



**Request for Information:  
Vineyard Wind 1 Wind Development Area Fisheries Compensatory Mitigation  
Program Third-Party Administrator**

**Responses due March 16, 2023**

**INTRODUCTION**

Vineyard Wind 1 LLC (Vineyard Wind) is seeking expressions of interest from individuals or companies to serve as a third-party administrator (the “TPA”) for the Vineyard Wind 1 Wind Development Area Fisheries Compensatory Mitigation Program (the “WDA Comp Program”), as further described below.

This Request for Information (RFI) is being issued solely to determine interest. Nothing in this RFI nor responses to it should be construed as a solicitation, and this RFI will not result in the award of a contract for goods or services.

Responses are due by March 16, 2023.

**FISHERIES COMPENSATORY MITIGATION PROGRAM**

Vineyard Wind is constructing the Vineyard Wind 1 Project, an 800 MW offshore wind project located on the Outer Continental Shelf in federal Lease Area OCS-A 0501 approximately 15 miles south of Martha’s Vineyard and Nantucket. Offshore construction activities for the project commenced in 2022 with the installation of the offshore export cable. Construction of the wind turbine array within the lease area is currently scheduled to begin in mid-2023.

Vineyard Wind has created a program to provide compensation to fishermen for lost income attributable to Vineyard Wind’s construction and operations activities. Compensation for impacts associated with the installation of the offshore export cable has been completed and is not included in this RFI.

The primary objective of the WDA Comp Program is to provide fair, equitable compensation, on a timely basis, to commercial fishing vessel owners/operators that demonstrate that they fish within the WDA. Three escrow funds have been established to compensate affected fishermen in Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and Other States (Connecticut, New York, and New Jersey). Compensation is also available to fish processors/dealers, with demonstrated losses due to the

# VINEYARD WIND

Project activities. Fishermen will be required to prequalify for the WDA Comp Program based on, among other things, demonstrated fishing activities within the WDA and earned income.

The WDA Comp Program will commence in 2023 during offshore construction activities in the WDA and continue through the project's operations phase.

## **INFORMATION REQUESTED**

This RFI seeks to determine interest in serving as the TPA. The TPA will act as the fiduciary of the WDA Comp Program and administer program funds in accordance with the project's obligations and the WDA Comp Program procedures. The TPA's initial term of service will be five years.

This RFI will be followed by a Request for Proposal with the selection of the TPA to be finalized this summer.

## **TPA DUTIES**

The TPA will primarily be responsible for implementing and administering the WDA Comp Program, including reviewing and processing applications and directing payments to eligible entities.

TPA duties will include, but may not be limited to, the following:

- Building and maintaining a website with the relevant WDA Comp Program information, including application forms developed by Vineyard Wind, key deadlines, and contact information.
- Receiving application forms and documentation, reviewing materials for completeness, working collaboratively with designated fisheries advisors to review applications, and determining applicant eligibility for direct compensation payments.
- Establishing and maintaining a database and file storage system for all received applications, documentation, and related materials.
- Determining direct compensation payment amounts and directing payments from established escrow accounts.
- Communicating with applicants, including, but not limited to notifying applicants of application deficiencies, program eligibility, direct compensation payments, and maintaining records of all communications.
- Establishing appropriate mediation and/or dispute resolution procedures, as necessary, with individual applicants and claimants.

# VINEYARD WIND

- Performing accounting and budget forecasting tasks, including filing income tax and other required returns and statements and complying with all applicable reporting and withholding obligations.
- Preparing annual written reports for submission to any required agencies to meet regulatory or permitting requirements.

## RESPONSE REQUIREMENTS

Responses to this RFI should be no more than five pages and include a brief description of the recommended individual(s) or entity(ies) and demonstrate one or more of the following:

- Experience in claims fund compensation, or a related field.
- Prior fiduciary, accounting, and/or legal experience.

Responses recommending individuals must include a resume. To be fully considered, responses must also include contact information of the recommended individual(s) or entity(ies).

Commercial fishing or fisheries experience is not required but would be viewed favorably. Recommendations for individuals and entities based in Massachusetts are preferred.

## RESPONSE SUBMISSION

Responses to this RFI can be submitted via e-mail or mail through the information provided below and should be received no later than March 16, 2023. E-mailed responses should include "Response to VW1 WDA TPA RFI" in the subject line.

Vineyard Wind  
Attn: Emily Rochon, Analyst  
700 Pleasant Street, Suite 510  
New Bedford, MA 02740  
[erochon@vineyardwind.com](mailto:erochon@vineyardwind.com)

Responses to this RFI will not be shared publicly.