



Fishing Gear Avoidance and Claims Process

Community Offshore Wind, LLC and our contractors are committed to avoiding interactions with commercial fishing gear. Our fisheries team—including our Fisheries Liaisons in coordination with our Fisheries Technical Advisors/Fisheries Representatives—conduct risk assessments in consultation with the local fishing industry to assess the spatial and seasonal distribution of fixed fishing gear in the project area. Effective communication and close coordination are key to avoiding negative fisheries interactions and our team is committed to proactive communication through fisheries notices, notices to mariners, and direct outreach to local fishermen to notify the fleet of the project’s offshore operations. Our survey operations also use onboard fisheries liaisons and scout vessels, as indicated by the risk assessments, in order to reduce the risk of interacting with fixed fishing gear.

In the event of an interaction with commercial fishing gear, Community Offshore Wind, LLC has a gear loss claims procedure in place to provide a process for fishermen to file a claim for their gear damage or loss.

Claim Filing Process

If a fisherman believes or has information that they experienced gear damage or loss as a result of Community Offshore Wind’s operations, they should review and complete the Gear Loss Claim Application, together with the appropriate supporting documentation.

The completed application and supporting documentation must be submitted by email to our Fisheries Liaison, DeirdreB@communityoffshorewind.com with an electronic copy to our Marine Affairs Manager at RickR@communityoffshorewind.com.

To have a claim reviewed, applicants must:

1. Contact Deirdre Boelke, Fisheries Liaison, as soon as safely possible following the gear damage or loss event. She should be contacted by phone at 978.518.0638. If she is unavailable by phone, contact Rick Robins, Marine Affairs Manager, at 757.876.3778.
2. Provide a complete, signed application form and supporting documents within 30 days of the gear damage or loss incident.
3. Review and include all documents required in the application Check List.

Process for claim review:

- Gear damage or loss claim applications will be reviewed by the Community Offshore Wind Fisheries Liaison and a representative of Community Offshore Wind.
- Applicants will be notified of the result of the review, in writing, within 30 days of receipt of a complete application.
- If the claim is found to be valid, a check will be provided to the Applicant.
- If the claim is denied, a written explanation will be provided to the Applicant.

Community Offshore Wind | Gear Loss Claim Form v.1

- Applicants who disagree with the decision may file a written notice of appeal with Community Offshore Wind, LLC, and Community Offshore Wind, LLC may engage or consult with a third party or external reviewers to review the application on appeal. The decision on appeal will be final and not subject to any further right of appeal.
- Applicants may not file multiple claims for gear loss in the same area. Prevention methods should be followed by all parties.
- Community Offshore Wind, LLC reserves the right to request additional information to support review of claim.

Gear Loss Claim Application Form

Date of application: _____

Name of applicant: _____

Entity type: (LLC, corporation, individual proprietor) _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

Vessel name: _____

Home port: _____

Vessel documentation number: _____

Federal fishing permit number: _____

State fisheries landing permit: _____

Gear type: _____

Description of incident causing gear damage or loss, and extent of the gear damage or loss, believed attributable to offshore operations associated with the project:

Date of gear loss incident (specify actual/observed or estimated): _____

Time of day and weather conditions (if known): _____

Location of gear damage or loss (lat/lon or TDs—specify): _____

Spatial record of gear damage location (chartplotter, logbook, other—specify, and please provide image or copy):. _____

Gear description and markings: _____

Community Offshore Wind | Gear Loss Claim Form v.1

Description of offshore wind vessels and any other vessels in area of gear damage/loss (specify source—observation, AIS, etc.) :

When was gear last set or hauled: _____

Was any gear retrieved, how much, and condition: _____

How much gear (pots, traps, high flyers, etc.) was damaged or lost in this specific incident?

Claim amount requested for damaged or lost gear: _____

Provide detailed invoice for original gear, if available, and invoice for gear repair or replacement.

Provide completed W-9 form (<https://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/fw9.pdf>)

Provide any available photos of undamaged and damaged gear.

Additional documentation is required if Applicant is claiming lost fishing time and this section only needs to be completed if Applicant is claiming lost fishing time:

Date of gear damage/loss: _____

Date of gear repair/replacement: _____

Amount of claim for lost fishing time: _____

Description of lost fishing time and revenue: _____

Description of fish landing history for the 30-day period prior to gear damage/loss, and vessel trip report (VTR) records or state landing records if fishery is not subject to VTR requirements:

Provide documentation of gear tag replacement application/receipt, state and federal if applicable.

By submitting this Application, Applicant authorizes Community Offshore Wind, LLC to make whatever reasonable inquiries and investigations it deems necessary to verify my application and request for compensation.

Applicant understands that submitting this Application does not guaranty payment. Applicant further acknowledges and agrees that if this claim is accepted and paid in its entirety, that acceptance of such payment constitutes full, final, and complete payment for this particular claim and that neither Community Offshore Wind, LLC nor any of its affiliates shall have any further outstanding or ongoing obligation with respect to this specific claim and Applicant shall not, directly or indirectly, assert any claim, or commence, join in, prosecute, participate in, or fund any part of, any suit or other proceeding of any kind against Community Offshore Wind, LLC or its affiliates, based upon this specific claim. If a claim is

Community Offshore Wind | Gear Loss Claim Form v.1

denied in part, Applicant may accept payment for the undisputed part without waiving Applicant's right to appeal the disputed part of the claim. Applicant recognizes that submission of this Application does not affect Applicant's rights concerning matters other than those specifically identified in this specific Application.

I attest, under penalty of perjury, that to the best of my knowledge the information in this Application is true and correct.

Signature _____

Date _____

Application Check-list

- Completed and signed application
 - Completed and signed W-9 form
 - Image or copy of documentation (chartplotter, logbook, etc.) of location of gear damage incident
 - Provide any available photos of undamaged and damaged gear
 - Invoices for original gear and replacement gear
 - Any additional information Applicant wishes to have considered in support of application
-

Additional information required for any claims of lost fishing time

- VTRs and state landings reports, as appropriate to the fishery, for the 30-day period prior to the incident
- Documentation of tag replacement applications and receipts, if applicable

Our fisheries liaisons are here to help--please return this form and attachments by delivering an electronic copy via email to Deirdre Boelke, Fisheries Liaison for Community Offshore Wind, LLC at DeirdreB@communityoffshorewind.com , with a copy to Rick Robins, Marine Affairs Manager, at RickR@communityoffshorewind.com.

Please note that the payment cannot be processed without a signature and completed W-9 form. If applications are deemed to be incomplete, they will be returned to the applicant within 15 business days to complete the application.