

Town of Hull Offshore Wind Energy Facility Hull, Massachusetts

ESS Group, Inc. is assisting the Town of Hull with the development of an offshore wind energy facility consisting of up to four wind turbine generators capable of collectively producing up to 15 MW of clean, renewable energy, located within the seaward boundary of the Town, approximately 1.50 nautical miles offshore. The offshore wind turbines are proposed to interconnect into Hull's electric distribution system after coming ashore under Nantasket Beach.

ESS is providing geophysical and geotechnical engineering, environmental consulting, regulatory permitting, site selection, interagency coordination, and public outreach services to the Town, which commenced with the filing of an Environmental Notification Form with the Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act Office (MEPA) in December 2007.

ESS has developed and will be implementing the overall regulatory program for the Town, which includes coordination efforts with the Massachusetts Technology Collaborative (MTC), the Renewable Energy Research Laboratory of the University of Massachusetts (RERL), the Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (EEA), and the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE). In addition, ESS is preparing topographic and property line surveys, permit level engineering designs, wetland resource area delineations, and field studies to support all federal, state, and local license and permit applications. Anticipated licenses and permits include approvals from the USACE (Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899), Federal Aviation Administration (Air and Radar Hazard Determination), United States Coast Guard (Aid to Navigation), United States Environmental Protection Agency (National Pollutant Discharge Elimination Permit), Massachusetts Office of Coastal Zone Management (Federal Consistency Certification), EEA (Final MEPA Certification), Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (Chapter 91 Waterways License, Chapter 91 Dredging Permit, § 401 Water Quality Certification), and the Hull Conservation Commission (Order of Conditions).

This project represents the first publicly financed initiative and collaboration between a state agency (MTC), a public research institution (RERL), and a municipality (Town of Hull) for the development, construction, and operation of an offshore wind energy facility in Massachusetts.



Relevant Services Include:

- Preliminary Siting and Permitting Evaluations
- Geophysical and Geotechnical Field Studies
- Site Alternatives Analysis and Selection
- Environmental Impact Assessment; Baseline Environmental, Historical, Cultural, and Socio-Economic Conditions Assessment and Evaluation
- Mitigation Analysis
- Federal, State, and Local Regulatory Permitting
- MEPA Review