

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

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MAY - 4 2010

Cheryl Andrews-Maltais, Chairwoman
Wampanoag Tribe of Gay Head (Aquinnah)
20 Black Brook Road
Aquinnah, MA 02535

Dear Chairwoman Andrews-Maltais:

The purpose of this letter is to inform you that the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) seeks formal consultation with you and the Tribal leaders on a request for an air emissions permit submitted by Cape Wind Associates, LLC for the proposed construction of a 130-turbine offshore wind energy project at Horseshoe Shoal, Nantucket Sound, Massachusetts. The project site would be located in federal waters, and the emissions from vessels engaged in construction activities would require a federal Clean Air Act permit from EPA before construction could begin.

I have requested that my staff arrange an initial meeting with your Environmental Director and staff within the next two weeks to provide background and technical information on the permit activities. Following the initial staff discussions, I propose to meet with your Tribal leadership in May for a government-to-government consultation on the permit decision before EPA.

I encourage you to share your recommendations on how we can ensure a meaningful consultation process. It is our goal to conduct these discussions with sensitivity to the needs and culture of your Tribe and with attention to the impact of our actions on Tribal health, environment, and sovereignty. I look forward to understanding your perspective during this important dialogue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "H. Curtis Spalding".

H. Curtis Spalding
Regional Administrator

cc: Bret Stearns
Jim Miller