

NYSERDA 2023 OFFSHORE WIND SOLICITATION ORECRFP23-1

Stakeholder Engagement Plan

Public Version

Community Offshore Wind LLC

Lease OCS-A 0539



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8.3 Stakeholder engagement plan

NYSERDA 2023 Offshore Wind Solicitation ORECRFP23-1



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List of acronyms and abbreviations

Abbreviation	Explanation
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
BOEM	Bureau of Ocean Energy Management
CBA	Community Benefits Agreement
CCE	Citizens Campaign for the Environment
COSW	Community Offshore Wind
DAC	Disadvantaged community
DoD	Department of Defense
ESD	Empire State Development
FAA	Federal Aviation Administration
KPI	Key Performance Indicator
LPA	Labor Peace Agreement
MWBE	Minority or women-owned business enterprise
NGO	Non-governmental organization
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
NYS	New York State
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
OGS	Office of General Services
O&M	Operations and Maintenance
PLA	Project Labor Agreement
POI	Point of Interconnection
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
SDVOB	Service-disabled veteran-owned business
SRM	Stakeholder Relationship Management
STEAM	Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math
TWG	Technical Working Group

NYSERDA solicitation requirements

Our Stakeholder Engagement Plan addresses each requirement described by NYSERDA in the fourth request for proposals for offshore wind renewable energy certificates (ORECRFP23-1) while underlining our capabilities of successfully realizing the Project.

Table 8.3-1 Solicitation requirements

Solicitation requirement	Section
Present the Proposer's goals on prioritizing stakeholder outreach and Engagement	8.3.2
Describe the key considerations taken among different stakeholder groups	8.3.2
Describe how each step of the stakeholder engagement process may be modified and tailored to the specific needs and accessibility of different stakeholder groups in New York.	8.3.4
Explain why stakeholders identified are important for overall Project success	8.3.2.2
Describe any engagement with the U.S. steel industry	8.3.2.2
Explain ongoing or planned engagements with Tribal Nations with an interest in any area affected by the Project, both offshore and onshore	8.3.4
List goals and desired outcomes developed through a collective understanding of shared interests for each stakeholder group	8.3.3
Detail options for engagement activities and potential partnerships and how the Project will consider each stakeholder group when giving development updates, communicating education or job opportunities, or undergoing activities in local communities.	8.3.4
Describe engagement approaches specific to different stakeholder groups	8.3.4.2
List success metrics for engagement activities and potential partnerships.	8.3.5.1
Detail how accessibility factors will be considered, especially for Disadvantaged Communities.	8.3.4.2
Detail how Proposer will track and measure the success of the goals	8.3.5

8.3.1 Stakeholder engagement plan summary

Community Offshore Wind (COSW) will play an instrumental role in creating support for offshore wind and bringing energy transition benefits to New York. Broad support for offshore wind in New York State is key to accelerating the Green Energy Economy and delivering on New York State's ambitious Climate Agenda. At COSW, we recognize that stakeholders are key to successful and inclusive offshore wind development with value for all. Stakeholder engagement is an essential element for successful implementation of COSW and the Project itself. Through our early engagement with communities and stakeholders, COSW has proven itself as a trusted partner and transparent developer in New York State, and will further build off this early work to deliver a successful Project.

Our stakeholder ambitions

Our mission is to deliver local, clean energy for all that is safe, reliable, and efficient. At the core of our philosophy is a **commitment to work in partnership with communities and maximize positive impacts for all Project stakeholders**. We do this by engaging in transparent development, committing to early and meaningful engagement, and minimizing burdens, accelerating clean energy opportunities, and enabling and empowering New Yorkers.

Our Stakeholder Engagement Plan is fully aligned with NYSERDA's guiding principles, Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM)'s guidelines and requirements, and industry standard protocols and best practices. Building off of our extensive community and stakeholder engagement to date, we invite *all* New Yorkers and ocean users to take part in our Project development to allow us to fully understand their priorities, concerns, and potential areas of conflict. We aim for meaningful, effective engagement and full transparency to build long-term trusting relationships across Project phases:

- **During planning and permitting we will be inclusive in Project design** by educating and engaging stakeholders with a commitment to implement stakeholder feedback.
- **During construction we will ensure full transparency** on impacts to host communities and work together to mitigate impacts and create economic, health, and other community benefits.
- **During operations we will keep stakeholders informed** on job and supply chain opportunities and any additional impacts the Project may have.
- **At the time of decommissioning**, we will repeat our inclusive Project design process to get broad feedback and commit to embrace all innovation.

We view stakeholder, ocean user, and government engagement as an ongoing process and as such, our Stakeholder Engagement Plan is a living document that will be updated and adjusted as the Project progresses.

Our approach to stakeholder identification

We identify and prioritize governments, ocean users, and stakeholders in line with our overall ambition of achieving a net-positive impact. Specifically, we prioritize governments, ocean users, and stakeholder groups that are most impacted by our Project to address any potential conflict of interest head-on. We see all of these groups as essential partners in deliver our Project for New York State. We focus on putting first those groups who have been historically left behind (disadvantaged communities [DACs], minority and/or women-owned business enterprises [MWBs], service-disabled veteran-owned businesses [SDVOBs]) to ensure a just clean energy transition. Since launching COSW in May 2021, we have engaged extensively with stakeholders at open houses, stakeholder meetings,

conferences, speaking engagements as well as sponsorship and volunteer events. These engagements have helped us better understand potential concerns and shape our engagement strategy. These insights informed our economic and workforce development initiatives, shaped our community investment promises, and allowed us to design our wind farm to facilitate co-use. As the Project matures, we will continue to engage and hope to find more innovative and impactful ways to deliver upon our net-positive commitments.

Our commitments to New York's stakeholders

We will continue to build upon our work as a transparent developer and trusted partner for New York State and continue early, active engagement across all stakeholder interactions. Our Stakeholder Engagement Plan is built upon **four key commitments to New York's stakeholders**. We are confident that these four commitments demonstrate our dedication towards an inclusive Project at all phases.

1. **We will be inclusive in our Project development and decision-making**, to minimize burdens and maximize benefits. We are creating a direct link between stakeholder, government, and ocean user engagement, Project design, and economic benefits programs leveraging continuous feedback loops [REDACTED]. This approach is further described in Section 8.3.4.2.
2. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]. We have developed a menu of potential benefits, to be refined with our host communities based on their needs and wishes. These investments are further described in Sections 8.3.4.3.
3. **We will use a wide array of activities and marketing efforts** to ensure we engage with all ocean users and stakeholders in a way that suits their needs and preferences.
4. **We are committed to tracking progress**. We will use [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] to ensure our stakeholder approach is meeting the needs and preferences of our stakeholders.

8.3.2 Stakeholder identification and stakeholder list

8.3.2.1 Approach to stakeholder identification

To ensure continued dialogue, foster meaningful engagement and build mutual understanding, it is important to identify all relevant stakeholders, governments, and ocean users.

COSW has a clear ambition to identify all groups impacted by our Project, both positively and negatively, to engage in a productive two-way dialogue to minimize burdens and maximize benefits. To identify and prioritize the key stakeholders for our Project, we combine best practices from RWE and National Grid into a methodology that identifies relevant stakeholder, government, and ocean user groups at statewide and local level. We believe it is important to give all a seat at the table but are especially mindful of ensuring we identify the **right stakeholders, governments, and ocean users to represent groups that have been historically left out of the decision-making processes**. Our three guiding principles for prioritizing our engagement and outreach are:

1. **We prioritize those that are most impacted by our Project**: we build a thorough understanding of the communities in our landfall, points of interconnection, and cable routing.

Within these potential host communities, we identify organizations and individuals to represent affected communities best.

2. **We proactively include those who have been historically left behind (DACs, MWBEs, SDVOBs):** we focus on relevant statewide groups and individuals who can help us understand community needs and priorities better and who can be advocates for our Project.
3. **We address potential conflicts of interest head-on:** we identify stakeholder groups (both local and at State level) that may have conflicting interests as well as co-users of the lease area to ensure the success of our Project and avoid conflict which has created delays in previous New York solicitations.

8.3.2.2 Stakeholder list

Following these guiding principles, we identified **groups most important for Project success**. COSW will update this list as the Project progresses.

Host communities: Local communities surrounding our project may be directly impacted during construction and operation of our Project. This includes the impacts of bringing the transmission cable to shore, running underground transmission from the landfall to the point of interconnection, and construction and operation of converter stations. [REDACTED]

Disadvantaged communities: Within these host communities, [REDACTED] have been identified as disadvantaged communities. In these communities, we are even more mindful of ensuring all voices are heard. Within each of these disadvantaged communities we have identified relevant community organizations and other stakeholders. This list of stakeholders and our engagement to date is further described in Section 8.4: Disadvantaged Community Impacts.

MWBE and SDVOB businesses: We leverage the MWBE Certified Database maintained by Empire State Development (ESD) and the Directory of New York State Certified Service-Disabled Veteran Owned Business (SDVOB) maintained by the Office of General Services (OGS) to identify relevant MWBE and SDVOB businesses. Our engagement with MWBE and SDVOB businesses is further described in Section 10.4: MWBE and SDVOB Economic Benefits.

US Iron and Steel businesses: We have engaged with key suppliers of Iron and Steel and all Tier 1 manufacturers to foster collaboration between suppliers of major components and suppliers of Steel.

Commercial and recreational fisheries: We are committed to productive co-use with important fisheries in our Lease Area, including Atlantic Sea scallop and surf clam fisheries and other local fisheries. Our engagement with fisheries is further described in Section 8.1: Fisheries Mitigation Plan.

Supply chain businesses: We are engaged with key Tier 1 suppliers and their networks of sub-suppliers domestically and globally.

Port owners and operators: Relevant ports include commercial fishing ports with landings from within the Lease Area such as [REDACTED]

Maritime industry: We work with local Pilot associations in waterways relevant for Project construction and operations and maintenance (O&M), maritime industries, local, and regional maritime trade associations.

Aviation industry: We recognize the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and the United States Department of Defense (DoD) as key stakeholder to ensure safe co-use of the area.

Tourism operators: We focus on tourism operators, alliances, and business associations in coastal areas and around our points of interconnection, whale watching companies, bird watchers, and other marine recreation companies active in the New York Bight.

Labor organizations and unions: These include international unions, regional representatives, and their local affiliates throughout New York State, including, but not limited to, [REDACTED]

Economic and workforce development organizations: We will continue to build on relationships established in NY3 to support our workforce development plan, including but not limited [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Our engagement with economic and workforce development organizations is further described in Section 11: Jobs and Workforce Plan.

Federal government organizations: Key stakeholders include, but are not limited to, BOEM, US Army Corps of Engineers, US Environmental Protection Agency, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, US Fish and Wildlife Service, US Coast Guard, Department of Defense, Federal Aviation Administration, and Advisory Council on Historic Preservation.

Tribes and Tribal Nations: We recognize Native American peoples as the original and continuing stewards of the lands and waters in which we work. COSW is engaging with federally recognized Tribes listed under Lease Stipulation 5.3.3, and state recognized Tribes in New Jersey and New York. [REDACTED]

State government organizations: Key stakeholders include, but are not limited to, the New York Department of State, New York Department of Environmental Conservation, New York State Department of Public Service, New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation, New York State Department of Transportation, New York State Public Service Commission, and New York State Energy Research and Development Authority.

Elected state and local officials: We focus on elected federal, state, and local officials within the proposed Project area, including at POI, and along potential cable routes.

Training institutions and research universities: We have engaged in offshore wind environmental and socioeconomic research. Our initial list includes: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Our engagement with training institutions and research universities is further described in Section 8.1, Section 8.2, and Section 11.

Environmental organizations: Private, non-governmental organizations that have general or specific interests in the study of environmental impacts of offshore wind development, including [REDACTED]

8.3.2.3 Our project team

To ensure we fully understand tribal nations, ocean user, and stakeholder interests and represent these interests in our stakeholder team, we have assembled an experienced team and assigned each stakeholder group with a dedicated relationship owner. Having a dedicated relationship owner for each of the groups ensures that we treat all voices as priorities and understand all interests intimately.

Table 8.3-2 Stakeholder groups and COSW relationship owner

Stakeholder group	COSW relationship owner
Host communities	Natalie Terhaar
Disadvantaged and Environmental Justice Communities	Natalie Terhaar, Retha Fernandez
Tribes and Tribal Nations	Katherine Miller, Justin Bedard
MWBE and SDVOB businesses	Lyle Sclair
US Iron and Steel businesses	Kyoo Sung Byun
Commercial and recreational fisheries	Rick Robins
Supply chain businesses	Kyoo Sung Byun
Port owners and operators	Daniel Sieger
Maritime industry	Rick Robins
Tourism operators	Alanna Russo
Labor organizations and unions	Mariah Dignan
Economic and workforce development organizations	Lyle Sclair
Federal government agencies	Sheri Lauten
State government agencies	Sheri Lauten
Elected state and local officials	Halie Meyers, Jacqueline Routh
Training institutions and research universities	Lyle Sclair
Environmental organizations	Joel Southall



8.3.3 Stakeholder engagement goals

Meaningful engagement starts with fully understanding each stakeholder group’s needs, interests, concerns, and identifying common objectives. COSW has already laid the groundwork for successful engagement and we are committed to continuing to prioritize transparent and meaningful engagement over the life of our Project. **To continue in achieving our goal of maximizing positive impacts for all stakeholder groups we aim to design our Project for minimal impact and maximum benefits.** Through extensive engagement with stakeholders in New York State, we have built a firm baseline understanding of the key needs, interests, and priorities of each group. Building on these insights, we broke down our overall goal into specific engagement goals for each group.

Table 8.3-3 Stakeholder engagement goals

Stakeholder Group	
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]

8.3.4 Stakeholder engagement activities and partnerships

The key to successful engagement is to tailor activities and communications to the needs and limitations of each stakeholder group. COSW is aligned with NYSERDA’s view that it is critical to include a wide range of voices, and at the same time be mindful to direct a concerted effort towards engaging historically marginalized groups that have been traditionally left out of development decisions, such as disadvantaged and frontline communities.

COSW will build upon our work to date and use a wide range of engagement activities to ensure we reach all relevant stakeholders, governments, and ocean users in a way that meets their unique needs and continues our commitment to transparent development. This includes 1) inclusive Project development and decision- making, 2) targeted engagement activities and partnerships, 3) wide-ranging engagement and partnerships, and 4) investments in local stakeholder groups. Each of these elements is further explained below.

8.3.4.1 Inclusive project development and decision-making

To be transparent and inclusive, we have established a continuous feedback loop of stakeholder, government, and ocean user input into the Project’s development. [REDACTED]

8.3.4.2 Targeted stakeholder engagement activities and partnerships

Our feedback loop only works when we have high awareness and engagement of our stakeholders. To increase awareness and participation, we have designed a set of targeted engagement activities and partnerships which are further described in this section. In addition, in line with Lease Stipulation 3.1.2, we have developed dedicated communication plans for Fisheries, Native American Tribes, and agencies. Through our extensive stakeholder engagement, we have collected letters of support from many individuals and organizations, which are available in Appendix 8-1.

8.3.4.2.1 Residents

Residents, in particular host communities, are the foundations of COSW’s success. COSW has prioritized these local engagements since our first days as a New York Bight Leaseholder as evidenced by the community and stakeholder support that the Project has received to date. **We continue to be committed to a transparent partnership that mitigates impacts of the Project on these communities.** We do this through:

■ Proactive engagement [REDACTED]

■ [REDACTED]

- Host Community events to create awareness of our joint venture and Project
- Promoting awareness and engagement in disadvantaged communities
- Limiting the burden we place on tribes and tribal nations

Proactive engagement [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]

We look forward to working collaboratively with host communities to maximize the benefit of local investments to best meet the needs of the municipalities involved.

COSW is uniquely positioned to execute on these community benefits by leveraging the experience of both joint venture partners and their ultimate parent companies. National Grid has **extensive experience working with impacted communities** to mitigate the impacts of transmission and associated transmission infrastructure. RWE, as the second largest developer of offshore wind in the world, has an **extensive track record of working with communities where projects are located to maximize the local benefits that these projects bring**.

Host community events to create awareness of our joint venture and Project

We are working with organizations in local communities to build awareness of the Project and excitement for the Green Energy Transition. Some examples of these community events and engagement to date include:

- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

“Thanks to Community Offshore Wind, youth in Brooklyn, New York spent time at our city’s great museums during Engineers Week,” said William Suarez, Partnerships Manager of RHI. “Some of the students were able to explore a museum in their backyards for the first time. RHI high school and middle school participants were able to go to the New York Hall of Science, for example. We hope this kind of educational enrichment is an experience that will inspire youth and set them up for success.”

