



Empowering Communities, Advocating Solutions.

MEMORANDUM OF SUPPORT

INCREASING NEW YORK'S OFFSHORE WIND GOALS

S.6327A - Kavanagh

A.7407 - Barrett

DESCRIPTION: Increases the targets for offshore wind electricity generation incrementally, ultimately up to at least 20,000 MW by 2050.

JUSTIFICATION

New York State is a leader in the fight against climate change and national champion for offshore wind, having passed the strongest climate change law in the nation in 2019. New York is working towards achieving Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act (CLCPA) mandates of 70% renewable energy by 2030, carbon neutral electricity by 2040, and a net zero carbon economy by 2050. We cannot achieve these goals, particularly in downstate New York, without offshore wind.

The five already selected offshore wind projects will generate over 4,300 megawatts of renewable energy, while the third solicitation is intended to procure at least 2,000 additional megawatts of clean power for New Yorkers. These projects have already begun to create a burgeoning offshore wind industry here in the state with manufacturing, port upgrades, supply chain infrastructure, transmission lines and more. New York is on its way to being a major hub of the offshore “windustry” and achieving a just transition from polluting fossil fuels to offshore wind.

The CLCPA requires 9,000MW of offshore wind by 2035, however, offshore wind can and should play a more significant role in achieving our climate goals. As the state moves forward with its CLCPA goal of a carbon-free economy in 2050, the state should increase its offshore wind mandate to reflect both the need for additional renewable energy and the potential benefits of continuing to grow the offshore wind sector. New York has the opportunity to be a global leader in offshore wind and should continue to ramp up its offshore wind goals and harness the vast offshore wind resources off of our coast. This legislation mandates that New York achieves:

- at least 9,900 megawatts of offshore wind electricity generation by 2035
- at least 15,800 megawatts of offshore wind electricity generation by 2040
- at least 18,000 megawatts of offshore wind electricity generation by 2045
- at least 20,000 megawatts of offshore wind electricity generation by 2050

**CITIZENS CAMPAIGN FOR THE ENVIRONMENT SUPPORTS
S.6327A/A.7407 – Increasing New York’s Offshore Wind Goals**

CCE is a 120,000-member non-profit, non-partisan advocacy organization that works to empower communities and advocate solutions that protect public health and the natural environment

April 2024