

Avangrid secures final federal approval for New England Wind Projects, paving the way for clean energy in the region

July 2, 2024



Avangrid has announced a significant milestone today with the receipt of full federal approval for the Construction and Operations Plan (COP) for its New England Wind 1 and 2 offshore wind projects.

This approval, following the favorable Record of Decision (ROD) issued by the Biden Administration in April 2024, represents a critical step forward, largely completing the federal permitting process for Avangrid's 791-megawatt New England Wind 1 project.

"Completing the federal permitting program for New England Wind is a remarkable achievement made possible by diligence of our team, the engagement of our stakeholders, and the thorough and rigorous review from our federal partners," said Avangrid CEO Pedro Azagra. "Building offshore wind infrastructure is a complex and unique endeavor, and rightly held to a high regulatory standard. The approval of our COP reflects the depth of our expertise, our exhaustive and detailed planning, and our ability to deliver these critical projects. By securing all federal, state, regional, and local permits, New England Wind 1 has the potential to put shovels in the ground next year and deliver thousands of jobs, local investment, and needed clean energy before the end of the decade."

New England Wind 1 and 2 have the potential to create thousands of jobs and provide enough clean, reliable energy to power nearly 1 million homes and businesses. Avangrid, already spearheading the Vineyard Wind 1 project, is positioned to be a leader in advancing offshore wind in the region.

Rigorous Review, Ready for Construction

The COP approval signifies the culmination of years of environmental impact analysis by the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM). Public input played a vital role, with BOEM considering over 750 comments received during the review process.

Avangrid anticipates receiving final authorization from the National Marine Fisheries Service by July 22nd, 2024. With all federal, state, and local permits secured, New England Wind 1 is well-positioned for a 2025 construction start.

Project Highlights: New England Wind 1

- Located 30 miles south of Barnstable, Massachusetts
- Exceptionally advanced and “shovel-ready”
- Potential to reduce carbon dioxide emissions by nearly 4 million US tons annually
- Create up to 9,200 full-time equivalent jobs
- Generate \$8 billion in direct investment to the region

The New England Wind projects represent Avangrid’s continued commitment to advancing clean energy solutions. Their success in securing federal approval positions them as a frontrunner in bringing large-scale offshore wind to the region, delivering environmental and economic benefits for years to come.