- In partnership with Citizens Campaign for the Environment (CCE), 1100 Uniondale High School students in 11th and 12th grade were able to learn about climate change and renewables and visit the Jones Beach Energy Center.

“We are delighted to work with the faculty and students at Uniondale High School. They have many concerns and questions regarding the impacts of climate change and have expressed a strong interest in learning about ways they can mitigate those impacts,” said Adrienne Esposito, Executive Director of CCE. “Through Community Offshore Wind’s support, we can provide classroom education and field trips for 11th and 12th graders to get them out on the water to experience and learn about climate impacts on our marine environment. CCE will also help these students find internships in climate-related fields. Many of these students want to work in renewables and this experience will help expose them to possible careers in offshore wind.”

- In 2023, COSW formed a partnership with the NY Aquarium to support their Beach Club Program for Brooklyn families. During 8 sessions, families could learn about climate change and marine life free of charge.
- In 2021, COSW hired Long-Island-based graphic design firm WBE to design our logo along with all of our design needs. We also hired Signarama on Long Island to wrap our fully electric van and Brooklyn-based firm WOB *Factory Systems Installer* located at the Brooklyn Navy Yard to fully upfit the interior of our electric community van.

Letters of support from organizations we have partnered with to organize community events can be found in Appendix 8-1.

Promoting awareness and engagement in disadvantaged communities

COSW is committed to providing disadvantaged communities with a seat at the table so they can have a more active voice in decisions directly impacting their livelihood. Our ongoing engagement and activities are tailored to directly benefit disadvantaged communities, while utilizing the opportunity to identify their concerns through non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and other representative organizations. Additionally, we are working to proactively remove barriers to participation, as outlined in the New York State Disadvantaged Communities Barriers and Opportunities Report. We use several accessibility measures to increase participation of Disadvantaged Community members:

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

We have partnerships with various community-based organizations to provide economic and workforce development programs and wrap-around services. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Our commitments to disadvantaged communities are further described in Section 8.4: Disadvantaged Community Impacts.

Limiting the burden we place on tribes and tribal nations

We recognize the burden that the review of multiple projects has placed on Tribes and Tribal Nations. We seek to promote meaningful communication, coordination, and collaboration without being overly burdensome to Tribes and Tribal Nations. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] A list of our ongoing and planned engagements with tribal nations can be found in Appendix 8-4.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

8.3.4.2.2 Businesses

We are actively engaged with local Economic Development Organizations, Chambers of Commerce, business advocacy organizations and businesses in Brooklyn and Long Island to better understand the needs of local businesses and what we can do to provide opportunities to these businesses. Based on these engagements, we will build upon our NY3 commitments through dedicated activities and partnerships [REDACTED]

Bring opportunities to New York’s supply chain businesses

The Procurement and Supply Chain teams have met with dozens of suppliers to bring additional opportunities to New York State. Our website includes a dedicated “suppliers” section where (small) businesses can register to become part of our supplier network.

The Procurement and Supply Chain teams are actively working with the full supply chain domestically and globally.

COSW has also actively participated in the Jobs and Supply Chain Technical Working Groups (TWGs) and the Energy Storage Technical Working Group (ES TWG).

Provide dedicated support for MWBE and SDVOB businesses

Our commitments to MWBE and SDVOB businesses are based on our engagement with these firms and relevant advocacy organizations. Our commitments are further described in Section 10.

We communicate supplier opportunities to MWBE and SDVOB using the MWBE Certified Database maintained by ESD and the Directory of New York State Certified SDVOB maintained by OGS for goods with anticipated contract value of over \$250K, and for services with contract value expected over \$100K. We also encourage our major suppliers to utilize MWBE and SDVOB businesses. Our website includes a dedicated supplier section where (small) business can register to become part of our supplier network.

[REDACTED]

Ongoing engagement with commercial and recreational fisheries

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]. We are committed to building relationships and working closely with fishermen to ensure successful and sustainable outcomes.

Our website includes a dedicated fisheries landing page where fisheries can get more information about the impacts and opportunities our Project may bring. This includes fisheries notices, our fisheries communication plan and a Frequently Asked Questions section. Fisheries can contact our team directly or sign up for opportunities for commercial fishing vessels to provide supporting services to our offshore operations. We have also developed a comprehensive Fisheries Mitigation Plan (Section 8.1).

8.3.4.2.3 Institutional Stakeholders

We work with institutional stakeholders to create support for our Project and offshore wind in general. We also collaborate with institutional stakeholders to ensure New York’s institutions support offshore wind and the opportunities it brings to New Yorkers. Specific activities include creating offshore wind career pathways, supporting offshore wind knowledge and skills building, and updating Federal and State agencies, and elected state and local officials on a regular basis, as detailed below.

Create offshore wind career pathways

COSW is developing partnerships with organized labor to ensure our Project development aligns the visions of offshore developers and labor unions and to jointly identify career pathways and address skills gaps, the just transition, and offshore wind specific certifications. To ensure New York's workforce is well trained and can fill expected occupational gaps, we will share job numbers, titles, job descriptions, skills, wages, and necessary certifications with organized labor to the extent possible. Our Jobs and Workforce Plan is further described in Section 11.

Support offshore wind knowledge and skills building

We are collaborating with Research Universities to identify knowledge gaps in environmental and fisheries research and monitoring and plan to work closely together to close any observed gaps. More details on our research and monitoring programs with universities can be found in Section 8.1: Fisheries Mitigation Plan and Section 8.2: Environmental Mitigation Plan.

Update federal and state agencies and elected state and local officials on a monthly basis

All Federal and State agencies within the proposed Project area are updated monthly. We also regularly coordinate with staff at federal and state government agencies virtually, in-person, and by email. As the Project develops, we will keep them informed and share feedback with the Project team to shape design elements. We expect our engagement activity to increase around major milestones.

Our Stakeholder Engagement team meets regularly with elected State and local officials. All officials within the proposed Project area will be updated monthly. The Stakeholder Engagement team has been meeting regularly with local elected officials within the state of New York, across Long Island and in Brooklyn.

8.3.4.2.4 Environmental organizations

COSW is actively engaging with environmental NGOs, wildlife groups, aquariums, conservationists, and activists to understand concerns, find common objectives and opportunities for collaborative research and monitoring. [REDACTED]

8.3.4.2.5 Wide-ranging stakeholder engagement activities

In addition to targeted events and partnerships, **we use wide-ranging activities and engagement tools to build awareness and engagement in New York State.** We will use the following activities across all our stakeholder groups:

- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]

- █ [REDACTED]
- █ [REDACTED]
- █ [REDACTED]
- █ [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

- █ [REDACTED] **COSW website and social media** has accessible, real-time information and progress updates. On our website we disclose relevant Project documentation, such as our communication plans and we announce key events and Project updates.
- █ [REDACTED]
- **Monthly newsletter** to provide information on relevant events and Project updates.
- █ [REDACTED]
- █ [REDACTED]

8.3.4.3 Investments in local stakeholders

We are committed to financially investing in our key stakeholder groups. Our key investment programs are further detailed in Sections 8.1, 8.2, 10 and 11 and recapped below.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

8.3.5.2 Tracking stakeholder marketing efforts

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

8.3.6 Our joint venture's stakeholder engagement experience

Local roots

National Grid has operated in the Northeast for decades and employs more than 11,000 personnel in New York State. Brooklyn Union Gas is the company's oldest legacy franchise dating back to 1895. RWE also has a team of professionals with strong relationships throughout the Northeast through their onshore wind development.

A track record of local engagement and investments

Both RWE and National Grid have extensive experience collaborating with and investing in communities over the years. National Grid has provided over \$100M in assistance for local investments with experience redeveloping buildings and brownfields in New York and helping to create or retain over 50,000 jobs. National Grid's Grid for Good program offers mentorship to young people, ages 16-24, from disadvantaged backgrounds, upskilling and preparing them for careers in energy. National Grid also has a Responsible Business Charter that details commitments and ambitions concerning the environment, community, our people, the economy, and corporate governance. Across New York State National Grid contributes more than \$5M million annually to community-based organizations through Corporate Citizenship efforts, including National Grid Foundation. With more than 30 projects in 9 states,

RWE has made significant investment in local economies, created local jobs, and increased tax revenue for mostly rural areas in the US. RWE also recently assisted more than 45 local organizations, such as first responders, regional and local food banks and food pantries, social services for senior citizens, and local schools with student food programs, in response to the coronavirus pandemic in those communities in which RWE operates.

Section 8.3 – Stakeholder Engagement Plan Standard
Component

Stakeholder Engagement Plan for Community Offshore Wind Version 1.0

**Prepared pursuant to [contract number, date (TBD)]
with**

**New York State Energy Research and Development
Authority
Albany, NY**

**Prepared by
Community Offshore Wind, LLC
[Address]**



January 2024

[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
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[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]

Links to Project information: www.communityoffshorewind.com

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1. Summary

1.1. Overall principles and goals

This section should describe the overall principles and goals proposers will follow to understand, incorporate, and respond to the diverse perspectives, needs, and concerns of stakeholders at every stage of development. Developers are encouraged to consider a mission statement that drives their engagement and supports accountability.

Broad support for the Clean Energy transition throughout New York State is key to accelerating the Green Energy Economy and delivering the value and benefits associated with offshore wind projects to everyone involved. **To deliver on NYSEDA’s ambitious climate agenda we need to develop clean energy in a way that can be supported by all New Yorkers.** At Community Offshore Wind, we recognize that our stakeholders are the key to successful and inclusive offshore wind development and that robust stakeholder, government, and ocean user engagement is an essential element for successful delivery of Community Offshore Wind’s proposed Project.

Community Offshore Wind ambitions

At the core of the Community Offshore Wind brand is a commitment to generate a net-positive impact for all Project stakeholders by **minimizing burdens, accelerating clean energy opportunities** and **enabling and empowering New Yorkers**. This includes all communities whose homes, families, jobs, neighborhoods, constituents, environments, and jurisdictions are touched by our development. Our mission is to deliver local, clean energy for all in a way that is safe, reliable, and efficient. We invite New Yorkers to take part in our Project development to allow us to fully understand their priorities, concerns, and potential areas of conflict. This way, we can design our Project to minimize burdens and maximize benefits for everyone. We are committed to full transparency with our stakeholders to nurture long-term trusting relationships.

We aim to provide New Yorkers with engagement that is effective, meaningful, consistent, comprehensive, coordinated, and reflective of the needs of the communities we impact. During Design, Planning and Permitting, we will take a holistic approach to educate and engage with a clear commitment to implement any feedback. During Construction, we will communicate potential impacts to host communities and work together to mitigate these impacts and create opportunities to deliver economic, health, and other community benefits. During Operations, we will keep stakeholders informed on job and supply chain opportunities as they arise. Finally, during Decommissioning we will repeat our inclusive design process to get broad feedback and commit to embrace innovative decommissioning practices. Community Offshore Wind sees stakeholder engagement as an ongoing process and as such, our Stakeholder Engagement Plan is a living document that will be updated and adjusted as the Project progresses.

Our stakeholder engagement commitments

Early, active engagement is our guiding principle that will be integrated into every stakeholder interaction. Our Stakeholder Engagement Plan is built upon the **key commitments to New York’s stakeholders to:**

- Design to minimize burdens
- Accelerate clean energy economic opportunities

- Enable and empower communities

These commitments are fully aligned with NYSERDA’s Guiding Principles for Stakeholder Engagement, and we are confident they demonstrate that we take stakeholder engagement seriously. Moreover, through our commitment:

- **We will be inclusive in our Project development and decision-making.** To minimize burdens and maximize benefits, we are creating a direct link between stakeholder engagement, Project design and the development of economic benefits programs leveraging continuous feedback loops, and our Community Advisory boards. This approach is further described in Section 8.3.
- [REDACTED] We have developed programs that will enhance and complement those we developed in our NY3 submission. We will work with our host communities to identify funding opportunities based on their needs and wishes.
- **We will use a wide array of stakeholder activities and marketing efforts** to ensure we engage with all stakeholders in a way that suits their needs and preferences. These efforts are further described in Section 8.3.4.
- **We are committed to tracking progress.** We will use [REDACTED] to ensure our stakeholder approach is meeting the needs and preferences of our stakeholders as further described in Section 8.3.5.

1.2. Overall approach to incorporating data and stakeholder feedback

This section should describe how the developer will use research, data, and stakeholder feedback to update the Stakeholder Engagement Plan, and support decision-making throughout the life cycle of the Project (preconstruction, surveys, site design, construction, operations, and decommissioning).

- Community Offshore Wind shall perform a stakeholder mapping exercise to obtain population, cultural, and economic statistics and information on communities or interest groups relevant to the Project.
- Community Offshore Wind shall detail the allocated resources used to continuously support long-term engagement and Project initiatives.
- Community Offshore Wind shall review and seek input from stakeholders on avoiding, minimizing, or mitigating adverse impacts from Project construction and operation, local economic development, reduced energy burden, avoided health costs, added climate resiliency, avoided environmental costs, added environmental benefits, workforce training opportunities, and economically Disadvantaged Community participation.

[REDACTED]

- Community Offshore Wind commits to integrating input from stakeholders to advance

Project development and minimize burdens [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

1.3. Existing guidance and best practices that will be followed

This section should present a list of existing guidance documents, publications, tools, and/or plans that will be followed to support the Stakeholder Engagement Plan. Include links, if available, for all references.

- [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

2. Stakeholder identification and stakeholder list

2.1. Overview and stakeholder identification objectives

This section should provide an overview of the stakeholder identification and relationship management methods.

- [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

- Community Offshore Wind has hired community and tribal liaison officers. Proposers with community and/or tribal liaison officers on staff should provide, to the best extent possible, details as to why the liaison officer is a trustworthy messenger known by a significant portion of the community or Tribal Nation they represent. Proposers that have yet to hire liaisons shall indicate when they plan to do so and the communities and Tribal Nations which the liaison would represent. For areas most affected by Project development, NYSERDA recommends county liaisons with strong community relationships within the county’s cities or towns.
- Community Offshore Wind shall describe planned efforts to establish a local presence in areas most affected by Project development. Examples could include establishment of permanent or temporary office space, reserving public spaces for regular engagement opportunities with Project staff, or regular participation in specific public meetings in affected communities.

2.2. Assigning team members in your organization as the primary relationship holder

This section will provide a list of communication officers, their role, and name and contact information. The list should provide stakeholders with an understanding of who should be called for a particular issue or question. Proposers should indicate if and who reports to certain staff members such that NYSERDA may understand organizational structure. In addition to this list, Proposers should explain how stakeholders will access this list and how it will be kept current to reflect organic changes and turnovers in responsibilities throughout the Project life cycle.

[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]

	[Redacted]	
[Redacted]	[Redacted]	[Redacted]
[Redacted]	[Redacted]	[Redacted]
[Redacted]	[Redacted]	[Redacted]
[Redacted]	[Redacted]	[Redacted]
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[Redacted]	[Redacted]	[Redacted]
[Redacted]	[Redacted]	[Redacted]
[Redacted]	[Redacted]	[Redacted]
[Redacted]	[Redacted]	[Redacted]
[Redacted]	[Redacted]	[Redacted]
[Redacted]	[Redacted]	[Redacted]
[Redacted]	[Redacted]	[Redacted]
[Redacted]	[Redacted]	[Redacted]
[Redacted]	[Redacted]	[Redacted]

[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	
	[REDACTED]	

[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]		

[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]		

3. Stakeholder engagement goals

3.1. Defining goals and desired outcomes

This section should describe goals and desired outcomes developed through a collective understanding of shared interests for each stakeholder group identified in 2.1.

- Community Offshore Wind shall define the issues and/or information prioritized by each stakeholder group in collaboration with stakeholders.
- Community Offshore Wind shall list goals set for delivering benefits to Disadvantaged Communities consistent with the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act’s (CLCPA) focus on building an inclusive, clean energy economy, including education, training, and hiring opportunities.
- Community Offshore Wind shall list engagement activities to date and planned activities to incorporate the perspectives of Disadvantaged and Environmental Justice Communities to the offshore wind development.
- Community Offshore Wind shall list identified opportunities for collaborative decision-making and efforts throughout the development process with community members, local elected officials, relevant businesses, institutions, environmental justice communities, disadvantaged communities, and non-profit organizations including but not limited to MOUs and LOIs.

