

ORDER NO. 89886

Skipjack Offshore Wind, LLC and US Wind,
Inc.’s Offshore Wind Applications Under The
Clean Energy Jobs Act of 2019

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BEFORE THE
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF MARYLAND

CASE NO. 9666

Issue Date: July 20, 2021

**ORDER INITIATING DOCKET, LISTING OFFSHORE WIND APPLICATION
APPLICANTS, AND SCHEDULING VIRTUAL PREHEARING CONFERENCE
FOR ROUND 2, YEAR 1**

On December 22, 2020, the Commission commenced the Round 2, Year 1 Offshore Wind Application Period (“Application Period”), in accordance with COMAR 20.61.06.01(B)(3) after a determination by the Commission’s independent consultant¹ that a potential offshore wind (“OSW”) application had been received and deemed administratively complete.² The Application Period concluded on June 21, 2021, following a 180 calendar day window during which other persons were permitted to submit applications.³

Following the close of the Application Period, the Commission’s independent consultant provided notice that five OSW applications were received by the following

¹ The Clean Energy Jobs Act of 2019 directed the Commission to provide additional offshore wind application periods to facilitate the construction of at least 1,200 MW of Round 2 offshore wind projects. In compliance with this directive, the Commission retained a team led by ICF Resources, LLC (“ICF”) to assist in the evaluation and comparison of a potential applicant(s)’ proposed offshore wind project.

² See Maillog No. 233058. According to COMAR 20.61.01.03(B)(1-1), “Administratively complete” means that the Commission has determined an application to contain the information described in §§ D through N of COMAR 20.61.06.02.

³ COMAR 20.61.06.01(B)(4).

companies: (i) MarWin II, LLC, wholly-owned by US Wind, Inc. (“US Wind”); and (ii) Skipjack Offshore Wind, LLC, a subsidiary of Ørsted A/S (“Skipjack”).⁴ The Commission’s independent consultant determined that all five applications were administratively complete per COMAR 20.61.06.02. Further, the Commission’s independent consultant has found all five applications have met the minimum threshold criteria, per COMAR 20.61.06.03.⁵ Therefore, in accordance with COMAR 20.61.06.01(D), the Commission hereby commences this docketed proceeding to conduct a multi-part review to evaluate and compare the proposed OSW applications submitted by Skipjack and US Wind. Both applicants are hereby directed to file the public and confidential versions of their proposed OSW projects in this docket by July 27, 2021.⁶

A virtual prehearing conference in this matter is hereby set for Wednesday, August 11, 2021, ten (10) minutes after the conclusion of the Administrative Meeting (which begins at 10 a.m.). The purpose of the hearing is to set a procedural schedule for this proceeding, consider any petitions to intervene that have been filed, and consider any other preliminary matters requested by the parties. Petitions to intervene shall be filed by Friday, August 6, 2021. Furthermore, discovery commences immediately for Skipjack, US Wind, the Commission’s Technical Staff, and the Maryland Office of People’s Counsel.

Any party that wishes to actively participate in the virtual prehearing conference shall contact Amanda Best at amanda.best@maryland.gov by 12:00 noon on Monday,

⁴ See Maillog No. 236193.

⁵ In accordance with COMAR 20.61.06.01(D)(1)(b), the Commission hereby publishes the names of all OSW applicants who have submitted applications that have been determined to meet the minimum threshold criteria.

⁶ Note that additional confidential provisions pertaining to the OSW applications are outlined in COMAR 20.61.06.02(C). The submitted applications shall not contain information that is materially different than that reviewed by the Commission’s independent consultant during the Application Period.

August 9, 2021.⁷ Otherwise, you may watch the live stream of the prehearing conference on the Commission's YouTube channel.⁸ Please also direct any questions concerning the prehearing conference to Amanda Best.

IT IS, THEREFORE, this 20th day of July in the year Two Thousand Twenty-One, by the Public Service Commission of Maryland,

ORDERED: (1) That Skipjack Offshore Wind, LLC and MarWin II, LLC (a subsidiary of US Wind, Inc.) shall file their proposed offshore wind projects by Tuesday, July 27, 2021;

(2) That petitions to intervene in this proceeding by interested parties shall be filed by Friday, August 6, 2021;⁹ and

(3) That a virtual prehearing conference in this matter is hereby set for Wednesday, August 11, 2021, ten (10) minutes after the conclusion of the Administrative Meeting.

By Direction of the Commission,

/s/ Andrew S. Johnston

Andrew S. Johnston
Executive Secretary

⁷ The meeting will be conducted through a WebEx remote meeting platform. After the 12:00 noon, August 9, 2021 deadline, participants will receive instructions on how to participate.

⁸ <https://www.youtube.com/c/MarylandPSC>.

⁹ The Commission requests that parties use the Commission's E-file system, which eliminates the need to submit paper copies. Details of the E-file system are on the Commission's web page, www.psc.state.md.us (Under 'Online Services' or 'Tools').