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SUBJECT: Notice of routine program change (RPC) submission

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September 19, 2005

TO: Interested Parties
FROM: Kathleen Leyden, Director, Maine Coastal Program
SUBJ: Notice of Routine Program Change (RPC) Submission

Section 307 of the Coastal Zone Management Act ("CZMA"), the so-called "federal consistency" provision, provides that federal agencies shall conduct their licensing and permitting activities in a manner consistent with the enforceable policies of a state's approved coastal zone management program. In accordance with 15 C.F.R. §923.84, the Maine State Planning Office ("SPO") is submitting to the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration, Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management ("NOAA"), for review and approval updates and related clarifications of statutory references in the list of activities requiring a federal license or permit ("listed activities") which are subject to federal consistency review pursuant to Section 307 of the Coastal Zone Management Act, 16 U.S.C. §1456(c)(3)(A) and NOAA's implementing regulations, 15 C.F.R. Part 930, Subpart D. This submission proposes no change in the federal license or permit activities subject to consistency review pursuant to the State's coastal program or in the manner in which the State reviews matters subject to federal consistency review. SPO has determined that these changes are routine program implementation and has requested that NOAA concur with this determination.

BACKGROUND

The federal Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 ("CZMA") establishes a state-federal partnership encouraging state management of coastal resources in accordance with policy goals aimed at balancing development and conservation uses. The CZMA provides funding to implement management measures consistent with these goals and requires federal agency actions to be consistent to the maximum extent practicable with the NOAA-approved state environmental laws and regulations that are the enforceable policies of the State's coastal program. NOAA approved the Maine Coastal Program in 1978.

COMMENTS

A copy of the State's filing submitting these changes to NOAA can be obtained from Lorraine Lessard at the Maine Coastal Program, State Planning Office, 38 State House Station, Augusta ME 04333-0038; via e-mail to Lorraine.Lessard@maine.gov or telephone at 207-287-1486. Interested parties have three weeks from the date of this notice to submit comments to NOAA on whether the requested changes are routine program implementation. Comments may be sent to:

Bill O'Beirne
NOAA Ocean and Coastal Resource Management
Coastal Programs Division
1305 East-West Highway
SSMC4 Rm. 11110
Silver Spring, MD 20910

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