



Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe
483 Great Neck Rd So.
Mashpee, MA 02649
Phone (508) 477-0208

**TRIBAL COUNCIL RESOLUTION
2024-RES-019
APPROVAL OF THE MASHPEE WAMPANOAG TRIBE
OFFSHORE WIND COMMUNITY FUND**

WHEREAS, the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe (“Tribe”) is a federally-recognized Indian tribe with a duly-enacted Constitution; and

WHEREAS, the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal Council (“Tribal Council”), the governing body of the Tribe, deems it essential under Article VI, § 2.A. of the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal Constitution (“Constitution”) to promote and protect the political integrity, economic security and general welfare of the Tribe and members of the Tribe; and

WHEREAS, Article VI, § 2.C. of the Constitution empowers the Tribal Council to establish procedures and ordinances for the conduct of all tribal government business operations, except where elsewhere precluded in the Constitution; and

WHEREAS, the Tribe is aware of commercial wind energy leases and projects on the Outer Continental Shelf that may be proposed within the Commonwealth of Massachusetts or surrounding areas; and

WHEREAS, the Tribe is vigilant of these projects in order to ensure that the Tribe’s aboriginal rights, the environment, marine animals, historical and cultural resources are protected and impacts mitigated; and

WHEREAS, the Tribe negotiated a community benefit agreement with Vineyard Offshore, LLC, that would ensure that the Tribal community is engaged, educated and supported through educational, cultural, historic and other initiatives related to wind energy projects proposed by Vineyard; and

WHEREAS, on February 14, 2024, the Tribal Council adopted 2024-RES-008 Approval of Tribal Benefit Agreement with Vineyard Offshore, LLC (the “CBA”) that created a long-term relationship and provided the parameters for the establishment of the Mashpee Wampanoag Offshore Wind Community Fund (the “Fund”); and

WHEREAS, the Tribal Council desires to promptly establish the Fund for the purpose of supporting the initiatives in education, environment, cultural and historic resources and preservation as well as other related areas such as general capacity needs; and

WHEREAS, the Fund will support areas that include but are not limited to, the following:

1. Education and Training;
2. Environment and Natural Resources;
3. Economic Development (such as blue economy initiatives but excluding gaming ventures);
4. Cultural Resources and Historic Preservation efforts

WHEREAS, the Fund will support initiatives in these areas that will include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Scholarships for Tribal Members;
2. Wastewater Projects;
3. Capacity Funds for THPO and other needs;
4. Language Reclamation;
5. Workforce Training programs and facilities;

WHEREAS, the Fund may also be used to support the Tribe's reasonable and necessary expenses associated with implementing these initiatives but will exclude litigation expenses; and

WHEREAS, the CBA sets forth financial contributions to be made and allocated to the Fund and the obligations of the Tribe and Vineyard; and

WHEREAS, the Fund is to be immediately established and managed solely by the Tribe, by and through the Tribal Council; and

WHEREAS, the Tribal Council in its sole discretion may delegate authority to manage Fund to another entity; however, notwithstanding this delegation, the Tribal Council shall retain the ultimate decision-making authority on how the financial contributions allocated to the Fund are spent in accordance with the CBA; and

WHEREAS, the Tribe will provide Vineyard Offshore with an annual report of the initiatives taken by the Fund as required in the CBA; and

WHEREAS, the Tribal Council desires to establish the Fund, effective immediately, in accordance with the CBA and as provided herein.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Tribal Council hereby approves the establishment of the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe Offshore Wind Community Fund.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the Tribal Council hereby approves the authorization of the Tribal Council Chairman, or in his absence, other Tribal Council Officer, the requisite authority and power for and on behalf of the Tribe to take such further action necessary to effect the purposes of this Resolution.

All resolutions or parts of resolutions inconsistent with this resolution are repealed. This resolution is effective immediately and shall continue pursuant to the authority vested in the Tribal Council pursuant to Article VI, §§ 2.A. and D. of the Constitution.

CERTIFICATION


We, the undersigned Chairperson and Secretary of the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal Council, do hereby certify that the Tribal Council is composed of 13 members of whom 13, constituting a quorum, were present at a regular meeting thereof, duly called, noticed, convened, and held on the 28th day of February, 2024 and that the foregoing resolution was duly adopted by the affirmative vote of 12 members, with 0 opposing, and with 0 not voting.

DATED this 28th day of February, 2024.



Brian Weeden, Chairman
Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal Council

ATTEST:



Cassie Jackson, Secretary
Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal Council