



## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

William Francis Galvin, Secretary of the Commonwealth Massachusetts Historical Commission

Lexi Barlow BlueWave Capital, LLC 137 Newbury Street, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor Boston, MA 02116

RE: BWC Wankinco River, LLC, Ground Mounted Solar Photovoltaic Energy Generating Facility, 4 Alwardts Way, Oak Bluffs, MA. MHC #RC.60715.

Dear Ms. Barlow:

August 16, 2016

Staff of the Massachusetts Historical Commission (MHC), office of the State Historic Preservation Officer, have reviewed the Project Notification Form (PNF) and additional information, received August 8, 2016, for the project referenced above.

The MHC notes that the PNF indicates that the proposed project requires a NPDES General Permit from the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The MHC will review the project under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (36 CFR 800).

Review of the Inventory of Historic and Archaeological Assets of the Commonwealth indicates that the project impact area includes no recorded historic or archaeological resources. However, multiple ancient Native American archaeological sites are recorded in proximity to the project impact area. Undisturbed portions of the project impact area are archaeologically sensitive. The archaeological sensitivity of the project area is principally defined by it environmental setting, which includes well-drained soils located in close proximity to former kettle hole ponds within the Martha's Vineyard glacial outwash plain landform, favorable for ancient and historic period land use and occupation.

The MHC requests that an intensive (locational) archaeological survey (950 CMR 70) be conducted for the archaeologically sensitive portions of the project. The goal of the investigation is to locate and identify any significant archaeological resources that could be affected by the project, well in advance of any project construction. The results of the survey will be considered in consultation to avoid or mitigate adverse effects to any significant archaeological resources identified in the project impact area.

These comments are provided to assist in compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (36 CFR 800), and Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 9, Sections 26-27C (950 CMR 70-71). Please contact Jonathan K. Patton at this office if you have questions or require additional information.

Sincerely,

Brona Simon

State Historic Preservation Officer

Executive Director State Archaeologist

Massachusetts Historical Commission

xc: David Webster, EPA

Thelma Murphy, EPA

Bettina Washington, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer, Wampanoag Tribe of Gay Head (Aquinnah)

Ramona Peters, Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe

Adam Turner, MVC, Attn: Paul Foley

Oak Bluffs Historical Commission