

Increasing New York State's Offshore Wind Goals to 20 Gigawatts by 2050

December 14, 2022

The Honorable Kathy Hochul
Governor of New York State
NYS State Capitol Building
Albany, NY 12224

Re: Increasing New York State's Offshore Wind Goals to 20 Gigawatts by 2050

Dear Governor Hochul,

We write on behalf of a growing coalition of stakeholders to express our support for increasing the state's offshore wind statutory goals to achieve 15 gigawatts by 2040 and 20 gigawatts by 2050. Though 2050 may seem far in the future, establishing this target now can inform the infrastructure decisions that New York State needs to make in the short-term, including transmission upgrades, supply chain, and port modernization, by providing the context and level of offshore wind power needed.

Our organizations proudly support your administration's ambitious clean energy goals of achieving 70% clean energy by 2030, and 100% clean energy by 2040. A critical element of this bold clean energy goal is the development of offshore wind off the coast of New York State, where as you know wind is one of our most promising natural resources. The industry is poised for rapid expansion, built with union labor including construction under project labor agreements and operated and maintained under labor peace agreements. New York State is becoming a national leader as we transition to sustainable renewable energy.

Increasing this goal advances New York as a national model and as a hub for the offshore wind industry on the east coast. New York will be in a unique position of supporting the supply chain of offshore wind, creating thousands of good union labor jobs and millions of dollars in economic benefits. This effort will lead our state in the direction of a decarbonized grid, while growing the middle class and making New York a more sustainable and healthier place to live.

Expediently investing in the development of offshore wind and offshore wind port infrastructure will be critical to the success of the entire offshore wind industry nationally, as well as our state's ability to achieve its ambitious climate and clean energy goal of achieving 100% clean energy by 2040 and net zero emissions by 2050. We look forward to continuing our support of your administration's ambitious energy goals, and to achieving the full environmental and economic benefits of offshore wind for New York State.

Sincerely,

Julie Tighe
President
New York League of Conservation Voters

Anne Reynolds
Executive Director
Alliance for Clean Energy New York

Fred Zalcman
Director
New York Offshore Wind Alliance

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