



**DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY**  
U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, NEW YORK DISTRICT  
JACOB K. JAVITS FEDERAL BUILDING  
26 FEDERAL PLAZA  
NEW YORK NEW YORK 10278-0090

Empire Offshore Wind LLC  
Mr. Scott Lundin  
600 Washington Blvd, Suite 800  
Stamford, CT 06901

SUBJECT: Section 408 Decision Letter - Empire Wind 1 by Equinor Empire Offshore Wind LLC (Section 408 Request Number: 408-NAN-2023-0001)

Dear Mr. Lundin:

The New York District of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) has completed review of the Equinor Empire Offshore Wind LLC Section 408 request for the installation of the Empire Wind 1 (EW1) offshore wind power cables with proposed alteration to the following Federal Navigation Projects under Section 14 of Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899, 33 USC 408 (Section 408): The Ambrose Channel, Anchorage Channel, Bay Ridge & Red Hook Channel; Gravesend Anchorages; and Gravesend Anchorages Expansion all located within New York Harbor, New York. The proposed routing of the EW1 offshore wind power cables through or adjacent to the Federal Navigation Projects is shown on the enclosed EW1 Cable Route Drawing (Encl. 1) and described as follows:

1. Within the Ambrose Channel, Anchorage Channel, Gravesend Anchorage and Gravesend Anchorage Expansion area. The EW1 offshore wind power cables would be installed outside of the federal navigation projects with a minimum buffer distance of 190 feet from the limits of the Ambrose Channel and a minimum buffer distance of 180 feet from the limits of the Anchorage Channel, Gravesend Anchorage and Gravesend Anchorage Expansion area.
2. Within the Bay Ridge & Red Hook Federal Navigation Channel, the EW1 offshore wind power cables would be installed within the limits of the Bay Ridge & Red Hook Channel at the required burial depth of 15 feet below authorized depth of federal navigation channel or 15 feet below mud line in naturally deep area of federal navigation channel.

The New York District of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) has completed its review of Equinor's Section 408 Request for proposed installation of the EW1 offshore power cables through the Federal Navigation Projects within New York Harbor with landfall interconnection at the South Brooklyn Marine Terminal, Brooklyn, New York.

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Pursuant to Section 14 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899, 33 USC 408 (Section 408), this evaluation was performed to identify and assess elements of the proposed work located within and adjacent to the boundaries of the Federal Navigation Projects, in this case the Ambrose Channel, Anchorage Channel, Bay Ridge & Red Hook Channel; Gravesend Anchorages; and Gravesend Anchorages Expansion. This evaluation was performed consistent with Engineer Circular (EC) 1165-2-220.

Based on this evaluation USACE-New York District is granting permission for Equinor Empire Offshore Wind LLC for the installation of the EW1 offshore wind power cables within or adjacent to the boundaries of the above listed Federal Navigation Projects, as specified in your request and is subject to compliance with the terms and conditions below.

1. This permission only authorizes you, the requester, to undertake the activity described herein under the authority provided in Section 14 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899, as amended (33 USC 408). This permission does not obviate the need to obtain other federal, state, or local authorizations required by law. This permission does not grant any property rights or exclusive privileges, and you must have appropriate real estate instruments in place prior to construction and/or installation.
2. The time limit for completing the work authorized ends on \_\_\_\_\_. If you find that you need more time to complete the authorized activity, submit your request for a time extension to this office for consideration at least one month before the above date is reached.
3. Without prior written approval of the USACE, you must neither transfer nor assign this permission nor sublet the premises or any part thereof, nor grant any interest, privilege or license whatsoever in connection with this permission. Failure to comply with this condition will constitute noncompliance for which the permission may be revoked immediately by USACE.
4. The requester understands and agrees that, if future operations by the United States require the removal, relocation, or other alteration of the work herein authorized, or if, in the opinion of the Secretary of the Army or an authorized representative, said work will cause unreasonable conditions and/or obstruction of USACE project authorized design, the requester will be required upon due notice from the USACE, to remove, relocate, or alter the structural work or obstructions caused thereby, without expense to the United States. No claim can be made against the United States on account of any such removal or alteration.
5. The United States will in no case be liable for:
  - a. any damage or injury to the structures or work authorized by this permission that may be caused or result from future operations