Table 3-1 Engagement activities

[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
		[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
		[REDACTED]
		[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
		[REDACTED]

4. Stakeholder engagement activities and partnerships

4.1. Planned activities and outreach

This section shall detail options for engagement activities and follow-up with community members, local elected officials, institutions, local businesses, and nonprofit organizations. Engagement activities detailed in this section should specify with what stakeholder groups they will be leveraged. While it is critical to include a wide range of voices, including the key stakeholder groups illustrated in Section 4, it is also necessary to direct a concerted effort towards engagement to include historically marginalized groups traditionally left out of development decisions, such as disadvantaged and frontline communities. A thoughtful approach to planned activities and outreach will specifically detail how these efforts are tailored to and vary to uniquely consider each stakeholder group and increase awareness and participation from each group.

- Community Offshore Wind shall list engagement approaches and activities specific to stakeholder groups defined in 2.1.
- Community Offshore Wind shall detail what accessibility factors, especially for

Disadvantaged Communities, [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

- Community Offshore Wind shall detail their anticipated outreach and schedule prior to informing stakeholders of planned activities including alerting NYSERDA and posting public events to their Project website’s event pages.
- Community Offshore Wind shall detail their plan for providing consistent follow-up with the stakeholders they have engaged, especially members of Disadvantaged Communities, to make clear how their input was considered, and/or provide learning opportunities to raise awareness of and gain support for the Project.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

4.2. Planned partnerships

This section should describe proposed or existing partnerships with community organizations, institutions, local businesses, and nonprofit organizations.

- The Proposer should provide details of the nature of these partnerships, and any particular hiring, training, or educational opportunities in local communities.
 - *Community Offshore Wind commits to keeping this list of partnerships current, updating, and reporting on any changes or additions to anticipated partnerships as they occur.*
- The Proposer should explain where partnerships may foster more business opportunities for local businesses to participate and benefit from the growing offshorewind industry.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]



5. Tracking progress and communications

5.1. Tracking stakeholder engagement

This section should detail the tracking of relationships, activities, and both successful or unsuccessful outcomes from engagements.

- In effort to require early and regular engagement with stakeholders that may be potentially affected by the Project activities, NYSERDA is building upon contractual expectations regarding progress tracking in Quarterly Reports.
- Community Offshore Wind shall detail how we have tracked relationship progress with stakeholders and provide a current example of such a tracker. NYSERDA is open to accepting the same report style as the BOEM OCS Lessees are required to submit for the agency's stipulated semi-annual progress report.
 - Options could include tiering stakeholders by how well connected they are to the Project, or how by the number of times they've engaged in activity with their respective relationship owner. As events, meetings, and general communication occurs per quarter, Proposers should track stakeholder tiers and be able to show change in status of relationships and reasoning.
 - The tracking method chosen by Proposers should be able to depict proposed activities and provide updates on engagement activities, impacts on or benefits to the identified stakeholder groups identified in section 2.1, and how, if at all, a Project has been informed or altered to address those challenges or benefits, as well as any planned engagement activities during the next quarterly reporting period.
 - In acknowledgment of the existing and growing consultation burden placed on many of the stakeholders, the stipulation also requires, to the maximum extent practicable, that Proposers coordinate with one another on engagement activities. It is NYSERDA's intention that this requirement to coordinate engagement applies not only to meetings proposed by Proposers, but also to reasonable requests to coordinate engagement requested by stakeholders.
 - Community Offshore Wind will track attendance for virtual or in-person open houses, community meetings, and public information round tables. Our quarterly progress report will also include information on the stakeholder groups we have engaged with, activities included in the engagement, the goal of the engagement, the outcome of the engagement, overall sentiment of the stakeholder, and proposed next steps or goals for the upcoming quarter.
- Community Offshore Wind shall include tracking tables for goals defined in 3.1. that include when and where the goal is supported or achieved through engagement activities.

[Redacted text block]

- Proposers shall provide a list of engagements along with the data seen in the attached table.
 - Please see Appendix 8.3-2 Stakeholder Engagement Efforts

5.2. Tracking stakeholder marketing efforts

This section should detail the tracking of general communications or marketing campaigns to raise awareness among communities proximal to activities related to Project development, construction, operation, and decommissioning.

- Proposers should detail how they plan to track marketing efforts or public awareness campaigns and provide a current example of such a tracker.

[Redacted text block]

- Proposers should detail their public awareness campaigns leveraged to communicate or advertise Project development status, hiring opportunities and impacts on local communities. Community members should always be aware of Project development impacting them, regardless of their individual support or interest in the activity.
 - Community Offshore Wind will communicate all community investment efforts,

Project development milestones, impacts on local communities and hiring opportunities at minimum. These will be communicated via monthly newsletter, social channels, press releases, website, and stakeholder engagement meetings.

- Proposers should detail marketing methods for raising awareness of workforce opportunities within Disadvantaged Communities.
 - Community Offshore Wind will work with community-based non-profits to engage Disadvantaged Communities on opportunities from workforce and food assistance to coat donations. Our community investment activities are tied to assisting Disadvantaged Communities and in collaboration with non-profit partners that help us reach this audience. Community Offshore Wind will also publicize our community investment and workforce opportunities via the channels listed above to increase visibility with specific instructions on how Disadvantaged Communities can learn more or receive assistance.
- Community Offshore Wind shall provide a list of such public campaigns or marketing efforts along with the data seen in the attached table.
 - Please see Appendix 8.3-3 Marketing Table

Section 8.3 – Stakeholder Engagement Plan Appendices

- 8.3-1 Letters of Support
- 8.3-2 Stakeholder Engagement Efforts
- 8.3-3 Marketing Table
- 8.3-4 Tribal Engagement
- 8.3-5 Fisheries Communication Plan

Appendix 8.3-1 Letters of Support

8.3-1 Table of Contents

Total letters of support: 37

- New York City District Council of Carpenters
- Buy Supply, Corp.
- Brooklyn Workforce Innovations
- Cradle of Aviation Museum
- Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce
- Center for Economic Growth
- Digho
- Long Island Children’s Museum
- Rotary Environmental Action Coalition of Huntington (REACH)
- RETI Center
- Red Hook Initiative
- Operation SPLASH
- Utility Workers Union of America
- Institute for Workforce Advancement
- New York State Laborers’ Union
- Workforce Development Institute
- FuzeHub
- International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 1049
- City University of New York College of Staten Island
- Consortium for Worker Education
- Factory Systems Installer, Inc.
- Family and Children’s Association
- International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers
- NYS Iron Workers District Council
- International Union of Elevator Constructors Local 1
- International Union of Operating Engineers, New York affiliates
- District Council 9 Painters and Allied Trades
- Minority Millennials
- Nassau BOCES
- Opportunities for a Better Tomorrow
- Reaching Out Community Services
- Pathways to Apprenticeship
- Red Ironworks of West Babylon NY
- Seafarers International Union of North America
- Stony Brook University’s School of Professional Development and Center for Corporate Education
- UAW Local 259
- Utility Workers Union of America Local 1-2

UNITED BROTHERHOOD OF CARPENTERS AND JOINERS OF AMERICA

NEW YORK CITY & VICINITY DISTRICT COUNCIL OF CARPENTERS

JOSEPH A. GEIGER
Executive Secretary - Treasurer

PAUL CAPURSO
President /Asst EST

DAVID CARABALLOSO
Vice President /Asst EST



395 HUDSON STREET - 9TH FLOOR

NEW YORK, N.Y. 10014

PHONE: (212) 366-7500

FAX: (212) 675-3118

www.nycdistrictcouncil.com

January 2, 2024

Doreen Harris
President & CEO
New York State Energy Research and Development Authority
17 Columbia Circle
Albany, NY 12203-6399

Dear Ms. Harris,

Community Offshore Wind, a joint venture of RWE and National Grid Ventures, is submitting a proposal in response to NYSERDA's fourth offshore wind solicitation, building on their existing contract to deliver enough offshore wind power for more than 500,000 New York homes. On behalf of the New York City District Council of Carpenters, representing over 20,000 members with distinct crafts, including shop and industrial carpenters, dock builders, millwrights, timbermen, high rise concrete, floor coverers, and more, I support their new proposal, and believe that Community Offshore Wind is the right partner to New York State as we continue to work toward the ambitious clean energy targets set by the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act.

Community Offshore Wind brings together the expertise of a global leader in offshore wind with the local experience of a company that has already delivered large-scale energy infrastructure projects for New York. RWE is the second-largest developer of offshore wind in the world, with 19 projects in operation in 20 countries. National Grid and its legacy companies have operated in the region for decades, serving more than 20 million people across the Northeast, with more than 5,000 employees here in New York. This combination of local experience and global expertise makes Community Offshore Wind an ideal developer for New York, with the ability to deliver an on-time, on-budget project.

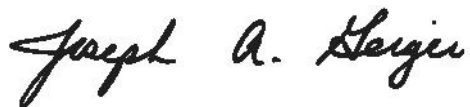
Community Offshore Wind's labor engagement is unmatched. The team continues to lead by example in building trust between organized labor unions, community-based organizations, and the offshore wind industry to provide educational, economic, and environmental benefits to under resourced communities. The project is pursuing high-road labor agreements, integrates pre-apprenticeship, registered apprenticeship, and labor-management programs as key pillars

of its workforce development strategy, and regularly communicates industry updates. The team is focused on creating a high-road regional supply chain by working with union and MWBE/SDVOB suppliers. The NYC Carpenters will continue to collaborate, strategize, and facilitate awareness of Community Offshore Wind and the good union jobs expected from its development.

COSW also recognizes the critical importance of a just, equitable energy transition that benefits every New York worker, family, and business. Their existing project in New York includes a \$10 million investment in reduced-cost childcare services for all offshore wind workers and trainees in the state – even those not working directly for Community Offshore Wind. This kind of investment will break down the barriers that too often prevent working parents from accessing stable, high-paying careers, and demonstrates the venture’s willingness to work with communities to identify their needs, and develop programs specifically tailored to best serve New Yorkers.

I am confident that Community Offshore Wind’s proposal is the right project, at the right time, to simultaneously support our goal of a zero-emission electrical system and create new economic opportunities for working families across the state.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joseph A. Geiger". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Joseph A. Geiger
Executive Secretary-Treasurer
New York City District Council of Carpenters



January 19, 2024

Doreen Harris
President & CEO
New York State Energy Research and Development Authority
17 Columbia Circle
Albany, NY 12203-6399

Dear Mrs. Harris,

Community Offshore Wind, a joint venture of RWE and National Grid Ventures, is submitting a proposal in response to NYSERDA's fourth offshore wind solicitation, building on their existing contract to deliver enough offshore wind power for more than 500,000 New York homes. On behalf of Buy Supply, Corp. I support their new proposal, and believe that Community Offshore Wind is the right partner to New York State as we continue to work toward the ambitious clean energy targets set by the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act.

It has been a pleasure collaborating with Community Offshore Wind on numerous donation projects, providing coats and school supplies to support local children and families in need. Their unwavering commitment to our Brooklyn community is commendable. Our initial encounter with Community Offshore Wind took place at the New York State MWBE conference in Albany back in 2022, marking the beginning of a meaningful partnership that continues to make a positive impact. As a Woman Owned Small Business, Buy Supply is cognizant of the importance of supporting our local and diverse community and our partnership with Community Offshore Wind gives us the opportunity to participate in many ways.

Community Offshore Wind brings together the expertise of a global leader in offshore wind with the local experience of a company that has already delivered large-scale energy infrastructure projects for New York. RWE is the second-largest developer of offshore wind in the world, with 19 projects in operation in 20 countries. National Grid and its legacy companies have operated in the region for decades, serving more than 20 million people across the Northeast, with more than 5,000 employees here in New York. This combination of local experience and global expertise makes Community Offshore Wind an ideal developer for New York, with the ability to deliver an on-time, on-budget project.

The joint venture continues to work directly with local stakeholders and elected officials to address the needs of communities across New York. They've cleaned up more than 900 pounds of garbage on our beaches; donated more than 1,300 winter coats and warm clothing items; and donated more than 30,000 meals of fresh, locally sourced seafood to New York food banks. They've demonstrated time and again that their commitment to New York goes far beyond clean energy – they want to lift up our communities and generate new opportunities for those who need it most.

388 South Ave · Staten Island · NY 10303



Community Offshore Wind has worked directly with organized labor, workforce development, and higher education institutions to ensure that there are pathways for current energy workers to train for careers in offshore wind and clean energy, and that today's students are prepared to pursue the jobs created by the growing offshore wind industry.

They recognize the critical importance of a just, equitable energy transition that benefits every New York worker, family, and business. Their existing project in New York includes a \$10 million investment in reduced-cost childcare services for all offshore wind workers and trainees in the state – even those not working directly for Community Offshore Wind. This kind of investment will break down the barriers that too often prevent working parents from accessing stable, high-paying careers, and demonstrates the venture's willingness to work with communities to identify their needs, and develop programs specifically tailored to best serve New Yorkers.

I am confident that Community Offshore Wind's proposal is the right project, at the right time, to simultaneously support our goal of a zero-emission electrical system and create new economic opportunities for communities across our state.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Mitchell R. Fine'.

Mitchell R. Fine

VP of Business Development



December 20, 2023

Doreen Harris
President & CEO
New York State Energy Research and Development Authority
17 Columbia Circle
Albany, NY 12203-6399

Re: Community Offshore Wind NY4

Dear Ms. Harris,

On behalf of Brooklyn Workforce Innovations, I am writing to enthusiastically support Community Offshore Wind's proposal in response to NYSERDA's fourth offshore wind solicitation, building on their existing contract to deliver enough offshore wind power for more than 500,000 New York homes. As you know Community Offshore Wind is a dynamic joint venture of RWE and National Grid Ventures.

Brooklyn Workforce Innovations (BWI; www.bwiny.org) mission is to empower low-income New Yorkers by creating living-wage employment opportunities and access to career paths. Our programs counter prevailing market inequalities, especially those based on race or gender, and contribute to a broader movement for economic justice.

BWI helps those with significant barriers to employment access careers through skilled training, access to employer-recognized credentials, job placement, and career development support. BWI has developed training programs built on promising local sectors of the economy. We only train people for jobs that lead to living-wage employment. Our instructors are skilled and experienced in the industries they train for, and we maintain long-standing relationships with a wide network of businesses that hire our graduates.

Our organization commends NYSERDA's continued leadership in helping spur economic development and advance innovative, safe energy solutions for the state.

BWI supports Community Offshore Wind's new proposal, and believes their partnership is the right partner for New York State as we continue to work toward the ambitious clean energy targets set by the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act.

Community Offshore Wind brings together the expertise of a global leader in offshore wind with the local experience of a company that has already delivered large-scale energy infrastructure projects for New York. RWE is the second-largest developer of offshore wind in the world, with 19 projects in operation in 20 countries. National Grid and its legacy companies have operated in the region for decades, serving more than 20 million people across the Northeast, with more than 5,000 employees

here in New York. This combination of local experience and global expertise makes Community Offshore Wind an ideal developer for New York, with the ability to deliver an on-time, on-budget project.

The joint venture continues to work directly with local stakeholders and elected officials to address the needs of communities across New York. They have cleaned up over 900 pounds of garbage on our beaches; donated over 1,300 winter coats and warm clothing items; and donated over 30,000 meals of fresh, locally sourced seafood to New York food banks. They have demonstrated repeatedly that their commitment to New York goes far beyond clean energy – they want to lift up our communities and generate new opportunities for those who need it most.

Community Offshore Wind has worked directly with organized labor, workforce development practitioners, and higher education institutions to ensure that there are pathways for current energy workers to train for careers in offshore wind and clean energy, and that today's students are prepared to pursue the jobs created by the growing offshore wind industry.

Community Offshore Wind recognizes the critical importance of a just, equitable energy transition that benefits every New York worker, family, and business. Their existing project in New York includes a \$10 million investment in reduced-cost childcare services for all offshore wind workers and trainees in the state – even those not working directly for Community Offshore Wind. This kind of investment will break down the barriers that too often prevent working parents from accessing stable, high-paying careers, and demonstrates the venture's willingness to work with communities to identify their needs, and develop programs specifically tailored to best serve New Yorkers.

I am confident that Community Offshore Wind's proposal is the right project, at the right time, to simultaneously support our goal of a zero-emission electrical system and create new economic opportunities for communities across our state.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ash', with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Aaron Shiffman
Executive Director



January 18, 2024

Doreen Harris
President & CEO
New York State Energy Research and Development Authority
17 Columbia Circle
Albany, NY 12203-6399

Dear Mrs. Harris,

Community Offshore Wind, a joint venture of RWE and National Grid Ventures, is submitting a proposal in response to NYSEDA's fourth offshore wind solicitation, building on their existing contract to deliver enough offshore wind power for more than 500,000 New York homes. On behalf of the **Cradle of Aviation Museum**, I support their new proposal, and believe that Community Offshore Wind is the right partner to New York State as we continue to work toward the ambitious clean energy targets set by the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act.

