

AW-38 Blade Incident - Guidance for Coastal Communities

Situation Overview

In the evening hours of Saturday, July 13, 2024, a GE Vernova blade installed and in the process of being tested experienced a breakage. Turbine operations and construction were immediately stopped, and Vineyard Wind worked with the U.S. Coast Guard to establish a safety zone of 500 meters around the turbine, which remains in effect.

GE Vernova and Vineyard Wind focused immediately on ensuring the safety of personnel, local communities, and the environment, and on assisting in the clean-up and recovery of debris caused by the incident. There were no injuries caused to people nor vessel because of the incident.

How is the Debris Being Recovered?

Vineyard Wind and GE Vernova have established a rigorous debris recovery system by land, air, and sea, all under established safety protocols. This includes:

- Staging crews in coastal communities to assist in the recovery of debris.
- Dispatching maritime crews on multiple nearby vessels to secure as much debris as possible for immediate containment and removal.
- Conducting aerial reconnaissance.

Vineyard Wind has also utilized a combination of vessel surveying, aerial monitoring, US Coast Guard modeling, and Rutgers University modeling to track the potential path of debris and is coordinating with local communities and utilizing mobilized resources to assist in the collection of debris both offshore and onshore. All recovery efforts are being conducted in an environmentally responsible manner and appropriately aligned with Tribal Nations, qualified shorebird monitors, and dedicated visual observers for wildlife.

Is the Debris Hazardous or Toxic?

GE Vernova conducted an initial environmental analysis through Arcadis, a global engineering and environmental consultancy firm, on the blade debris in the water and on the shoreline. The analysis determined that [the debris is non-toxic and non-hazardous](#).

What Does the Debris Look Like?

At this point, remaining debris is likely to consist of small, popcorn-sized pieces of floating foam, although some pieces may be larger. It is also possible that some limited pieces of non-toxic fiberglass, typically green or white in color and similar to materials used in boat construction, could be observed.

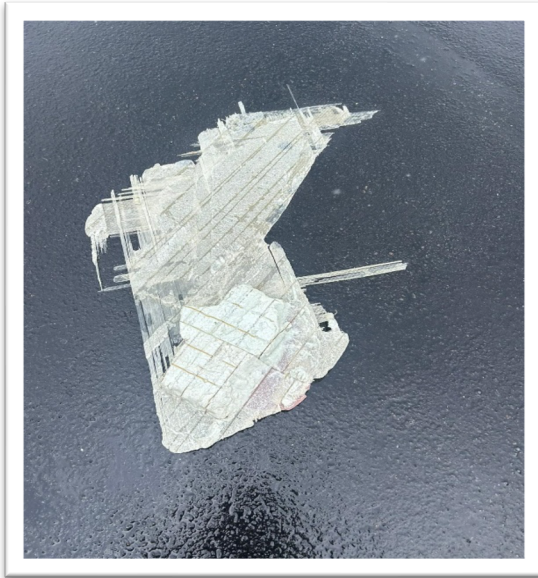


Figure 1 - Fiberglass¹



Figure 2 - Foam

What Should You Do If You Find Debris?

Although the Arcadis analysis found that the debris is not hazardous to people or the environment, Vineyard Wind recommends that only its employees or contractors, or those appointed by town officials, collect and remove the debris.

If you discover any debris, please call **781-831-1134** to allow assigned crews to manage the proper recovery and clean-up of debris. You can also report debris online:

<https://vineyardwind1.ethicspoint.com>. We ask that you please **NOT** put any debris in your home garbage or bring the debris to the landfill.