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- undertaken by the United States, and no claim or right to compensation will accrue from any damage; or
- b. damage claims associated with any future modification, suspension, or revocation of this permission.
6. The United States will not be responsible for damages or injuries which may arise from or be incident to the construction, maintenance, and use of the project requested by you, nor for damages to the property or injuries to your officers, agents, servants, or employees, or others who may be on your premises or project work areas or the federal project(s) rights-of-way. By accepting this permission, you hereby agree to fully defend, indemnify, and hold harmless the United States and USACE from any and all such claims, subject to any limitations in law.
  7. Any damage to the water resources development project or other portions of any federal project(s) resulting from your activities must be repaired at your expense.
  8. The determination that the activity authorized by this permission would not impair the usefulness of the federal project and would not be injurious to the public interest was made in reliance on the information you provided.
  9. This office, at its sole discretion, may reevaluate its decision to issue this permission at any time circumstances warrant, which may result in a determination that it is appropriate or necessary to modify or revoke this permission. Circumstances that could require a reevaluation include, but are not limited to, the following:
    - a. you fail to comply with the terms and conditions of this permission;
    - b. the information provided in support of your application for permission proves to have been inaccurate or incomplete; or
    - c. significant new information surfaces which this office did not consider in reaching the original decision that the activity would not impair the usefulness of the water resources development project and would not be injurious to the public interest.
  10. You are responsible for implementing any requirements for mitigation, reasonable and prudent alternatives, or other conditions or requirements imposed as a result of environmental compliance.
  11. Work/usage allowed under this permission must proceed in a manner that avoids interference with the inspection, operation, and maintenance of the federal project.
  12. In the event of any deficiency in the design or construction of the requested activity, you are solely responsible for taking remedial action to correct the deficiency.

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13. The right is reserved to the USACE to enter upon the premises at any time and for any purpose necessary or convenient in connection with government purposes, to make inspections, to operate and/or to make any other use of the lands as may be necessary in connection with government purposes, and you will have no claim for damages on account thereof against the United States or any officer, agent or employee thereof.
14. You must provide copies of pertinent design, construction, and/or usage submittals/documents. USACE may request that survey and photographic documentation of the alteration work and the impacted project area be provided before, during, and after construction and/or installation.
15. You may be required to perform an inspection of the federal project with the USACE, prior to your use of the structure, to document existing conditions.
16. USACE shall not be responsible for the technical sufficiency of the alteration design nor for the construction and/or installation work.
17. Once permission is granted, you must notify the USACE District at least 30 days before work/usage is started so that post-permission oversight can be performed by USACE.
18. You must submit a copy of "as-built" drawings within 90 days of completion of work showing the new work as it relates to identifiable features of the federal project.

This evaluation is based upon the latest documents, plans and project drawings you provided, dated 16 June 2023 (Encl 1). If for any reason, the scope of work proposed or the nature of the work changes, this Section 408 permission could be revoked, and a separate Section 408 Review could subsequently be required.

Please be advised that Equinor Empire Offshore Wind LLC, as the Section 408 Requester, must obtain any and all other Federal, State and/or Local approvals prior to construction commencing. In particular, the Section 408 Requester must satisfy the requirements and conditions set forth in the Department of the Army Permit Number NAN-2022-00901-EMI administered by the USACE-New York District, Regulatory Branch.

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For any questions regarding this evaluation, please contact Mr. Randall G. Hintz, Chief Operations, Readiness, and Regulatory Functions Division at (917) 790-8400 or by email at [Randall.G.Hintz@usace.army.mil](mailto:Randall.G.Hintz@usace.army.mil).

Sincerely,

Alexander L. Young  
Colonel, U.S. Army  
District Commander

Enclosure

1. EW1 Cable Route Drawings