



Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council

800 North State Street, Suite 201, Dover, DE 19901
Phone: 302-674-2331 | FAX: 302-674-5399 | www.mafmc.org
Michael P. Luisi, Chairman | G. Warren Elliott, Vice Chairman
Christopher M. Moore, Ph.D., Executive Director

May 9, 2019

NYSERDA
17 Columbia Circle
Albany, NY 12203-6399

RE: NYSERDA Environmental and Fisheries Research for Offshore Wind Energy Development Program
Opportunity Notice

Dear Selection Committee:

Please accept this letter from the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council (Council) in support of Biodiversity Research Institute (BRI) and the Long Island Commercial Fishing Association in their proposal to the opportunity notice, entitled "Working With Commercial Fishermen and Other Marine Professionals to Determine Offshore Occurrence Patterns of Bats and Landbirds."

While the Council is not involved in the management of bats or landbirds, we are following offshore wind energy development issues closely and believe this project would be an important contribution to the body of knowledge on potential wildlife impacts from these projects. The commercial fishermen in our region are highly attuned to ocean conditions and wildlife, and could provide valuable insight into wildlife presence in these offshore areas. The Long Island Commercial Fishing Association has long been a highly engaged stakeholder group in our Council's process and would provide important on-the-water knowledge and valuable relationships with commercial fishermen to engage them in this proposed citizen science effort.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "C. Moore". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "C" and a stylized "Moore".

Christopher M. Moore, Ph.D.
Executive Director

cc: J. Coakley, M. Luisi, W. Elliot