Community Offshore Wind brings together the expertise of a global leader in offshore wind with the local experience of a company that has already delivered large-scale energy infrastructure projects for New York. RWE is the second-largest developer of offshore wind in the world, with 19 projects in operation in 20 countries. National Grid and its legacy companies have operated in the region for decades, serving more than 20 million people across the Northeast, with more than 5,000 employees here in New York. This combination of local experience and global expertise makes Community Offshore Wind an ideal developer for New York, with the ability to deliver an on-time, on-budget project.

The joint venture continues to work directly with local stakeholders and elected officials to address the needs of communities across New York. They've cleaned up more than 900 pounds of garbage on our beaches; donated more than 1,300 winter coats and warm clothing items; and donated more than 30,000 meals of fresh, locally sourced seafood to New York food banks. They've demonstrated time and again that their commitment to New York goes far beyond clean energy – they want to lift up our communities and generate new opportunities for those who need it most.

Community Offshore Wind has proven to be committed to the communities they will serve. They sponsored the KIDWIND Competition which provides a unique platform for students to showcase their talents, enhance their knowledge, and foster a deeper appreciation for renewable energy solutions. They also attended our STEM career expo, where students were able to make early connections with local companies and increase awareness of the breadth of employment available to them.

I am confident that Community Offshore Wind's proposal is the right project, at the right time, to simultaneously support our goal of a zero-emission electrical system and create new economic opportunities for communities across our state.

Sincerely,



Inés Jijón
Director of Education

January 18, 2024

Doreen Harris, President and CEO
New York State Energy Research and Development Authority
17 Columbus Circle
Albany, NY 12203-6399

Dear Ms. Harris,

Community Offshore Wind, a joint venture of RWE and National Grid Ventures, is submitting a proposal in response to NYSERDA's fourth offshore wind solicitation, building on their existing contract to deliver enough offshore wind power for more than 500,000 New York homes. On behalf of the Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce I support their new proposal and believe that Community Offshore Wind is the right partner to New York State as we continue to work toward the ambitious clean energy targets set by the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act.

Community Offshore Wind brings together the expertise of a global leader in offshore wind with the local experience of a company that has already delivered large-scale energy infrastructure projects for New York. RWE is the second-largest developer of offshore wind in the world, with 19 projects in operation in 20 countries. National Grid and its legacy companies have operated in the region for decades, serving more than 20 million people across the Northeast, with more than 5,000 employees here in New York. This combination of local experience and global expertise makes Community Offshore Wind an ideal developer for New York, with the ability to deliver an on-time, on-budget project.

The joint venture continues to work directly with local stakeholders and elected officials to address the needs of communities across New York. They've cleaned up more than 900 pounds of garbage on our beaches; donated more than 1,300 winter coats and warm clothing items; and donated more than 30,000 meals of fresh, locally sourced seafood to New York food banks. They've demonstrated time and again that their commitment to New York goes far beyond clean energy – they want to lift up our communities and generate new opportunities for those who need it most.

Community Offshore Wind has worked directly with organized labor, workforce development, and higher education institutions to ensure that there are pathways for current energy workers to train for careers in offshore wind and clean energy, and that today's students are prepared to pursue the jobs created by the growing offshore wind industry.

They recognize the critical importance of a just, equitable energy transition that benefits every New York worker, family, and business. Their existing project in New York includes a \$10 million investment in reduced-cost childcare services for all offshore wind workers and trainees in the state – even those not working directly for Community Offshore Wind. This kind of investment will break down the barriers that too often prevent working parents from accessing stable, high-paying careers, and demonstrates the venture's willingness to work with communities to identify their needs, and develop programs specifically tailored to best serve New Yorkers.

I am confident that Community Offshore Wind's proposal is the right project, at the right time, to simultaneously support our goal of a zero-emission electrical system and create new economic opportunities for communities across our state.

Sincerely,



Randy Peers
President and CEO



Doreen Harris, President and CEO
NYS Energy Research and Development Authority
17 Columbus Circle, Albany, NY 12203

Dear Ms. Harris:

Community Offshore Wind, a joint venture of RWE and National Grid Ventures, is submitting a proposal in response to NYSERDA's fourth offshore wind solicitation, building on their existing contract to deliver enough offshore wind power for more than 500,000 New York homes. On behalf of the Center for Economic Growth, I support their new proposal, and believe that Community Offshore Wind is the right partner for New York State as we continue to work toward the ambitious clean energy targets set by the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act.

Community Offshore Wind brings together the expertise of a global leader in offshore wind with the local experience of a company that has already delivered large-scale energy infrastructure projects for New York. RWE is the second-largest developer of offshore wind in the world, with 19 projects in operation in 20 countries. National Grid and its legacy companies have operated in the region for decades, serving more than 20 million people across the Northeast, with more than 5,000 employees here in New York. This combination of local experience and global expertise makes Community Offshore Wind an ideal developer for New York, with the ability to deliver an on-time, on-budget project.

The joint venture continues to work directly with local stakeholders and elected officials to address the needs of communities across New York. They've cleaned up more than 900 pounds of garbage on our beaches; donated more than 1,300 winter coats and warm clothing items; and donated more than 30,000 meals of fresh, locally sourced seafood to New York food banks. They've demonstrated time and again that their commitment to New York goes far beyond clean energy – they want to lift our communities and generate new opportunities for those who need it most.

Community Offshore Wind has worked directly with organized labor, workforce development, and higher education institutions to ensure that there are pathways for current energy workers to train for careers in offshore wind and clean energy, and that today's students are prepared to pursue the jobs created by the growing offshore wind industry.

They recognize the critical importance of a just, equitable energy transition that benefits every New York worker, family and business. Their existing project in New York includes a \$10 million investment in reduced-cost childcare services for all offshore wind workers and trainees in the state – even those not working directly for Community Offshore Wind. This kind of investment will break down the barriers that too often prevent working parents from accessing stable, high-paying careers, and demonstrates the venture's willingness to work with communities to identify their needs, and develop programs specifically tailored to best serve New Yorkers.

I am confident that Community Offshore Wind's proposal is the right project, at the right time, to simultaneously support our goal of a zero-emission electrical system and create new economic opportunities for communities across our state.

Sincerely,

Katie Newcombe

Katie Newcombe
Chief Executive Officer



January 18, 2024

Doreen Harris
President & CEO
New York State Energy Research and Development Authority
17 Columbia Circle
Albany, NY 12203-6399

Dear Mrs. Harris,

Community Offshore Wind, a joint venture of RWE and National Grid Ventures, is submitting a proposal in response to NYSEDA's fourth offshore wind solicitation, building on their existing contract to deliver enough offshore wind power for more than 500,000 New York homes. On behalf of the **Cradle of Aviation Museum**, I support their new proposal, and believe that Community Offshore Wind is the right partner to New York State as we continue to work toward the ambitious clean energy targets set by the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act.

Community Offshore Wind brings together the expertise of a global leader in offshore wind with the local experience of a company that has already delivered large-scale energy infrastructure projects for New York. RWE is the second-largest developer of offshore wind in the world, with 19 projects in operation in 20 countries. National Grid and its legacy companies have operated in the region for decades, serving more than 20 million people across the Northeast, with more than 5,000 employees here in New York. This combination of local experience and global expertise makes Community Offshore Wind an ideal developer for New York, with the ability to deliver an on-time, on-budget project.

The joint venture continues to work directly with local stakeholders and elected officials to address the needs of communities across New York. They've cleaned up more than 900 pounds of garbage on our beaches; donated more than 1,300 winter coats and warm clothing items; and donated more than 30,000 meals of fresh, locally sourced seafood to New York food banks. They've demonstrated time and again that their commitment to New York goes far beyond clean energy – they want to lift up our communities and generate new opportunities for those who need it most.

Community Offshore Wind has proven to be committed to the communities they will serve. They sponsored the KIDWIND Competition which provides a unique platform for students to showcase their talents, enhance their knowledge, and foster a deeper appreciation for renewable energy solutions. They also attended our STEM career expo, where students were able to make early connections with local companies and increase awareness of the breadth of employment available to them.

I am confident that Community Offshore Wind's proposal is the right project, at the right time, to simultaneously support our goal of a zero-emission electrical system and create new economic opportunities for communities across our state.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Inés Jijon".

Inés Jijon
Director of Education



Doreen Harris
President & CEO
New York State Energy Research and Development Authority
17 Columbia Circle, Albany, NY 12203-6399

January 19, 2024

Dear Mrs. Harris,

Community Offshore Wind, a joint venture of RWE and National Grid Ventures, is submitting a proposal in response to NY-SERDA's fourth offshore wind solicitation, building on their existing contract to deliver enough offshore wind power for more than 500,000 New York homes. On behalf of Digho I support their new proposal, and believe that Community Offshore Wind is the right partner to New York State as we continue to work toward the ambitious clean energy targets set by the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act.

I was hired to be the graphic designer for Community Offshore Wind in December of 2021. As a NY, woman owned business, I appreciated the opportunity to be part of their team making a positive difference for the future of our community. The hard work and dedication to our local businesses, people and community as a whole has been an inspiration and an honor to help them grow and to continue their mission of affordable clean energy for all.

Community Offshore Wind brings together the expertise of a global leader in offshore wind with the local experience of a company that has already delivered large-scale energy infrastructure projects for New York. RWE is the second-largest developer of offshore wind in the world, with 19 projects in operation in 20 countries. National Grid and its legacy companies have operated in the region for decades, serving more than 20 million people across the Northeast, with more than 5,000 employees here in New York. This combination of local experience and global expertise makes Community Offshore Wind an ideal developer for New York, with the ability to deliver an on-time, on-budget project.

The joint venture continues to work directly with local stakeholders and elected officials to address the needs of communities across New York. They've cleaned up more than 900 pounds of garbage on our beaches; donated more than 1,300 winter coats and warm clothing items; and donated more than 30,000 meals of fresh, locally-sourced seafood to New York food banks. They've demonstrated time and again that their commitment to New York goes far beyond clean energy – they want to lift up our communities and generate new opportunity for those who need it most.

Community Offshore Wind has worked directly with organized labor, workforce development, and higher education institutions to ensure that there are pathways for current energy workers to train for careers in offshore wind and clean energy, and that today's students are prepared to pursue the jobs created by the growing offshore wind industry.

They recognize the critical importance of a just, equitable energy transition that benefits every New York worker, family and business. Their existing project in New York includes a \$10 million investment in reduced-cost childcare services for all offshore wind workers and trainees in the state – even those not working directly for Community Offshore Wind. This kind of investment will break down the barriers that too often prevent working parents from accessing stable, high-paying careers, and demonstrates the venture's willingness to work with communities to identify their needs, and develop programs specifically tailored to best serve New Yorkers.

I am confident that Community Offshore Wind's proposal is the right project, at the right time, to simultaneously support our goal of a zero-emission electrical system and create new economic opportunity for communities across our state.

Sincerely,
Diane Palma



January 5, 2024

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Lisa Warren

Erika Floreska
LICM President

Doreen Harris, President & CEO
New York State Energy Research and Development Authority
17 Columbia Circle
Albany, NY 12203-6399

Dear Ms. Harris,

Community Offshore Wind, a joint venture of RWE and National Grid Ventures, is submitting a proposal in response to NYSERDA's fourth offshore wind solicitation, building on their existing contract to deliver enough offshore wind power for more than 500,000 New York homes. On behalf of the Long Island Children's Museum, I support their new proposal, and believe that Community Offshore Wind is the right partner to New York State as we continue to work toward the ambitious clean energy targets set by the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act.

Community Offshore Wind brings together the expertise of a global leader in offshore wind with the local experience of a company that has already delivered large-scale energy infrastructure projects for New York. RWE is the second-largest developer of offshore wind in the world, with 19 projects in operation in 20 countries. National Grid and its legacy companies have operated in the region for decades, serving more than 20 million people across the Northeast, with more than 5,000 employees here in New York. This combination of local experience and global expertise makes Community Offshore Wind an ideal developer for New York, with the ability to deliver an on-time, on-budget project.

National Grid has a long history of supporting the Museum through our Green Teens program, our Westbury STEM Partnership program with a local underserved school district, attending our STEM events, and now with Community Offshore Wind supporting children by sending them to the Museum during Engineering Week.

We are confident that if Community Offshore Wind's proposal is chosen, they will continue to support the Museum, our STEM initiatives, and exhibits to benefit the children of Long Island.

Sincerely,

Erika Floreska
President

Rotary 
Environmental Action
Coalition of Huntington

January 17, 2024

Doreen Harris
President & CEO
New York State Energy Research and Development Authority
17 Columbia Circle
Albany, NY 12203-6399

Dear Mrs. Harris,

Community Offshore Wind, a joint venture of RWE and National Grid Ventures, is submitting a proposal in response to NYSERDA's fourth offshore wind solicitation, building on their existing contract to deliver enough offshore wind power for more than 500,000 New York homes. On behalf of **REACH**, the **Rotary Environmental Action Coalition of Huntington**, I support their new proposal, and believe that Community Offshore Wind is the right partner to New York State as we continue to work toward the ambitious clean energy targets set by the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act.

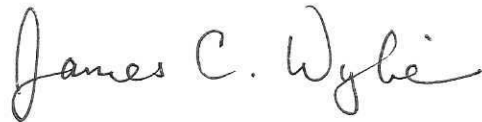
Community Offshore Wind brings together the expertise of a global leader in offshore wind with the local experience of a company that has already delivered large-scale energy infrastructure projects for New York. RWE is the second-largest developer of offshore wind in the world, with 19 projects in operation in 20 countries. National Grid and its legacy companies have operated in the region for decades, serving more than 20 million people across the Northeast, with more than 5,000 employees here in New York. This combination of local experience and global expertise makes Community Offshore Wind an ideal developer for New York, with the ability to deliver an on-time, on-budget project.

The joint venture continues to work directly with local stakeholders and elected officials to address the needs of communities across New York. They've cleaned up more than 900 pounds of garbage on our beaches; donated more than 1,300 winter coats and warm clothing items; and donated more than 30,000 meals of fresh, locally-sourced seafood to New York food banks. Specifically, they have funded our **Oyster Reef Project** for two summers in a row and have provided volunteers as well. With the help of Community Offshore Wind, in two years we have been able to grow 390,000 oysters and plant over 300 cu. ft. of new oyster reef in our local embayments.

They recognize the critical importance of a just, equitable energy transition that benefits every New York worker, family and business. Their existing project in New York includes a \$10 million investment in reduced-cost childcare services for all offshore wind workers and trainees in the state – even those not working directly for Community Offshore Wind. This kind of investment will break down the barriers that too often prevent working parents from accessing stable, high-paying careers, and demonstrates the venture’s willingness to work with communities to identify their needs, and develop programs specifically tailored to best serve New Yorkers.

I am confident that Community Offshore Wind’s proposal is the right project, at the right time, to simultaneously support our goal of a zero-emission electrical system and create new economic opportunities for communities across our state.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "James C. Wylie". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned to the right of the word "Sincerely,".

James C. Wylie, President 2024-2025

REACH Rotary Club

- The Oyster Reef Project
- The Sugar Kelp Project
- The Native Plant Project
- The Half-Shell Recycling Project



January 8, 2024

Doreen Harris
President & CEO
New York State Energy Research and Development Authority
17 Columbia Circle
Albany, NY 12203-6399

Dear Mrs. Harris,

Community Offshore Wind, a joint venture of RWE and National Grid Ventures, is submitting a proposal in response to NYSERDA's fourth offshore wind solicitation, building on their existing contract to deliver enough offshore wind power for more than 500,000 New York homes. On behalf of the **RETI Center**, I support their new proposal, and believe that Community Offshore Wind is the right partner to New York State as we continue to work toward the ambitious clean energy targets set by the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act.

Community Offshore Wind brings together the expertise of a global leader in offshore wind with the local experience of a company that has already delivered large-scale energy infrastructure projects for New York. RWE is the second-largest developer of offshore wind in the world, with 19 projects in operation in 20 countries. National Grid and its legacy companies have operated in the region for decades, serving more than 20 million people across the Northeast, with more than 5,000 employees here in New York. This combination of local experience and global expertise makes Community Offshore Wind an ideal developer for New York, with the ability to deliver an on-time, on-budget project.

Community Offshore Wind has proven to be committed to the communities they will serve. They began early engagement the RETI Center after winning their lease area. They sponsored and attended our City of Water Day event, have volunteered during Climate Week to build floating reefs, and have had their Labor Manager act as a guest speaker several times to talk about careers in offshore wind to our students. Community Offshore Wind values collaboration and we are confident they will continue their work as being a leader in offshore wind and climate change.

