Summary of Public Scoping Comments Received for DOE/EA-2049 New England Aqua Ventus I Environmental Assessment

DOE received 113 public comment letters and/or emails during the public scoping period. The public scoping comments identified in letters and emails are presented below. DOE will use this information to define the scope of the Environmental Assessment (EA) and issues to be analyzed in the EA as appropriate. DOE will notify the public when the draft EA is complete and available for public review and comment.

Scoping Issue Identified	Number of comment letters that addressed this issue
Potential beneficial and adverse impacts to	9
Water Resources including water quality from	
proposed project construction (cables and	
turbines), operations and maintenance; and	
continued use of diesel fuel on Monhegan.	
 Water resources include Penobscot River, 	
Monhegan Island aquifer, and marine	
environment.	
Potential beneficial and adverse impacts to	56
Biological Resources from proposed project	
construction including turbine and cable	
installation; and operations and maintenance of	
turbines and cables; and project failure.	
Biological Resources include benthic	
resources, fish, marine mammals, birds, bats,	
terrestrial species and protected species.	
Potential adverse impacts to people and	28
biological resources from Noise both above and	
below the water.	
Potential beneficial and adverse impacts to	45
Ocean and Land Use including commercial	
fishing; recreation and tourism; navigation;	
transportation; and traffic.	
Potential adverse impacts to Aesthetic and Visual	57
Resources including viewshed effects on	
Monhegan Island from turbines, flicker and	
nighttime lighting; and Port Clyde/St. George	
from transmission line and energy transfer	
facility.	
Potential adverse impacts to Cultural and	10
Historic Resources including historic sites and the	
historic and cultural heritage of communities	
including Monhegan and Port Clyde/St. George.	
Potential beneficial impacts to Air Quality and	13
Climate Change.	

Scoping Issue Identified	Number of comment letters that addressed this issue
Potential beneficial and adverse impacts to	65
Socioeconomics including economic effects and	
quality of life.	
Project Siting concerns including turbine location	44
near Monhegan Island; cable landing on Dead	
Man's Cove on Monhegan Island; and/or cable	
landing/transmission line in Port Clyde/St.	
George.	
Potential adverse impacts to public health and	15
safety including impacts to Port Clyde/St. George	
and Monhegan emergency/fire response	
capabilities; safety and health risks to people	
from transmission line fire, exposure to	
electromagnetic field from transmission line;	
increased crime; and potential for marine	
unexploded ordnance.	
Decommissioning of Project including financial	4
set-aside; project duration prior to	
decommissioning; and post-project concerns.	
Potential adverse impacts from project failure	2
including pollution from spills, leaks or project	
failure and emergency response capabilities.	
Other comments including education and	6
outreach; future power needs for Monhegan;	
and concern over expanding scope of the	
proposed project.	

DOE also received comments that included specific research or articles; and comments which were not related to defining the scope of the EA. DOE has reviewed all of the comments received and reviewed all research and articles submitted or cited in the comments. DOE will include this information in the draft EA as appropriate.

