



# United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF OCEAN ENERGY MANAGEMENT

WASHINGTON, DC 20240-0001

**MAY - 4 2018**

Mr. Riccardo Toto  
President  
US Wind Inc.  
1 North Charles Street, Suite 2310  
Baltimore, Maryland 21201

Dear Mr. Toto:

On March 5, 2018, US Wind Inc. (US Wind) requested a departure from 30 C.F.R. § 585.534(a) which provides that a bond for a commercial lease will not be released until seven years after the lease ends. This regulatory requirement is a restatement of the requirement listed under 30 C.F.R. § 585.533(b)(2). On April 2, 2018, the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) requested additional information that was necessary to assess your departure request pursuant to 30 C.F.R. § 585.103 which was provided on March 5, 2018. BOEM currently holds a surety bond (Bond No. 0173281) in the amount of \$100,000 conditioned to cover lease OCS-A 0489. The lease terminated effective March 1, 2018.

US Wind indicates that no construction activities have occurred in the area previously leased under OCS-A 0489 and no obligations exist to warrant BOEM retaining the financial assurance conditioned to cover the lease. US Wind also states that the departure will return funds to US Wind which will be used to facilitate activities on lease OCS-A 0499 through the payment of yearly fees.

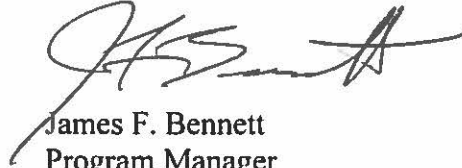
BOEM has confirmed with the Office of Natural Resources Revenue that there are no outstanding obligations on lease OCS-A 0489 at this time.

BOEM reviewed your request pursuant to 30 C.F.R. § 585.103 and we conclude that this departure would help facilitate activities on lease OCS-A 0499. Moreover, BOEM has determined that approving a departure in this case would be consistent with subsection 8(p) of the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act; would protect the environment and public health and safety to the same degree as if there was no approved departure from the regulations; and would not impair the rights of third parties, in accordance with 30 C.F.R. § 585.103(b)(1) thru (3).

BOEM will consider the release of surety bond No. 0173281 upon receipt of a request from the surety company for the termination of the period of liability and cancellation of the bond. Your surety company will also notify you of that request.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Ms. Gina Best at 703-787-1341 or [gina.best@boem.gov](mailto:gina.best@boem.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Bennett', with a large, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

James F. Bennett  
Program Manager  
Office of Renewable Energy Programs

cc: Mr. Riccardo Toto, President  
US Wind Inc.  
155 Federal Street, Suite 700  
Boston, Massachusetts 02110