I am confident that Community Offshore Wind's proposal is the right project, at the right time, to simultaneously support our goal of a zero-emission electrical system and create new economic opportunity for communities across our state.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'T. Gilman', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Tim Gilman
Executive Director



Executive Director

Michael Partis

Board President

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Managing Director, Discovery,
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Nonprofit Consultant

Thomas L. McMahon

President and Founder,
TLM Associates

Amanda Sue Nichols

Lawyer and Philanthropist

Jennifer Wheary

Eden Wurmfeld,

Film & TV Producer

*"One of the most vital ways we sustain ourselves
is by building communities of resistance,
places where we know we are not alone."
— Red Hook youth*

January 12, 2024

Doreen Harris, President & CEO

New York State Energy Research and Development Authority

17 Columbia Circle

Albany, NY 12203-6399

Dear Mrs. Harris,

On behalf of **The Red Hook Initiative**, I support Community Offshore Wind, a joint venture of RWE and National Grid Ventures, and their proposal in response to NYSEDA's fourth offshore wind solicitation, building on their existing contract to deliver enough offshore wind power for more than 500,000 New York homes. I believe that Community Offshore Wind is the right partner to New York State as we continue to work toward the ambitious clean energy targets set by the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act.

Community Offshore Wind brings together the expertise of a global leader in offshore wind with the local experience of a company that has already delivered large-scale energy infrastructure projects for New York. RWE is the second-largest developer of offshore wind in the world, with 19 projects in operation in 20 countries. National Grid and its legacy companies have operated in the region for decades, serving more than 20 million people across the Northeast, with more than 5,000 employees here in New York. This combination of local experience and global expertise makes Community Offshore Wind an ideal developer for New York, with the ability to deliver an on-time, on-budget project.

Community Offshore Wind has proven to be committed to the communities they will serve following their two winter coat donations to families throughout New York State. On Giving Tuesday, for two consecutive years, Community Offshore Wind donated 200 coats to the **Red Hook Initiative**. They sponsored two STEM related field trips to NY Hall of Science during Engineering week and the New York Aquarium as well as sponsored and volunteered at our Spring Into Community event. They are exploring additional ways to support our programs - all benefitting residents of the Red Hook community.

I am confident that Community Offshore Wind's proposal is the right project, at the right time, to simultaneously support our goal of a zero-emission electrical system and create new economic opportunity for communities across our state.

Sincerely,

Yvonne Brathwaite

Chief Program and Policy Officer

January 9, 2024



Doreen Harris
President & CEO
New York State Energy Research and Development Authority
17 Columbia Circle
Albany, NY 12203-6399

Dear Mrs. Harris,

Community Offshore Wind, a joint venture of RWE and National Grid Ventures, is submitting a proposal in response to NYSERDA's fourth offshore wind solicitation, building on their existing contract to deliver enough offshore wind power for more than 500,000 New York homes. On behalf of **Operation SPLASH**, I support their new proposal, and believe that Community Offshore Wind is the right partner to New York State as we continue to work toward the ambitious clean energy targets set by the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act.

Community Offshore Wind brings together the expertise of a global leader in offshore wind with the local experience of a company that has already delivered large-scale energy infrastructure projects for New York. RWE is the second-largest developer of offshore wind in the world, with 19 projects in operation in 20 countries. National Grid and its legacy companies have operated in the region for decades, serving more than 20 million people across the Northeast, with more than 5,000 employees here in New York. This combination of local experience and global expertise makes Community Offshore Wind an ideal developer for New York, with the ability to deliver an on-time, on-budget project.

The joint venture continues to work directly with local stakeholders and elected officials to address the needs of communities across New York. In 2023, Community Offshore Wind developed a partnership with **Operation SPLASH** to sponsor a boat for a year and provide an education grant for field trips. Both COSW and SPLASH share a goal of prioritizing underserved communities to enhance their relationship with the local environment and provide children with a sense of autonomy despite their circumstances. While many districts are able to attend field trips with SPLASH through other funding streams, Uniondale School District unfortunately did not.

Community Offshore Wind's funding made it possible to bring the entire second grade of Uniondale Elementary Schools to Operation SPLASH during the fall. Students learned about marine and environmental education and also took a boat trip in the bay to learn about the impact pollution has on their waterways. Nearly 500 students from 5 elementary schools participated in the program and it was considered a huge success by all parties, including the Uniondale School District.

Community Offshore Wind realizes the critical importance of a just, equitable energy transition that benefits every New York worker, family and business. Their existing project in New York includes a \$10 million investment in reduced-cost childcare services for all offshore wind workers and trainees in the state – even those not working directly for Community Offshore Wind. This kind of investment will break down the barriers that too often prevent working parents from accessing stable, high-paying careers, and demonstrates the venture's willingness to work with communities to identify their needs, and develop programs specifically tailored to best serve New Yorkers.

I am confident that Community Offshore Wind's proposal is the right project, at the right time, to simultaneously support our goal of a zero-emission electrical system and create new economic opportunity for communities across our state.

Sincerely,
Robert Weltner
President

President
Robert Weltner

Vice Presidents
Captain Skip Zawrotny
Gary Smith
Maureen Bowie

Treasurer
Mike Hindley

Recording Secretary
Beverly Visconti

Corresponding Secretary
Pat Healy

Board of Directors
Joseph Pignataro
Bob Karcher
Dante Grover
James Jewett
Barbra Ludwig
Kim Weltner
...and 3500 other members!

Operation SPLASH
202 Woodcleft Ave.
Freeport, NY 11520
516-378-4770
OperationSPLASH.org



UTILITY WORKERS UNION OF AMERICA

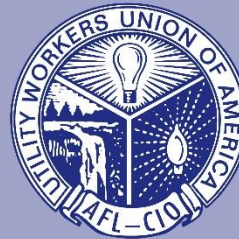
JAMES SLEVIN
PRESIDENT

PATRICK M. DILLON
EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT

MICHAEL COLEMAN
SECRETARY-TREASURER

CRAIG PINKHAM
VICE PRESIDENT

Affiliated with A.F.L.-C.I.O.



1300 L STREET, N.W.
SUITE 1200
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005
202-899-2851
202-899-2852 FAX
www.uwua.net



January 11, 2024

Doreen Harris
President & CEO
New York State Energy Research and Development Authority
17 Columbia Circle
Albany, NY 12203-6399

Dear Ms. Harris,

Community Offshore Wind, a joint venture of RWE and National Grid Ventures, is submitting a proposal in response to NYSERDA's fourth offshore wind solicitation, building on their existing contract to deliver enough offshore wind power for more than 500,000 New York homes. On behalf of the Utility Workers Union of America, representing around 45,000 members in the United States, I support their new proposal, and believe that Community Offshore Wind is the right partner to New York State as we continue to work toward the ambitious clean energy targets set by the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act.

Community Offshore Wind brings together the expertise of a global leader in offshore wind with the local experience of a company that has already delivered large-scale energy infrastructure projects for New York. RWE is the second-largest developer of offshore wind in the world, with 19 projects in operation in 20 countries. National Grid and its legacy companies have operated in the region for decades, serving more than 20 million people across the Northeast, with more than 5,000 employees here in New York. This combination of local experience and global expertise makes Community Offshore Wind an ideal developer for New York, with the ability to deliver an on-time, on-budget project.

Community Offshore Wind's labor engagement is unmatched. The team continues to lead by example in building trust between organized labor unions, community-based organizations, and the offshore wind industry to provide educational, economic, and environmental benefits to under resourced communities. The project is pursuing high-road labor agreements, integrates pre-apprenticeship, registered apprenticeship, and labor-management programs as key pillars of its workforce development strategy, and regularly communicates industry updates. The team is focused on creating a high-road regional supply chain by working with union and MWBE/SDVOB suppliers.

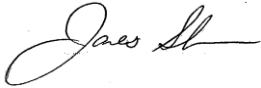
UWUA has demonstrated success through our Power 4 America (P4A) training program for the emerging renewables sector by building an onshore wind apprenticeship program in Michigan. In the future, the UWUA looks forward to collaborating, attending, and creating awareness of COSW, the good union jobs expected from its development, and the offshore wind applications to integrate into our existing training programs.

COSW also recognizes the critical importance of a just, equitable energy transition that benefits every New York worker, family, and business. Their existing project in New York includes a \$10 million investment in reduced-cost childcare services for all offshore wind workers and trainees in the state – even those not working directly for Community Offshore Wind. This kind of investment will break down the barriers that too often prevent working parents from accessing stable,

high-paying careers, and demonstrates the venture's willingness to work with communities to identify their needs, and develop programs specifically tailored to best serve New Yorkers.

I am confident that Community Offshore Wind's proposal is the right project, at the right time, to simultaneously support our goal of a zero-emission electrical system and create new economic opportunities for working families across the state.

In Solidarity,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James T. Slevin". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

James T. Slevin
UWUA National President



12/18/2023

Doreen Harris
President & CEO
New York State Energy Research and Development Authority
17 Columbia Circle
Albany, NY 12203-6399

RE: Support for NYS OREC 4

Dear President and CEO Harris:

Community Offshore Wind, a joint venture of RWE and National Grid Ventures, is submitting a proposal in response to NYSERDA's fourth offshore wind solicitation, building on their existing contract to deliver enough offshore wind power for more than 500,000 New York homes. On behalf of the Institute for Workforce Advancement (IWA), a 501c3 whose mission is to provide training and advocacy that ties job opportunities within advanced manufacturing to underserved communities and schools. As such, we support the offshore wind industry's efforts to engage non-profits like ours to create effective programming to support this emerging industry. I am in support of their new proposal and believe that Community Offshore Wind is the right partner to New York State as we all continue to work toward the ambitious clean energy targets set by the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act.

Community Offshore Wind brings together the expertise of a global leader in offshore wind with the local experience of a company that has already delivered large-scale energy infrastructure projects for New York. RWE is the second-largest developer of offshore wind in the world, with 19 projects in operation in 20 countries. National Grid and its legacy companies have operated in the region for decades, serving more than 20 million people across the Northeast, with more than 5,000 employees here in New York. This combination of local experience and global expertise makes Community Offshore Wind an ideal developer for New York, with the ability to deliver an on-time, on-budget project.

The joint venture continues to work directly with local stakeholders such as the IWA and elected officials to address the needs of communities across New York. Their community initiatives have cleaned up more than 900 pounds of garbage on our beaches; donated more than 1,300 winter coats and warm clothing items; and donated more than 30,000 meals of fresh, locally sourced seafood to New York food banks. They have demonstrated time and again that their commitment to New York goes far beyond clean energy – they want to lift up our communities and generate new opportunity for those who need it most.

Community Offshore Wind has worked directly with organized labor, workforce development, and higher education institutions to ensure that there are pathways for current energy workers to train for

careers in offshore wind and clean energy, and that today's students are prepared to pursue the jobs created by the growing offshore wind industry.

They recognize the critical importance of a just, equitable energy transition that benefits every New York worker, family, and business. Their existing project in New York includes a \$10 million investment in reduced-cost childcare services for all offshore wind workers and trainees in the state – even those not working directly for Community Offshore Wind. This kind of investment will break down the barriers that too often prevent working parents from accessing stable, high-paying careers, and demonstrates the venture's willingness to work with communities to identify their needs, and develop programs specifically tailored to best serve New Yorkers.

We applaud NYSERDA's bold vision for deploying more offshore wind in consideration of the State's climate goals, and we urge you to select the Community Offshore Wind project to keep New York on pace to meet our sustainability goals.

Sincerely,



Philip Rugile
Executive Director
Institute for Workforce Advancement
576 Broadhollow Rd.
Melville, NY 11746
prugile@compositepro.org



January 8, 2024

Doreen Harris
President & CEO
New York State Energy Research and Development Authority
17 Columbia Circle
Albany, NY 12203-6399

Dear Ms. Harris,

Community Offshore Wind, a joint venture of RWE and National Grid Ventures, is submitting a proposal in response to NYSERDA's fourth offshore wind solicitation, building on their existing contract to deliver enough offshore wind power for more than 500,000 New York homes. On behalf of the New York State Laborers' Union, representing over 40,000 members and 24 local unions in New York, I support their new proposal, and believe that Community Offshore Wind is the right partner to New York State as we continue to work toward the ambitious clean energy targets set by the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act.

Community Offshore Wind brings together the expertise of a global leader in offshore wind with the local experience of a company that has already delivered large-scale energy infrastructure projects for New York. RWE is the second-largest developer of offshore wind in the world, with 19 projects in operation in 20 countries. National Grid and its legacy companies have operated in the region for decades, serving more than 20 million people across the Northeast, with more than 5,000 employees here in New York. This combination of local experience and global expertise makes Community Offshore Wind an ideal developer for New York, with the ability to deliver an on-time, on-budget project.

Community Offshore Wind's labor engagement is unmatched. The team continues to lead by example in building trust between organized labor unions, community-based organizations, and the offshore wind industry to provide educational, economic, and environmental benefits to under-resourced communities. The project is pursuing high-road labor agreements, integrates pre-apprenticeship, registered apprenticeship, and labor-management programs as key pillars of its workforce development strategy, and regularly communicates industry updates. The team is focused on creating a high-road regional supply chain by working with union and MWBE/SDVOB suppliers. The NYS Laborers' will continue to collaborate, strategize, and facilitate awareness of Community Offshore Wind and the good union jobs expected from its development.

COSW also recognizes the critical importance of a just, equitable energy transition that benefits every New York worker, family, and business. Their existing project in New York includes a \$10 million investment in reduced-cost childcare services for all offshore wind workers and trainees in the state – even those not working directly for Community Offshore Wind. This kind of investment will break down the barriers that too often prevent working parents from accessing stable, high-paying careers, and



demonstrates the venture's willingness to work with communities to identify their needs, and develop programs specifically tailored to best serve New Yorkers.

I am confident that Community Offshore Wind's proposal is the right project, at the right time, to simultaneously support our goal of a zero-emission electrical system and create new economic opportunity for working families across the state.

Sincerely,

Vincent Albanese
Executive Director
New York State Laborers' PAC



January 19th, 2024

Doreen Harris, President & CEO
New York State Energy Research & Development Authority
17 Columbia Circle
Albany, NY 12203-6399

RE: Support for Community Offshore Wind NY4 Proposal Submission

Dear Ms. Harris,

We have been pleased to be able to meet and collaborate with the Community Offshore Wind team in furtherance of workforce development and inclusive supply chain development in the renewable energy industry. We appreciate the importance they place on workforce development and their engagement with labor unions and community stakeholders as part of the proposal development process. We welcome the opportunity to work with them in the event their proposal in response to New York's fourth offshore wind solicitation is selected for award.

The Workforce Development Institute (WDI) is a statewide non-profit that works to increase opportunities for all New Yorkers to succeed in the workforce while earning family-sustaining wages. We use a range of tools including "boots on the ground" information, workforce expertise, data analysis, and flexible funding to facilitate projects that help labor unions, employers, educational institutions, and other workforce partners think and act differently regarding hiring, training, educating, and retaining an inclusive and productive workforce.

For more than a decade, WDI has been tracking the offshore wind energy industry in the United States. We have helped our partners better understand the industry and supported projects that seek to capitalize on its workforce and economic development opportunities. Our support for offshore wind energy has been consistently driven by a dual recognition that 1) the climate crisis represents perhaps the biggest threat to New York's workforce and 2) that its current and proposed solutions – renewable energy, environmental remediation, etc. – offer a generational opportunity to bring high-quality, family-sustaining careers to the state while advancing diversity and inclusivity in our economy. WDI looks forward to widening participation in the industry across the supply chain and the workforce.

Sincerely,

Amy Desjardins, Executive Director
Workforce Development Institute
www.wdiny.org | 518-463-2141



January 16, 2024

Doreen Harris
President & CEO
New York State Energy Research and Development Authority
17 Columbia Circle
Albany, NY 12203-6399

Dear Ms. Harris,

Community Offshore Wind, a joint venture of RWE and National Grid Ventures, is submitting a proposal in response to NYSERDA's fourth offshore wind solicitation, building on their existing contract to deliver enough offshore wind power for more than 500,000 New York homes. On behalf of FuzeHub, I support their new proposal, and believe that Community Offshore Wind is the right partner to New York State as we continue to work toward the ambitious clean energy targets set by the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act.

