

TOWN OF CHILMARK

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08/25/2021
To Whom It May Concern,

We are writing regarding Vineyard Wind's project proposal in response to Massachusetts' 83C-III offshore wind solicitation.

Vineyard Wind's community partner, Vineyard Power, over the years, has made efforts to educate our community about the offshore wind process, both at the federal and state level and to ensure that our concerns were communicated not only to government agencies but also to the Vineyard Wind development team.

Vineyard Wind has followed through on their commitments to locate their operations and maintenance facility here on the Vineyard, which will create dozens of well-paid careers, and has established local workforce training through a partnership with Adult Community Education of MV and local workforce outreach with the MV Regional High School to raise awareness of various career opportunities for this burgeoning industry. All the above present exciting opportunities for the entire island over the next 25 years or more.

The Town of Chilmark has partnered with Vineyard Power, Vineyard Wind's community partner, to develop a solar array project at our capped landfill that benefits the town residents and supports the town's commitment to a 100% fossil free future. We look forward to continuing to work with Vineyard Power to develop additional solar projects paired with distributed energy storage that will not only enhance our Town's energy resiliency but also address low-income rate payers in our community.

We also support their continued outreach to our local fishing community and their commitment to listen and work with our local fishermen and present opportunities for the fishermen and fishing vessels to get involved in the project. Vineyard Wind maintains an open line of communication with our local fishermen ensuring a formal communication channel directly to the project to raise concerns, pursue opportunities and to minimize conflicts to our blue economy and our local coastal and marine environments.

Vineyard Wind is delivering on their commitment to ensuring an open and honest dialogue and to deliver real benefits to the community. We support Vineyard Wind's bid in the upcoming

Massachusetts III Offshore Wind Solicitation, and we look forward to the future opportunities for ou town and island over the next 25 years or more.
Best Regards,
Chilmark Select Board
Chairperson James Malkin