Attachment 7

Data Management and Availability Plan Requirements

Sections 3.10 and 3.11 of the SGD requires Applicants to prepare a Data Management and Availability Plan covering data that are collected as part of the EPP and the FPP. The Data Management and Availability Plan shall describe data standardization, transparency, sharing, and accessibility. Standardized data collection protocols must be followed using community best practices, combined with Quality Assurance/Quality Control and reporting standards that will ensure the collection of high-quality data that can be aggregated for larger-scale analyses. The Data Management and Availability Plan must include a catalog listing the data expected to be collected over the duration of the Project. Understanding that in the Project planning phase, much of the information about data acquisition may not yet be known, or may eventually change as a result of field conditions, adoption of new technologies, *etc.*, the following information should be included in the Data Management and Availability Plan to the extent that it is known at the time of Application submission:

- List of geographic locations of sampling points and a polygon depicting the overall footprint of data collection for the Project;
- Frequency and timeline for each dataset's collection;
- Comprehensive metadata using the Federal Geographic Data Committee standards, or others, as appropriate; and
- Identification of the public data repository where each dataset will be or has been stored and prospective or actual date of upload.

Qualified Projects shall update the data catalogue as new information becomes available, but at a minimum with each annual environmental report submitted by the Qualified Project, and make it available to the NJBPU, the NJDEP, and other regional entities as directed by NJBPU and/or NJDEP.

To facilitate transparency and sharing of non-proprietary environmental data, the Data Management and Availability Plan shall detail how baseline and monitoring site and environmental data listed in the catalog will be made available to the NJBPU and NJDEP on an ongoing basis as soon after collection as is practicable, but no later than the public release of the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management Construction and Operations Plan. The Data Management and Availability Plan shall identify the federal, regional, and state data repositories that are expected to be the destination for all Site and Environmental Data included under this plan. Applicants are advised to refer to "Wildlife Data Standardization and Sharing: Environmental Data Transparency for New York State Offshore Wind Energy" prepared by the Biodiversity Research Institute on behalf of the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority ("NYSERDA") for a list of candidate data repositories ("NYSERDA Report").[1]

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[1] See NYSERDA, Wildlife Data Standardization and Sharing: Environmental Data Transparency for New York State Offshore Wind Energy, Report No. 21-11 (May 2021), https://www.nyserda.ny.gov/-/media/Project/Nyserda/Files/Programs/Offshore-Wind/21-11-Wildlife-Data-Standardization-and-Sharing-Environmental-Data-Transparency-for-NYS-OSW-Energy.pdf.

Data typically classified as proprietary, such as metocean data and geophysical/geotechnical data, will not be considered "site and environmental data," as required in the NYSERDA Report, for purposes of this requirement. However, non-proprietary site and environmental data shall be made available according to best practices (e.g., down-sampled surficial geophysical data, including multibeam bathymetry and side scan sonar backscatter data).