



August 26, 2020

Partners:

The Alliance for Business Leadership
BlueGreen Alliance
Bristol Community College
Ceres
Clean Energy NH
CT League of Conservation Voters
Environmental League of MA
Green Energy Consumers Alliance
Health Care Without Harm
League of Conservation Voters
Maine Conservation Voters
National Wildlife Federation
Natural Resources Council of Maine
People's Alliance for Clean Energy
PowerOptions
Revision Energy
Save the Sound
Second Nature
Tufts University
UMass Amherst
VT Natural Resources Council

The Honorable Charlie Baker
Governor of Massachusetts
State House, Room 360
Boston, MA 02133

The Honorable Janet Mills
Governor of Maine
1 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

The Honorable Phil Scott
Governor of Vermont
109 State Street
Montpelier, VT 05609

The Honorable Ned Lamont
Governor of Connecticut
210 Capitol Avenue
Hartford, CT 06106

The Honorable Gina Raimondo
Governor of Rhode Island
82 Smith Street
Providence, RI 02903

The Honorable Chris Sununu
Governor of New Hampshire
State House
107 North Main Street
Concord, NH 03301

**RE: New England Governor's Resolution in Support of Offshore
Wind Coordination and Development**

Dear Governor Baker, Governor Lamont, Governor Mills, Governor Raimondo, Governor Scott, and Governor Sununu,

New England for Offshore Wind (NE4OSW) is a diverse coalition of organizations across New England. We are united by our vision for New England to achieve science-based climate goals and to reap the many benefits of being a global hub for responsibly developed offshore wind. We view offshore wind as the single biggest clean energy lever we can pull to address the climate crisis, and we celebrate that it also strengthens our regional economy, protects ratepayers, creates jobs, and improves public health by reducing pollution.

NE4OSW is asking the New England Governors to: issue a joint resolution in support of creating a shared vision and driving regional collaboration on offshore wind at the September meeting of New England Governors and Eastern Canadian Premiers.

Regional collaboration is a necessary precondition for attaining New England's potential as an offshore wind leader. The NE4OSW Coalition members are proud of the early individual state procurements in Connecticut, Massachusetts and Rhode Island. However, we also see clearly that deeper regional collaboration will unlock economies of scale, accelerate development, and improve project outcomes across the six-state grid we share. By working together, our six states can: strengthen

Endorsers:

Autonomous Marine Systems
Ben Hillman & Company
Clean Air Task Force
Clean Water Action
Climate Action Now, Western MA
Coalition for Social Justice
CT Sustainable Business Council
Eastern CT Green Action
Environmental Council of RI
Faith Communities Enviro. Network
Greater Boston Physicians for Social Responsibility
Iron Workers Local 7
MCAN
Mills Public Relations
Mothers Out Front
Nashoba Conservation Trust
New Hampshire Audubon
Self-Reliance
Vineyard Power Cooperative Inc.

and deliver on the economic promise of the industry, optimize interconnection assets, invest in appropriate port infrastructure and manufacturing supply chain, drive workforce development, create strong and consistent wildlife and environmental protections, plan for transmission, consider fisheries protection, and readily exchange best practices and lessons learned for harnessing this exciting and rapidly evolving resource.

The creation of a shared vision on offshore wind should include an increase in ambition with additional, collective, and coordinated procurement targets and a clear public procurement schedule. Additional and coordinated procurement commitments are essential to send the market signal that New England deserves the attention and investment of a private sector that is quickly drifting to states like NY, NJ and VA, which have set bold commitments and implemented long-range plans for offshore wind. New York's commitment to 9,000MW is particularly relevant to New England, as some of their contracts take wind directly from the limited Federal offshore wind lease areas that would otherwise serve New England. We must move quickly, and with a coordinated, long-term plan before it is too late.

We applaud the New England Governors' consistent collaboration on a variety of issues, including past commitments for regional cooperation on energy generation. You have a long history of embracing the merits of coordinated action. Your commitment to offshore wind in September would position New England to take full advantage of the economic and environmental benefits -- at a time when our six economies sorely need smart recovery strategies.

The NE4OSW coalition is committed to ongoing engagement with you and your staff. We respectfully request a meeting with a senior member of your energy teams in advance of the September Governors' meeting to discuss this request, and we will be following up with your respective offices to find a time.

Thank you for your past commitments to climate and environmental protection, and for your consideration of these requests. Please contact Susannah Hatch at shatch@environmentalleague.org with questions or more information about NE4OSW.

Sincerely,

New England for Offshore Wind

Cc:

Dan Burgess, Director of the Governor's Energy Office

Jared Chicoine, Director of the Office for Strategic Initiatives of New Hampshire

Commissioner Katie S. Dykes, Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection

Secretary Kathleen Theoharides, Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy & Environmental Affairs

Commissioner June E. Tierney, Vermont Department of Public Service

Commissioner Nicholas S. Ucci, Rhode Island Office of Energy Resources

