones, Protected Species Observers, soft-start/ramp-up procedures, and sound field verification); avoid vessel strikes (e.g., sharing sightings data and enforcing speed restrictions); reduce bird and bat collision (e.g., WTG spacing, reducing lighting); and preserve habitat (e.g., using horizontal directional drilling at landfall sites, reducing seafloor disturbance, and minimizing electromagnetic field exposure through cable burial). In addition, several years of pre- and post-construction monitoring will be implemented to track the status of biological resources.

As the Project moves through the permitting process, we will continue to identify and employ practicable, appropriate, and adaptive design and mitigation measures that afford the highest levels of environmental protection while maintaining Project viability. We will also continue to work in close collaboration with federal agencies, Tribal Nations, state agencies, fishermen, and other stakeholders to understand their concerns and incorporate their feedback into the Project's final design, methodologies for resource assessments, survey strategies, and environmental protection measures.

1.7.4 UNPARALLELED EXPERIENCE

Vineyard Offshore brings industry-leading experience to every phase of the offshore wind project development process, from conception and design to permitting, financing, and construction. We currently have more than 100 offshore wind specialists working in Massachusetts, New York, and California who are developing 6 gigawatts (GW) of US offshore wind capacity and continually evaluating new development opportunities. Our leadership team has decades of experience in the US and global offshore wind industry, as well as energy infrastructure projects, finance, and public affairs in the Northeast and beyond.

As the team behind Vineyard Wind 1, the nation's first large-scale offshore wind project, Vineyard Offshore is one of just a handful of developers with a documented history of putting steel in the water, and we have never terminated a power purchase agreement (PPA). We are backed by Copenhagen Infrastructure Partners P/S (CIP), the world's largest greenfield renewables investment firm and a global leader in offshore wind. CIP currently has ownership or exclusive rights to ~50 GW of offshore wind projects in development, construction, or operation in North America, the United Kingdom, Germany, Italy, Taiwan, South Korea, Japan, and Australia. On Vineyard Wind 1, CIP pioneered the buildout of offshore wind in the US.

Through Vineyard Wind 1, Vineyard Offshore has demonstrated our ability to turn a PPA award into an offshore wind project, earn local support, and develop partnerships that realize tangible economic benefits for state and local economies. With a track record of promising only what we can deliver, and then delivering what we promise, Vineyard Offshore will be a trusted partner for New York.