

found in Part 286 of Title 15 of the Code of Federal Regulations.

Under the NVCASE program NIST evaluates U.S.-based conformity assessment bodies in order to be able to provide assurances to a foreign government that qualifying bodies meet that government's requirements and can provide results that are acceptable to that government. The program is intended to provide a technically-based U.S. approval process for U.S. industry to gain foreign market access.

On December 6, 2002, NIST received a request from a U.S. accreditation body to establish a sub-program, under the NVCASE program, for Organic Production and Processing. The stated objectives of the request were to provide confidence in the quality of this accreditation body's work, and to provide assurance that this accreditation body complied with the requirements of some foreign governments, thus facilitating the export of U.S. products.

NIST, having determined that there was no satisfactory recognition alternative available and that there was evidence that significant public disadvantage would result from the absence of any alternative, established the NVCASE sub-program for Organic Production and Processing on November 4, 2003, following a public workshop held on May 9, 2003. A notice was published in the **Federal Register** on November 4, 2003, announcing the establishment of the program (68 FR 62434).

In the decade since the establishment of the sub-program, the United States has made numerous trade arrangements to facilitate the international trade of organic products. The resulting changes in the international requirements have increased international market access for U.S. producers. NIST considers that there are now suitable alternative paths to foreign market access, and that there would be no significant public disadvantage to terminating the Organic Production and Processing sub-program.

In a **Federal Register** notice published on April 15, 2014 (79 FR 21210), NIST requested written comments on the intended termination of the Organic Production and Processing sub-program offered by NVCASE, and announced a 30-day comment period for that purpose. No comments were received.

Accordingly, the NIST NVCASE program announces that it will cease to grant or renew recognition under the Organic Production and Processing sub-program, effective January 1, 2016. Conformity assessment bodies currently recognized under the sub-program will remain recognized until January 1, 2016,

provided they continue to meet program requirements.

Dated: August 29, 2014.

**Willie E. May,**

*Associate Director of Laboratory Programs.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

#### Sanctuary System Business Advisory Council: Public Meeting

**AGENCY:** Office of National Marine Sanctuaries (ONMS), National Ocean Service (NOS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Department of Commerce (DOC).

**ACTION:** Notice of open meeting.

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given of a meeting of the Sanctuary System Business Advisory Council (Council). The meeting is open to the public, and participants may provide comments at the appropriate time during the meeting.

**DATES:** The meeting will be held Wednesday, September 24, 2014, from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. EDT. An opportunity for public comment will be provided at 4:35 p.m. EDT. These times and the agenda topics described below are subject to change.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will be held in the Knott Harbor View Room of the National Aquarium, 501 East Pratt Street, Baltimore, MD 21202.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Rebecca Holyoke, Office of National Marine Sanctuaries, 1305 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, Maryland 20910. (Phone: 301-713-7264, Fax: 301-713-0404; email: [rebecca.holyoke@noaa.gov](mailto:rebecca.holyoke@noaa.gov)).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** ONMS serves as the trustee for 14 marine protected areas encompassing more than 170,000 square miles of ocean and Great Lakes waters from the Hawaiian Islands to the Florida Keys, and from Lake Huron to American Samoa. National marine sanctuaries protect our Nation's most vital coastal and marine natural and cultural resources, and through active research, management, and public engagement, sustain healthy environments that are the foundation for thriving communities and stable economies. One of the many ways ONMS ensures public participation in the designation and management of national marine sanctuaries is through the formation of advisory councils. The Sanctuary System Business Advisory

Council (Council) has been formed to provide advice and recommendations to the Director regarding the relationship of the ONMS with the business community. Additional information on the Council can be found at <http://sanctuaries.noaa.gov/management/bac/welcome.html>.

**Matters To Be Considered:** The meeting will provide an opportunity for council representatives to hear how national marine sanctuaries are connected to users, communities, corporations, and economies and the avenues being pursued to enhance these connections. Advisory council representatives will be asked to provide advice on how ONMS can enhance its connections, programming, and marketing to expand its reach beyond a subset of communities. The agenda is subject to change. The agenda is available at <http://sanctuaries.noaa.gov/management/bac/welcome.html>.

**Authority:** 16 U.S.C. 1431, *et seq.*

Federal Domestic Assistance Catalog Number 11.429 Marine Sanctuary Program.

Dated: August 13, 2014.

**Daniel J. Basta,**

*Director, Office of National Marine Sanctuaries, National Ocean Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

**RIN 0648-XD163**

#### Takes of Marine Mammals Incidental to Specified Activities; Taking Marine Mammals Incidental to Construction of the Block Island Wind Farm

**AGENCY:** National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

**ACTION:** Notice; issuance of an incidental harassment authorization.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with regulations implementing the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA), notification is hereby given that NMFS has issued an Incidental Harassment Authorization (IHA) to Deepwater Wind Block Island, LLC (DWBI) to take marine mammals, by harassment, incidental to construction of the Block Island Wind Farm.

**DATES:** Effective October 31, 2014, through October 30, 2015. A copy of the IHA and application are available by