Community Offshore Wind brings together the expertise of a global leader in offshore wind with the local experience of a company that has already delivered large-scale energy infrastructure projects for New York. RWE is the second-largest developer of offshore wind in the world, with 19 projects in operation in 20 countries. National Grid and its legacy companies have operated in the region for decades, serving more than 20 million people across the Northeast, with more than 5,000 employees here in New York. This combination of local experience and global expertise makes Community Offshore Wind an ideal developer for New York, with the ability to deliver an on-time, on-budget project.

The joint venture continues to work directly with local stakeholders and elected officials to address the needs of communities across New York. They've cleaned up more than 900 pounds of garbage on our beaches; donated more than 1,300 winter coats and warm clothing items; and donated more than 30,000 meals of fresh, locally-sourced seafood to New York food banks. They've demonstrated time and again that their commitment to New York goes far beyond clean energy – they want to lift up our communities and generate new opportunity for those who need it most.

Community Offshore Wind has worked directly with organized labor, workforce development, and higher education institutions to ensure that there are pathways for current energy workers to train for careers in offshore wind and clean energy, and that today's students are prepared to pursue the jobs created by the growing offshore wind industry.

They recognize the critical importance of a just, equitable energy transition that benefits every New York worker, family and business. Their existing project in New York includes a \$10 million investment in reduced-cost childcare services for all offshore wind workers and trainees in the state – even those not working directly for Community Offshore Wind. This kind of investment will break down the barriers that too often prevent working parents from accessing stable, high-paying careers, and demonstrates the venture's willingness to work with communities to identify their needs, and develop programs specifically tailored to best serve New Yorkers.

I am confident that Community Offshore Wind's proposal is the right project, at the right time, to simultaneously support our goal of a zero-emission electrical system and create new economic opportunity for communities across our state.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Elena Garuc", is centered below the word "Sincerely,". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Elena Garuc
Executive Director
FuzeHub



INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS

LOCAL UNION 1049

100 Corporate Drive • Holtsville, NY 11742 • Telephone: (631) 234-1800 • Facsimile: (631) 234-1034

Patrick Guidice
Business Manager

James Cooper
President

Thomas J. Dowling
Secretary



January 18, 2024

Doreen Harris
President & CEO
New York State Energy Research and Development Authority
17 Columbia Circle
Albany, NY 12203-6399

Dear Ms. Harris,

Community Offshore Wind, a joint venture of RWE and National Grid Ventures, is submitting a proposal in response to NYSERDA's fourth offshore wind solicitation, building on their existing contract to deliver enough offshore wind power for more than 500,000 New York homes. On behalf of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 1049, representing over 4,000 members on Long Island, I support their new proposal, and believe that Community Offshore Wind is the right partner to New York State as we continue to work toward the ambitious clean energy targets set by the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act.

Community Offshore Wind brings together the expertise of a global leader in offshore wind with the local experience of a company that has already delivered large-scale energy infrastructure projects for New York. RWE is the second-largest developer of offshore wind in the world, with 19 projects in operation in 20 countries. National Grid and its legacy companies have operated in the region for decades, serving more than 20 million people across the Northeast, with more than 5,000 employees here in New York. This combination of local experience and global expertise makes Community Offshore Wind an ideal developer for New York, with the ability to deliver an on-time, on-budget project.

Community Offshore Wind's labor engagement is unmatched. The team continues to lead by example in building trust between organized labor unions, community-based organizations, and the offshore wind industry to provide educational, economic, and environmental benefits to under resourced communities. The project is pursuing high-road labor agreements, integrates pre-apprenticeship, registered apprenticeship, and labor-management programs as key pillars of its workforce development strategy,

and regularly communicates industry updates. The team is focused on creating a high-road regional supply chain by working with union and MWBE/SDVOB suppliers.

Currently, IBEW Local 1049 represents approximately 1,800 unionized employees working in National Grid's natural gas and power plant operations, as well as distribution networks. Our members also include skilled craft workers employed as contractors. We are excited about the prospect of collaborating on this project and contributing our specialized skills and expertise. The positive impact this project will have on our community and members aligns perfectly with our mission and goals.

COSW also recognizes the critical importance of a just, equitable energy transition that benefits every New York worker, family, and business. Their existing project in New York includes a \$10 million investment in reduced-cost childcare services for all offshore wind workers and trainees in the state – even those not working directly for Community Offshore Wind. This kind of investment will break down the barriers that too often prevent working parents from accessing stable, high-paying careers, and demonstrates the venture's willingness to work with communities to identify their needs, and develop programs specifically tailored to best serve New Yorkers.

I am confident that Community Offshore Wind's proposal is the right project, at the right time, to simultaneously support our goal of a zero-emission electrical system and create new economic opportunity for working families across the state.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Pat Guidice". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Pat Guidice
Business Manager

cc: Rick Fridell
Assistant Business Manager

Jerome Bost
External Affairs



2800 Victory
Boulevard
Staten Island,
NY 10314 T
718.982.2420
www.csi.cuny.edu

Robert Wallace
Interim Vice President
Economic Development and
Community Partnerships

January 18, 2024

Doreen Harris
& CEO
New York State Energy Research and Development Authority
17 Columbia Circle
Albany, NY 12203-6399

Dear President Harris,

Community Offshore Wind, a joint venture of RWE and National Grid Ventures, is submitting a proposal in response to NYSERDA's fourth offshore wind solicitation, building on their existing contract to deliver enough offshore wind power for more than 500,000 New York homes. On behalf of the College of Staten Island, I support their new proposal, and believe that Community Offshore Wind is the right partner to New York State as we continue to work toward the ambitious clean energy targets set by the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act.

Community Offshore Wind brings together the expertise of a global leader in offshore wind with the local experience of a company that has already delivered large-scale energy infrastructure projects for New York. RWE is the second-largest developer of offshore wind in the world, with 19 projects in operation in 20 countries. National Grid and its legacy companies have operated in the region for decades, serving more than 20 million people across the Northeast, with more than 5,000 employees here in New York. This combination of local experience and global expertise makes Community Offshore Wind an ideal developer for New York, with the ability to deliver an on-time, on-budget project.

The joint venture continues to work directly with local stakeholders and elected officials to address the needs of communities across New York. They've cleaned up more than 900 pounds of garbage on our beaches; donated more than 1,300 winter coats and warm clothing items; and donated more than 30,000 meals of fresh, locally-sourced seafood to New York food banks. They've demonstrated time and again that their commitment to New York goes far beyond clean energy – they want to lift up our communities and generate new opportunity for those who need it most.

Community Offshore Wind has worked directly with organized labor, workforce development, and higher education institutions to ensure that there are pathways for current energy workers to train for careers in offshore wind and clean energy, and that today's students are prepared to pursue the jobs created by the growing offshore wind industry.



They recognize the critical importance of a just, equitable energy transition that benefits every New York worker, family and business. Their existing project in New York includes a \$10 million investment in reduced-cost childcare services for all offshore wind workers and trainees in the state – even those not working directly for Community Offshore Wind. This kind of investment will break down the barriers that too often prevent working parents from accessing stable, high-paying careers, and demonstrates the venture’s willingness to work with communities to identify their needs, and develop programs specifically tailored to best serve New Yorkers.

I am confident that Community Offshore Wind’s proposal is the right project, at the right time, to simultaneously support our goal of a zero-emission electrical system and create new economic opportunity for communities across our state.

Sincerely,



Robert A. Wallace
Interim Vice President for Economic Development &
Community Partnerships
College of Staten Island, City University of New York



Consortium For Worker Education

305 Seventh Avenue, Third Floor, New York, NY 10001
212.647.1900 | Fax 212.647.1915 | www.cwe.org

January 2, 2024

Mariah Dignan
Labor Manager
Community Offshore Wind

RE: COSW NY4 Proposal

Dear Ms. Dignan,

Community Offshore Wind, a joint venture of RWE and National Grid Ventures, is submitting a proposal in response to NYSERDA's fourth offshore wind solicitation, building on their existing contract to deliver enough offshore wind power for more than 500,000 New York homes. On behalf of the Consortium for Worker Education (CWE) we support their new proposal and believe that Community Offshore Wind is the right partner to New York State as we continue to work toward the ambitious clean energy targets set by the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act.

Community Offshore Wind brings together the expertise of a global leader in offshore wind with the local experience of a company that has already delivered large-scale energy infrastructure projects for New York. RWE is the second-largest developer of offshore wind in the world, with 19 projects in operation in 20 countries. National Grid and its legacy companies have operated in the region for decades, serving more than 20 million people across the Northeast, with more than 5,000 employees here in New York. This combination of local experience and global expertise makes Community Offshore Wind an ideal developer for New York, with the ability to deliver an on-time, on-budget project.

The joint venture continues to work directly with local stakeholders and elected officials to address the needs of communities across New York. They've cleaned up more than 900 pounds of garbage on our beaches; donated more than 1,300 winter coats and warm clothing items; and donated more than 30,000 meals of fresh, locally-sourced seafood to New York food banks. They've demonstrated time and again that their commitment to New York goes far beyond clean energy – they want to lift up our communities and generate new opportunity for those who need it most.

Community Offshore Wind has worked directly with organized labor, workforce development, and higher education institutions to ensure that there are pathways for current energy workers to train for careers in offshore wind and clean energy, and that today's students are prepared to pursue the jobs created by the growing offshore wind industry.

They recognize the critical importance of a just, equitable energy transition that benefits every New York worker, family and business. Their existing project in New York includes a \$10 million investment in reduced-cost childcare services for all offshore wind workers and trainees in the state – even those not working directly for Community Offshore Wind. This kind of investment will break down the barriers that too often prevent working parents from accessing stable, high-paying careers, and demonstrates the venture's willingness to work with communities to identify their needs, and develop programs specifically tailored to best serve New Yorkers.

We are confident that Community Offshore Wind's proposal is the right project, at the right time, to simultaneously support our goal of a zero-emission electrical system and create new economic opportunity for communities across our state.

Sincerely,

Glenda Williams
Deputy Executive Director for Workforce Partnerships
Consortium for Worker Education

Factory Systems Installer, Inc.
157 48th Street
Brooklyn, NY 11232

January 15, 2024

Doreen Harris
President and CEO
New York State Research and Development Authority
17 Columbia Circle
Albany, NY 12203-6399

Dear Mrs. Harris,

Community Offshore Wind, a joint venture of RWE and National Grid Ventures, is submitting a proposal in response to NYSERDA's fourth offshore wind solicitation, building on their existing contract to deliver enough offshore power for more than 500,000 New York homes. On behalf of Factory Systems Installer, Inc, I support their new proposal, and believe that Community Offshore Wind is the right partner to New York state as they continue to work toward the ambitious clean energy targets set by the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act.

We have collaborated with Community Offshore Wind on the retrofitting of their EV community van designed to help them connect with local community members. Community Offshore Wind is a developer that cares about being present in local neighborhoods and hearing what their neighbors need. As a Brooklyn based Small Women Owned business, we take pride in our partnership with Community Offshore Wind and wholeheartedly support their project.

Community Offshore Wind brings together the expertise of a global leader in offshore wind with the local experience of a company that has already delivered large-scale energy infrastructure projects for New York. RWE is the second largest developer of offshore wind in the world, with 19 projects in operation in 20 countries. National Grid and its legacy companies have operated in the region for decades, serving more than 20 million people across the Northeast, with more than 5,000 employees in New York. This combination of local experience and global expertise makes Community Offshore Wind an ideal developer for New York, with the ability to deliver an on-time, on-budget project.

I am confident that Community Offshore Wind's proposal is the right project, at the right time, to simultaneously support our goal of a zero-emission electrical system and create new economic opportunity for communities across our state.

Sincerely,

Marylouise Mulvey
President



Here for Long Island. Here for You.

January 10, 2024

Doreen Harris
President & CEO
New York State Energy Research and Development Authority
17 Columbia Circle
Albany, NY 12203-6399

Dear Mrs. Harris,

Community Offshore Wind, a joint venture of RWE and National Grid Ventures, is submitting a proposal in response to NYSERDA's fourth offshore wind solicitation, building on their existing contract to deliver enough offshore wind power for more than 500,000 New York homes. On behalf of **Family and Children's Association**, I support their new proposal, and believe that Community Offshore Wind is the right partner to New York State as we continue to work toward the ambitious clean energy targets set by the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act.

Community Offshore Wind brings together the expertise of a global leader in offshore wind with the local experience of a company that has already delivered large-scale energy infrastructure projects for New York. RWE is the second-largest developer of offshore wind in the world, with 19 projects in operation in 20 countries. National Grid and its legacy companies have operated in the region for decades, serving more than 20 million people across the Northeast, with more than 5,000 employees here in New York. This combination of local experience and global expertise makes Community Offshore Wind an ideal developer for New York, with the ability to deliver an on-time, on-budget project.

The joint venture continues to work directly with local stakeholders and elected officials to address the needs of communities across New York. They've cleaned up more than 900 pounds of garbage on our beaches; donated more than 1,300 winter coats and warm clothing items; and donated more than 30,000 meals of fresh, locally sourced seafood to New York food banks. They've demonstrated time and again that their commitment to New York goes far beyond clean energy – they want to lift up our communities and generate new opportunities for those who need it most.

Community Offshore Wind has proven to be committed to the communities they will serve. They have donated school supplies to our children and engaged our students in a "Global Wind Day" activity in order to educate them on the offshore wind industry. Community Offshore Wind values collaboration and we are confident they will continue their work as being a leader in offshore wind and climate change.



Here for Long Island. Here for You.

I am confident that Community Offshore Wind's proposal is the right project, at the right time, to simultaneously support our goal of a zero-emission electrical system and create new economic opportunities for communities across our state.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jeffrey L. Reynolds', is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Jeffrey L. Reynolds, Ph.D
President & CEO
Family and Children's Association (FCA)
377 Oak Street, Fifth Floor
Garden City, NY 11530
Office: (516) 746-0350 ext 4304



International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers



Dennis C. Affinati, International Vice President
500 CHERRINGTON PARKWAY, SUITE 325
CORAOPLIS, PA 15108
(412) 269-4963 • Fax (412) 269-4964

Kenneth W. Cooper, International President
Paul A. Noble, International Secretary-Treasurer

New York

New Jersey

Pennsylvania

Delaware

January 8, 2024

Doreen Harris
President & CEO
New York State Energy Research and Development Authority
17 Columbia Circle
Albany, NY 12203-6399

Dear Ms. Harris:

Community Offshore Wind, a joint venture of RWE and National Grid Ventures, is submitting a proposal in response to NYSEERDA's fourth offshore wind solicitation, building on their existing contract to deliver enough offshore wind power for more than 500,000 New York homes. On behalf of the fourteen IBEW Construction Local Unions and their 55,000 members within New York, I support their new proposal and believe that Community Offshore Wind is the right partner for New York State as we continue to work toward the ambitious clean energy targets set by the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act.

Community Offshore Wind brings together the expertise of a global leader in offshore wind with the local experience of a company that has already delivered large-scale energy infrastructure projects for New York. RWE is the second-largest developer of offshore wind in the world, with 19 projects in operation in 20 countries. National Grid and its legacy companies have operated in the region for decades, serving more than 20 million people across the Northeast, with more than 5,000 employees here in New York. This combination of local experience and global expertise makes Community Offshore Wind an ideal developer for New York, with the ability to deliver an on-time, on-budget project.

Community Offshore Wind's labor engagement is unmatched. The team continues to lead by example in building trust between organized labor unions, community-based organizations, and the offshore wind industry to provide educational, economic, and environmental benefits across New York, including under resourced communities. The project is pursuing high-road labor agreements as it integrates pre-apprenticeship, registered apprenticeship, and labor-management programs as key pillars of its workforce development strategy, and regularly communicates industry updates. The team is focused on creating a high-road regional supply chain by working with union and MWBE/SDVOB suppliers. The International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers

Doreen Harris
President & CEO
New York State Energy Research and
Development Authority

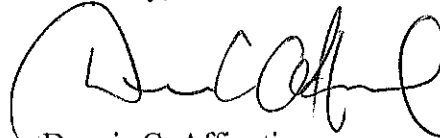
Page 2

(IBEW) will continue to collaborate, strategize, and facilitate awareness of Community Offshore Wind and the good union jobs expected from its developments.

COSW also recognizes the critical importance of a just, equitable energy transition that benefits every New York worker, family, and business. Their existing project in New York includes a \$10 million investment in reduced-cost childcare services for all offshore wind workers and trainees in the state – even those not working directly for Community Offshore Wind. This kind of investment will break down the barriers that too often prevent working parents from accessing stable, high-paying careers, and demonstrates the venture's willingness to work with communities to identify their needs, and develop programs specifically tailored to best serve New Yorkers.

