

## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

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MAURA T. HEALEY Governor KIMBERLEY DRISCOLL Lt. Governor REBECCA L. TEPPER Secretary THOMAS K. O'SHEA Commissioner DANIEL J. MCKIERNAN Director

February 20, 2024 MarineFisheries Advisory

## South Fork Wind Direct Compensation Eligibility Period Open

South Fork Wind (owned by Ørsted) announced that their eligibility application for direct compensation has opened for commercial and recreational fishing vessels that have experienced economic impacts from construction and/or interruptions during operation from offshore wind vessels operating in the South Fork Wind Project Area. PKF O'Connor Davis (PKFOD), the third-party administrator for South Fork Wind, will be reviewing and processing eligibility and direct compensation claims. For commercial vessels, information required for determining eligibility is Vessel Trip Report (VTR) data (if filed with NMFS), Massachusetts trip-level reporting data (electronic or paper), or tax returns for three years prior to construction or interruptions to fishing from offshore wind vessels operating with within the South Fork Wind Project Area. Optional documents to include consist of chart-plotter data within the South Fork Wind area, logbooks, vessel monitoring system (VMS) or observer program data relevant to your vessel. For for-hire party/charter boat vessels, required documentation includes eTRIPS Desktop or Mobile trip data submitted to NMFS for three years prior construction or interruptions to fishing from offshore wind vessels operating with within the South Fork Wind Project Area. Optional documentation for-hire vessels include other electronic information, such as chartplotter data or logbooks. All applicants (for-hire and commercial) will also need to provide proof of either Massachusetts residency or demonstrate the vessel's homeport is in Massachusetts. A map of the South Fork Wind Project Area is provided below.

Ørsted also has a Navigational Enhancement and Training Program (NETP) that offers vouchers for professional training, pulse compression radar systems, and new or upgraded Automatic Identification Systems (AIS) transceivers for eligible MA commercial and for-hire fisherman. Currently, eligibility for the NETP is contingent upon eligibility for fisheries direct compensation. While Ørsted funds this program, claim eligibility is administered through the third-party administrator (PKFOD). Voucher limits towards purchasing and installation of preapproved equipment for navigation equipment for commercial vessels (US Coast Guard inspected) is \$10,000 and \$5,000 for for-hire vessels. For training, vessel owners may nominate two crew members for professional mariner training at a preapproved training facility (up to \$1,000 vouchers each for crew members).

For more information and eligibility applications on the direct compensation process : <u>https://www.fisheriescompensationprogram.com/massachusetts-fisheries-direct-compensation-program</u>

MA fisheries direct compensation program eligibility application: Click here.

Once deemed eligible, complete the claim application form found here.

Email address to send eligibility and claim applications: <u>SouthForkFisheriesClaims@pkfod.com</u>

For more information about Ørsted's Navigational Enhancement and Training Program: <u>NETP\_one-pager\_Dec2023.pdf (emailsp.com)</u>

Contact information for the third-party administrator (PKFOD)

PKFOD Phone: (781) 937-5737 General Claims Email: <u>SouthForkFisheriesClaims@pkfod.com</u> Beth da Silva (CPA, CFF)- <u>edasilva@pkfod.com</u> Tom Pannell (CPA,CFF)- <u>tpannell@pkfod.com</u>

For questions regarding the Ørsted Navigation Enhancement and Training Program, please contact the Ørsted fisheries liaisons: Ross Pearsall (<u>ROSPE@orsted.com</u>; Ph: +1-857-278-2442) and John Mansolillo (<u>JOMAN@orsted.com</u>; Ph: +1-401-450-5467).



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