I am confident that Community Offshore Wind's proposal is the right project, at the right time, to simultaneously support our goal of a zero-emission electrical system and create new economic opportunities for working families across the state.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. Affinati", written in a cursive style.

Dennis C. Affinati
International Vice President

DCA:lr



IRON WORKERS LOCALS 40 & 361 APPRENTICE & TRAINING FACILITY

January 16, 2024

Doreen Harris
President & CEO
New York State Energy Research and Development Authority
17 Columbia Circle
Albany, NY 12203-6399

Dear Ms. Harris,

Community Offshore Wind, a joint venture of RWE and National Grid Ventures, is submitting a proposal in response to NYSERDA's fourth offshore wind solicitation, building on their existing contract to deliver enough offshore wind power for more than 500,000 New York homes. On behalf of the NYS Iron Workers District Council, representing over 10,000 members in New York, I support their new proposal, and believe that Community Offshore Wind is the right partner to New York State as we continue to work toward the ambitious clean energy targets set by the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act.

Community Offshore Wind brings together the expertise of a global leader in offshore wind with the local experience of a company that has already delivered large-scale energy infrastructure projects for New York. RWE is the second-largest developer of offshore wind in the world, with 19 projects in operation in 20 countries. National Grid and its legacy companies have operated in the region for decades, serving more than 20 million people across the Northeast, with more than 5,000 employees here in New York. This combination of local experience and global expertise makes Community Offshore Wind an ideal developer for New York, with the ability to deliver an on-time, on-budget project.

Community Offshore Wind's labor engagement is unmatched. The team continues to lead by example in building trust between organized labor unions, community-based organizations, and the offshore wind industry to provide educational, economic, and environmental benefits to under-resourced communities. The project is pursuing high-road labor agreements, integrates pre-apprenticeship, registered apprenticeship, and labor-management programs as key pillars of its workforce development strategy, and regularly communicates industry updates. The team is

focused on creating a high-road regional supply chain by working with union and MWBE/SDVOB suppliers. NYS Iron Workers District Council will continue to collaborate, strategize, and facilitate awareness of Community Offshore Wind and the good union jobs expected from its development.

COSW also recognizes the critical importance of a just, equitable energy transition that benefits every New York worker, family, and business. Their existing project in New York includes a \$10 million investment in reduced-cost childcare services for all offshore wind workers and trainees in the state – even those not working directly for Community Offshore Wind. This kind of investment will break down the barriers that too often prevent working parents from accessing stable, high-paying careers, and demonstrates the venture’s willingness to work with communities to identify their needs, and develop programs specifically tailored to best serve New Yorkers.

I am confident that Community Offshore Wind’s proposal is the right project, at the right time, to simultaneously support our goal of a zero-emission electrical system and create new economic opportunity for working families across the state.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Bryan M. Brady II".

Bryan M. Brady II
Director of Training



Local One

International Union of Elevator Constructors of New York and New Jersey - (AFL-CIO)

47-24 27th Street • Long Island City, New York 11101
Phone: (718) 767.7004 • Fax: (718) 383.0068
WWW.LOCALONEIUEC.COM



January 15, 2024

Doreen Harris President & CEO
New York State Energy Research and Development Authority
17 Columbia Circle
Albany, NY 12203-6399

Dear Ms. Harris,

Community Offshore Wind, a joint venture of RWE and National Grid Ventures, is submitting a proposal in response to NYSERDA's fourth offshore wind solicitation, building on their existing contract to deliver enough offshore wind power for more than 500,000 New York homes. On behalf of the International Union of Elevator Constructors Local 1, representing over 3,000 members in New York City, Westchester, Rockland, New Jersey, and Long Island, I support their new proposal, and believe that Community Offshore Wind is the right partner to New York State as we continue to work toward the ambitious clean energy targets set by the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act.

Community Offshore Wind brings together the expertise of a global leader in offshore wind with the local experience of a company that has already delivered large-scale energy infrastructure projects for New York. RWE is the second-largest developer of offshore wind in the world, with 19 projects in operation in 20 countries. National Grid and its legacy companies have operated in the region for decades, serving more than 20 million people across the Northeast, with more than 5,000 employees here in New York. This combination of local experience and global expertise makes Community Offshore Wind an ideal developer for New York, with the ability to deliver an on-time, on-budget project.

Community Offshore Wind's labor engagement is unmatched. The team continues to lead by example in building trust between organized labor unions, community-based organizations, and the offshore wind industry to provide educational, economic, and environmental benefits to under resourced communities. The project is pursuing high-road labor agreements, integrates pre-apprenticeship, registered apprenticeship, and labor-management programs as key pillars of its workforce development strategy, and regularly communicates industry updates. The team is focused on creating a high-road regional supply chain by working with union and MWBE/SDVOB suppliers. IUEC Local 1 will continue to collaborate, strategize, and facilitate awareness of Community Offshore Wind and the good union jobs expected from its development.

COSW also recognizes the critical importance of a just, equitable energy transition that benefits every New York worker, family, and business. Their existing project in New York includes a

\$10 million investment in reduced-cost childcare services for all offshore wind workers and trainees in the state – even those not working directly for Community Offshore Wind. This kind of investment will break down the barriers that too often prevent working parents from accessing stable, high-paying careers, and demonstrates the venture’s willingness to work with communities to identify their needs, and develop programs specifically tailored to best serve New Yorkers.

I am confident that Community Offshore Wind’s proposal is the right project, at the right time, to simultaneously support our goal of a zero-emission electrical system and create new economic opportunity for working families across the state.

Sincerely,



Lenny Legotte
President/Business Manager



NEW YORK STATE CONFERENCE INTERNATIONAL UNION OF OPERATING ENGINEERS

44-40 11th STREET • LONG ISLAND CITY, NY 11101

Tel: (212) 929-5327

Fax: (718) 729-3070

Affiliated with the AFL-CIO



January 3, 2024

Doreen Harris
President & CEO
New York State Energy Research and Development Authority
17 Columbia Circle
Albany, NY 12203-6399

Dear Ms. Harris,

Community Offshore Wind, a joint venture of RWE and National Grid Ventures, is submitting a proposal in response to NYSERDA's fourth offshore wind solicitation, building on their existing contract to deliver enough offshore wind power for more than 500,000 New York homes. On behalf of the New York affiliates of the International Union of Operating Engineers (IUOE), representing over 36,000 members throughout the state, I support their new proposal, and believe that Community Offshore Wind is the right partner to New York State as we continue to work toward the ambitious clean energy targets set by the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act.

Community Offshore Wind brings together the expertise of a global leader in offshore wind with the local experience of a company that has already delivered large-scale energy infrastructure projects for New York. RWE is the second-largest developer of offshore wind in the world, with 19 projects in operation in 20 countries. National Grid and its legacy companies have operated in the region for decades, serving more than 20 million people across the Northeast, with more than 5,000 employees here in New York. This combination of local experience and global expertise makes Community Offshore Wind an ideal developer for New York, with the ability to deliver an on-time, on-budget project.

Community Offshore Wind's labor engagement is unmatched. The team continues to lead by example in building trust between organized labor unions, community-based organizations, and the offshore wind industry to provide educational, economic, and environmental benefits to under resourced communities. The project is pursuing high-road labor agreements, integrates pre-apprenticeship, registered apprenticeship, and labor-management programs as key pillars of its workforce development strategy, and regularly communicates industry updates. The team is focused on creating a high-road regional supply chain by working with union and MWBE/SDVOB suppliers. IUOE will continue to collaborate, strategize, and facilitate awareness of Community Offshore Wind and the good union jobs expected from its development.

COSW also recognizes the critical importance of a just, equitable energy transition that benefits every New York worker, family, and business. Their existing project in New York includes a \$10 million investment in reduced-cost childcare services for all offshore wind workers and trainees in the state –

even those not working directly for Community Offshore Wind. This kind of investment will break down the barriers that too often prevent working parents from accessing stable, high-paying careers, and demonstrates the venture's willingness to work with communities to identify their needs, and develop programs specifically tailored to best serve New Yorkers.

I am confident that Community Offshore Wind's proposal is the right project, at the right time, to simultaneously support our goal of a zero-emission electrical system and create new economic opportunity for working families across the state.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "T. A. Callahan". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Thomas A. Callahan
President



DC9 NEW YORK

DISTRICTCOUNCIL9.NET

BUSINESS MANAGER/
SECRETARY TREASURER
Joseph Azzopardi

PRESIDENT
John Drew

01/02/2024

Doreen Harris
President & CEO
New York State Energy Research and Development Authority
17 Columbia Circle
Albany, NY 12203-6399

Dear Ms. Harris,
Community Offshore Wind, a joint venture of RWE and National Grid Ventures, is submitting a proposal in response to NYSERDA’s fourth offshore wind solicitation, building on their existing contract to deliver enough offshore wind power for more than 500,000 New York homes. On behalf District Council 9 Painters and Allied Trades, representing over 11,000 members in New York, I support their new proposal, and believe that Community Offshore Wind is the right partner to New York State as we continue to work toward the ambitious clean energy targets set by the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act.

Community Offshore Wind brings together the expertise of a global leader in offshore wind with the local experience of a company that has already delivered large-scale energy infrastructure projects for New York. RWE is the second-largest developer of offshore wind in the world, with 19 projects in operation in 20 countries. National Grid and its legacy companies have operated in the region for decades, serving more than 20 million people across the Northeast, with more than 5,000 employees here in New York. This combination of local experience and global expertise makes Community Offshore Wind an ideal developer for New York, with the ability to deliver an on-time, on-budget project.

Community Offshore Wind’s labor engagement is unmatched. The team continues to lead by example in building trust between organized labor unions, community-based organizations, and the offshore wind industry to provide educational, economic, and environmental benefits to under resourced communities. The project is pursuing high-road labor agreements, integrates pre-apprenticeship, registered apprenticeship, and labor-management programs as key pillars of its workforce development strategy, and regularly communicates industry updates. The team is focused on creating a high-road regional supply chain by working with union and MWBE/SDVOB suppliers. IUPAT DC 9 will continue to collaborate, strategize, and facilitate

NYC—PAINTERS,
GLAZIERS,
WALLCOVERERS
45 WEST 14TH STREET
NEW YORK, NY 10011
TEL: 212-255-2950
FAX: 212-255-1151

STRUCTURAL STEEL
& BRIDGEPAINTERS
36-18 33RD STREET
LONG ISLAND CITY, NY
11106
TEL: 212-447-0149
FAX: 212-545-8386

DRYWALL TAPERS
& POINTERS
45 WEST 14TH STREET
NEW YORK, NY 10011
TEL: 212-242-8500
FAX: 212-242-2356

METAL POLISHERS
& SIGN & DISPLAY
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11106
TEL: 718-361-1770
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NASSAU—SUFFOLK
103 CARLETON AVENUE
EAST ISLIP, NY 11730
TEL: 631-581-8900
FAX: 631-581-0189

WESTCHESTER—PUTNAM
595 WEST HARTSDALE AVENUE
WHITE PLAINS, NY 10607
TEL: 914-592-3696
FAX: 914-592-1232

HUDSON VALLEY
21 AIRPORT DRIVE
WAPPINGERS FALLS, NY
12590
TEL: 845-473-0564
FAX: 845-473-6550

ALBANY & NORTH
191 BROADWAY
MENANDS, NY 12204
TEL: 518-489-5791
FAX: 518-453-3588



DC9 NEW YORK

DISTRICTCOUNCIL9.NET

BUSINESS MANAGER/
SECRETARY TREASURER
Joseph Azzopardi

PRESIDENT
John Drew

awareness of Community Offshore Wind and the good union jobs expected from its development.

COSW also recognizes the critical importance of a just, equitable energy transition that benefits every New York worker, family, and business. Their existing project in New York includes a \$10 million investment in reduced-cost childcare services for all offshore wind workers and trainees in the state – even those not working directly for Community Offshore Wind. This kind of investment will break down the barriers that too often prevent working parents from accessing stable, high-paying careers, and demonstrates the venture’s willingness to work with communities to identify their needs, and develop programs specifically tailored to best serve New Yorkers.

I am confident that Community Offshore Wind’s proposal is the right project, at the right time, to simultaneously support our goal of a zero-emission electrical system and create new economic opportunity for working families across the state.

Sincerely,

Joseph Azzopardi
Business Manager/Secretary Treasurer
District Council 9

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GLAZIERS,
WALLCOVERERS**
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FAX: 518-453-3588



✉ info@minoritymillennials.org
🌐 www.MinorityMillennials.org
🏠 629 Broadway N. Amityville, NY 11701

January 16, 2024

Doreen Harris
President & CEO
New York State Energy Research and Development Authority
17 Columbia Circle
Albany, NY 12203-6399

Dear Mrs. Harris,

Community Offshore Wind, a joint venture of RWE and National Grid Ventures, is submitting a proposal in response to NYSERDA's fourth offshore wind solicitation, building on their existing contract to deliver enough offshore wind power for more than 500,000 New York homes. On behalf of Minority Millennials, I support their new proposal, and believe that Community Offshore Wind is the right partner to New York State as we continue to work toward the ambitious clean energy targets set by the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act.

Community Offshore Wind brings together the expertise of a global leader in offshore wind with the local experience of a company that has already delivered large-scale energy infrastructure projects for New York. RWE is the second-largest developer of offshore wind in the world, with 19 projects in operation in 20 countries. National Grid and its legacy companies have operated in the region for decades, serving more than 20 million people across the Northeast, with more than 5,000 employees here in New York. This combination of local experience and global expertise makes Community Offshore Wind an ideal developer for New York, with the ability to deliver an on-time, on-budget project.

The joint venture continues to work directly with local stakeholders and elected officials to address the needs of communities across New York. They've cleaned up more than 900 pounds of garbage on our beaches; donated more than 1,300 winter coats and warm clothing items; and donated more than 30,000 meals of fresh, locally sourced seafood to New York food banks. They've demonstrated time and again that their commitment to New York goes far beyond clean energy – they want to lift up our communities and generate new opportunity for those who need it most.

Community Offshore Wind has proven to be committed to the communities they will serve. They sponsored our inaugural Summit at Hofstra University, where over 2000 students from Long Island school districts participated to gain educational access to emerging industries, financial literacy and more. Community Offshore Wind values collaboration and we are confident they will continue their work as being a leader in offshore wind and climate change.

I am confident that Community Offshore Wind's proposal is the right project, at the right time, to simultaneously support our goal of a zero-emission electrical system and create new economic opportunity for communities across our state.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Daniel J. Lloyd', written over a thin horizontal line.

Daniel J. Lloyd
Founder & President

**DEPARTMENT OF
REGIONAL SCHOOLS
AND INSTRUCTIONAL
PROGRAMS**

Peter J. Dalton
Workforce Development
Principal

January 2, 2024

Doreen Harris
President & CEO
New York State Energy Research and Development Authority
17 Columbia Circle
Albany, NY 12203-6399

Dear Mrs. Harris,

Community Offshore Wind, a joint venture of RWE and National Grid Ventures, is submitting a proposal in response to NYSERDA's fourth offshore wind solicitation, building on their existing contract to deliver enough offshore wind power for more than 500,000 New York homes. On behalf of Nassau BOCES, I support their new proposal, and believe that Community Offshore Wind is the right partner to New York State as we continue to work toward the ambitious clean energy targets set by the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act.

Community Offshore Wind brings together the expertise of a global leader in offshore wind with the local experience of a company that has already delivered large-scale energy infrastructure projects for New York. RWE is the second-largest developer of offshore wind in the world, with 19 projects in operation in 20 countries. National Grid and its legacy companies have operated in the region for decades, serving more than 20 million people across the Northeast, with more than 5,000 employees here in New York. This combination of local experience and global expertise makes Community Offshore Wind an ideal developer for New York, with the ability to deliver an on-time, on-budget project.

The joint venture continues to work directly with local stakeholders and elected officials to address the needs of communities across New York. They've cleaned up more than 900 pounds of garbage on our beaches; donated more than 1,300 winter coats and warm clothing items; and donated more than 30,000 meals of fresh, locally sourced seafood to New York food banks. They've demonstrated time and again that their commitment to New York goes far beyond clean energy – they want to elevate our communities and generate new opportunities for those who need it most.

Community Offshore Wind has worked directly with organized labor, workforce development, and higher education institutions to ensure that there are pathways for current energy workers to train for careers in offshore wind and clean energy, and that today's students are prepared to pursue the jobs created by the growing offshore wind industry.

They recognize the critical importance of a just, equitable energy transition that benefits every New York worker, family, and business. Their existing project in New York includes a \$10 million investment in reduced-cost childcare services for all offshore wind workers and trainees in the state – even those not working directly for Community Offshore Wind. This kind of investment will break down the barriers that too often prevent working parents from accessing stable, high-paying careers, and demonstrates the venture’s willingness to work with communities to identify their needs, and develop programs specifically tailored to best serve New Yorkers.

I am confident that Community Offshore Wind’s proposal is the right project, at the right time, to simultaneously support our goal of a zero-emission electrical system and create new economic opportunities for communities across our state.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Peter J. Dalton". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Peter J. Dalton, Principal
Workforce Development
Nassau BOCES



opportunities for a better tomorrow

January 4, 2024

Doreen Harris
President & CEO
New York State Energy Research and Development Authority
17 Columbia Circle
Albany, NY 12203-6399

Dear President Harris,

Community Offshore Wind, a joint venture of RWE and National Grid Ventures, is submitting a proposal in response to NYSERDA's fourth offshore wind solicitation, building on their existing contract to deliver enough offshore wind power for more than 500,000 New York homes. I support their new proposal and believe that Community Offshore Wind is the right partner to New York State as we continue to work toward the ambitious clean energy targets set by the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act.

Community Offshore Wind brings together the expertise of a global leader in offshore wind with the local experience of a company that has already delivered large-scale energy infrastructure projects for New York. RWE is the second-largest developer of offshore wind in the world, with 19 projects in operation in 20 countries. National Grid and its legacy companies have operated in the region for decades, serving more than 20 million people across the Northeast, with more than 5,000 employees here in New York. This combination of local experience and global expertise makes Community Offshore Wind an ideal developer for New York, with the ability to deliver an on-time, on-budget project.

The joint venture continues to work directly with local stakeholders and elected officials to address the needs of communities across New York. They've cleaned up more than 900 pounds of garbage on our beaches; donated more than 1,300 winter coats and warm clothing items; and donated more than 30,000 meals of fresh, locally-sourced seafood to New York food banks. They've demonstrated time and again that their commitment to New York goes far beyond clean energy – they want to lift up our communities and generate new opportunity for those who need it most.

Community Offshore Wind has worked directly with organized labor, workforce development, and higher education institutions to ensure that there are pathways for current energy workers to train for careers in offshore wind and clean energy, and that today's students are prepared to pursue the jobs created by the growing offshore wind industry.

They recognize the critical importance of a just, equitable energy transition that benefits every New York worker, family and business. Their existing project in New York includes a \$10 million investment in reduced-cost childcare services for all offshore wind workers and trainees in the state – even those not working directly for Community Offshore Wind. This kind of investment will break down the barriers that too often prevent working parents from accessing stable, high-paying careers, and demonstrates

the venture's willingness to work with communities to identify their needs, and develop programs specifically tailored to best serve New Yorkers.

I am confident that Community Offshore Wind's proposal is the right project, at the right time, to simultaneously support our goal of a zero-emission electrical system and create new economic opportunity for communities across our state.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Evelyn Ortiz', written in a cursive style.

Evelyn Ortiz
Co-Chief Executive Officer
Opportunities for a Better Tomorrow



Reaching-Out Community Services, Inc.

Thomas Neve, Founder/Executive Director
7708 New Utrecht Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11214
Telephone: (718) 373-4565 - Fax: (718) 256-3919

www.rcsprogram.org
info@rcsprogram.org

January 7, 2024

Doreen Harris
President & CEO
New York State Energy Research and Development Authority
17 Columbia Circle
Albany, NY 12203-6399

Dear Mrs. Harris,

Community Offshore Wind, a joint venture of RWE and National Grid Ventures, is submitting a proposal in response to NYSERDA's fourth offshore wind solicitation, building on their existing contract to deliver enough offshore wind power for more than 500,000 New York homes. On behalf of **Reaching Out Community Services**, I support their new proposal, and believe that Community Offshore Wind is the right partner to New York State as we continue to work toward the ambitious clean energy targets set by the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act.

Community Offshore Wind brings together the expertise of a global leader in offshore wind with the local experience of a company that has already delivered large-scale energy infrastructure projects for New York. RWE is the second-largest developer of offshore wind in the world, with 19 projects in operation in 20 countries. National Grid and its legacy companies have operated in the region for decades, serving more than 20 million people across the Northeast, with more than 5,000 employees here in New York. This combination of local experience and global expertise makes Community Offshore Wind an ideal developer for New York, with the ability to deliver an on-time, on-budget project.

The joint venture continues to work directly with local stakeholders and elected officials to address the needs of communities across New York. They've cleaned up more than 900 pounds of garbage on our beaches; donated more than 1,300 winter coats and warm clothing items; and donated more than 30,000 meals of fresh, locally-sourced seafood to New York food banks. They've demonstrated time and again that their commitment to New York goes far beyond clean energy – they want to lift up our communities and generate new opportunity for those who need it most.

Community Offshore Wind has proven to be committed to the communities they serve. They sponsored our "Operation Gobbler Giving" event that helped feed over 600 families in need for Thanksgiving. They also made a generous seafood donation to help support our community members during the Holiday season. Community Offshore Wind values collaboration and we are confident they will continue their work as being a leader in offshore wind and climate change.

I am confident that Community Offshore Wind's proposal is the right project, at the right time, to simultaneously support our goal of a zero-emission electrical system and create new economic opportunity for communities across our state.

My best regards,

Tom Neve

Tom Neve
Founder & Executive Director



Pathways To Apprenticeship

Building Careers & Community to Last a Lifetime

Staff

Gyasi Headen
Executive Director

Anthony Cooper
Lead Instructor

Letoya Washington
Program Coordinator

Board of Directors

Dave Bolger - President
*Mason Tender's District
Council*

Monique George
Open Society Foundation

Tanya Pope
Columbia University

Davon Lomax
*District Council 9
Painter and Allied Trades*

Larry Rothchild
St. Nick's Alliance

Barrie Smith
LIUNA, Local 79

Aislinn McGuire
Kauff, McGuire & Margolis

Mitchell Taylor
Urban Upbound

Eyad Assad
Cohen, Weiss, and Simon

Dave Melton
*Mason Tender's Training
Facility*

Justice Favor
GNV LECET

January 11, 2024

Doreen Harris
President & CEO
New York State Energy Research and Development Authority
17 Columbia Circle
Albany, NY 12203-6399

Dear Ms. Harris,

Community Offshore Wind, a joint venture of RWE and National Grid Ventures, is submitting a proposal in response to NYSERDA's fourth offshore wind solicitation, building on their existing contract to deliver enough offshore wind power for more than 500,000 New York homes. On behalf of Pathways to Apprenticeship (P2A), we support their new proposal, and believe that Community Offshore Wind is the right partner to New York State as we continue to work toward the ambitious clean energy targets set by the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act.

Community Offshore Wind brings together the expertise of a global leader in offshore wind with the local experience of a company that has already delivered large-scale energy infrastructure projects for New York. RWE is the second-largest developer of offshore wind in the world, with 19 projects in operation in 20 countries. National Grid and its legacy companies have operated in the region for decades, serving more than 20 million people across the Northeast, with more than 5,000 employees here in New York. This combination of local experience and global expertise makes Community Offshore Wind an ideal developer for New York, with the ability to deliver an on-time, on-budget project.

Community Offshore Wind's labor engagement is unmatched. The team continues to lead by example in building trust between organized labor unions, community-based organizations, and the offshore wind industry to provide educational, economic, and environmental benefits to under resourced communities. The project is pursuing high-road labor agreements, integrates pre-apprenticeship, registered apprenticeship, and labor-management programs as key pillars of its workforce development strategy, and regularly communicates industry updates. The team is focused on creating a high-road regional supply chain by working with union and MWBE/SDVOB suppliers. P2A will continue to collaborate, strategize, and facilitate awareness of

Community Offshore Wind and the pre-apprenticeship opportunities and eventual good union jobs expected from its development.

COSW also recognizes the critical importance of a just, equitable energy transition that benefits every New York worker, family, and business. Their existing project in New York includes a \$10 million investment in reduced-cost childcare services for all offshore wind workers and trainees in the state – even those not working directly for Community Offshore Wind. This kind of investment will break down the barriers that too often prevent working parents from accessing stable, high-paying careers, and demonstrates the venture’s willingness to work with communities to identify their needs, and develop programs specifically tailored to best serve New Yorkers.

I am confident that Community Offshore Wind’s proposal is the right project, at the right time, to simultaneously support our goal of a zero-emission electrical system and create new economic opportunity for working families across the state.

Sincerely,

Gyasi Headen
Executive Director
Pathways to Apprenticeship

1/11/24

Doreen Harris
President & CEO
New York State Energy Research and Development Authority
17 Columbia Circle
Albany, NY 12203-6399

Dear Ms. Harris,

Community Offshore Wind, a joint venture of RWE and National Grid Ventures, is submitting a proposal in response to NYSERDA's fourth offshore wind solicitation, building on their existing contract to deliver enough offshore wind power for more than 500,000 New York homes. On behalf of Red Ironworks of West Babylon NY, representing over 15 employees in New York, I support their new proposal, and believe that Community Offshore Wind is the right partner to New York State as we continue to work toward the ambitious clean energy targets set by the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act.

Community Offshore Wind brings together the expertise of a global leader in offshore wind with the local experience of a company that has already delivered large-scale energy infrastructure projects for New York. RWE is the second-largest developer of offshore wind in the world, with 19 projects in operation in 20 countries. National Grid and its legacy companies have operated in the region for decades, serving more than 20 million people across the Northeast, with more than 5,000 employees here in New York. This combination of local experience and global expertise makes Community Offshore Wind an ideal developer for New York, with the ability to deliver an on-time, on-budget project.

Community Offshore Wind's labor engagement is unmatched. The team continues to lead by example in building trust between organized labor unions, community-based organizations, and the offshore wind industry to provide educational, economic, and environmental benefits to under resourced communities. The project is pursuing high-road labor agreements, integrates pre-apprenticeship, registered apprenticeship, and labor-management programs as key pillars of its workforce development strategy, and regularly communicates industry updates. The team is focused on creating a high-road regional supply chain by working with union and MWBE/SDVOB suppliers. Red Ironworks will continue to collaborate, strategize, and facilitate awareness of Community Offshore Wind and the good union jobs expected from its development.

COSW also recognizes the critical importance of a just, equitable energy transition that benefits every New York worker, family, and business. Their existing project in New York includes a \$10 million investment in reduced-cost childcare services for all offshore wind workers and trainees in the state – even those not working directly for Community Offshore Wind. This kind of investment will break down the barriers that too often prevent working parents from accessing stable, high-paying careers, and demonstrates the venture's willingness to work with communities to identify their needs, and develop programs specifically tailored to best serve New Yorkers.

I am confident that Community Offshore Wind's proposal is the right project, at the right time, to simultaneously support our goal of a zero-emission electrical system and create new economic opportunity for working families across the state.

Sincerely,

Jason Chadee

C.E.O.

Red Ironworks inc.

98 Kean St West Babylon Ny 11704


SIU

AFFILIATED WITH THE SEAFARERS INTERNATIONAL UNION OF NORTH AMERICA • AFL-CIO

SEAFARERS INTERNATIONAL UNION
ATLANTIC • GULF • LAKES AND INLAND WATERS

104 BROADWAY • JERSEY CITY, NEW JERSEY 07306 • (201) 434-6000

DAVID HEINDEL
PRESIDENT
AUGUSTIN TELLEZ
EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT
TOM ORZECZOWSKI
SECRETARY-TREASURER
GEORGE TRICKER
VICE PRESIDENT
JOSEPH T. SORESI
VICE PRESIDENT
DEAN CORGEY
VICE PRESIDENT
NICHOLAS J. MARRONE
VICE PRESIDENT
BRYAN POWELL
VICE PRESIDENT
NICHOLAS CELONA
VICE PRESIDENT
KAREN HORTON-GENNETTE
UIW NATIONAL DIRECTOR

January 11, 2024

Doreen Harris
President & CEO
New York State Energy Research and Development Authority
17 Columbia Circle
Albany, NY 12203-6399

Dear Ms. Harris,

Community Offshore Wind, a joint venture of RWE and National Grid Ventures, is submitting a proposal in response to NYSERDA's fourth offshore wind solicitation, building on their existing contract to deliver enough offshore wind power for more than 500,000 New York homes. The Seafarers International Union of North America is the largest maritime union representing US merchant mariners. We represent 500+ members in the New York metro area. I support COSW's new proposal and believe that Community Offshore Wind is the right partner to New York State as we continue to work toward the ambitious clean energy targets set by the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act.

Community Offshore Wind brings together the expertise of a global leader in offshore wind with the local experience of a company that has already delivered large-scale energy infrastructure projects for New York. RWE is the second-largest developer of offshore wind in the world, with 19 projects in operation in 20 countries. National Grid and its legacy companies have operated in the region for decades, serving more than 20 million people across the Northeast, with more than 5,000 employees here in New York. This combination of local experience and global expertise makes Community Offshore Wind an ideal developer for New York, with the ability to deliver an on-time, on-budget project.

Community Offshore Wind's labor engagement is unmatched. The team continues to lead by example in building trust between organized labor unions, community-based organizations, and the offshore wind industry to provide educational, economic, and environmental benefits to under resourced communities. The project is pursuing high-road labor agreements, integrates pre-apprenticeship, registered apprenticeship, and labor-management programs as key pillars of its workforce development strategy, and regularly communicates industry updates. The team is focused on creating a high-road regional supply chain by working with union and MWBE/SDVOB suppliers. SIU will continue to collaborate, strategize, and facilitate awareness of Community Offshore Wind and the good union jobs expected from its development.


SIU

AFFILIATED WITH THE SEAFARERS INTERNATIONAL UNION OF NORTH AMERICA • AFL-CIO

SEAFARERS INTERNATIONAL UNION
ATLANTIC • GULF • LAKES AND INLAND WATERS

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VICE PRESIDENT
JOSEPH T. SORESI
VICE PRESIDENT
DEAN CORGEY
VICE PRESIDENT
NICHOLAS J. MARRONE
VICE PRESIDENT
BRYAN POWELL
VICE PRESIDENT
NICHOLAS CELONA
VICE PRESIDENT
KAREN HORTON-GENNETTE
UIW NATIONAL DIRECTOR

COSW also recognizes the critical importance of a just, equitable energy transition that benefits every New York worker, family, and business. Their existing project in New York includes a \$10 million investment in reduced-cost childcare services for all offshore wind workers and trainees in the state – even those not working directly for Community Offshore Wind. This kind of investment will break down the barriers that too often prevent working parents from accessing stable, high-paying careers, and demonstrates the venture’s willingness to work with communities to identify their needs, and develop programs specifically tailored to best serve New Yorkers.

I am confident that Community Offshore Wind’s proposal is the right project, at the right time, to simultaneously support our goal of a zero-emission electrical system and create new economic opportunity for working families across the state.

I express my support for Community Offshore Wind’s Proposal to NYSERDA to provide clean energy from offshore wind to the state of New York. If there are any questions, I can be reached at rhenderson@seafarers.org or by phone at 201-434-6000 ext 236.

Sincerely,

Raymond Henderson
Port Agent NY/NJ

Center for Corporate Education

 AT STONY BROOK UNIVERSITY

NYSERDA
Offshore Wind
17 Columbia Circle
Albany, NY 12203-6399

January 2, 2024

Re: Community Offshore Wind NY4 Letter of Support

Dear Review Committee:

Community Offshore Wind, a joint venture of RWE and National Grid Ventures, is submitting a proposal in response to NYSERDA's fourth offshore wind solicitation, building on their existing contract to deliver enough offshore wind power for more than 500,000 New York homes. On behalf of Stony Brook University's School of Professional Development and Center for Corporate Education, I support their new proposal, and believe that Community Offshore Wind is the right partner to New York State as we continue to work toward the ambitious clean energy targets set by the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act.

Community Offshore Wind brings together the expertise of a global leader in offshore wind with the local experience of a company that has already delivered large-scale energy infrastructure projects for New York. RWE is the second-largest developer of offshore wind in the world, with 19 projects in operation in 20 countries. National Grid and its legacy companies have operated in the region for decades, serving more than 20 million people across the Northeast, with more than 5,000 employees here in New York. This combination of local experience and global expertise makes Community Offshore Wind an ideal developer for New York, with the ability to deliver an on-time, on-budget project.

The joint venture continues to work directly with local stakeholders and elected officials to address the needs of communities across New York. They've cleaned up more than 900 pounds of garbage on our beaches; donated more than 1,300 winter coats and warm clothing items; and donated more than 30,000 meals of fresh, locally sourced seafood to New York food banks. They've demonstrated time and again that their commitment to New York goes far beyond clean energy – they want to lift our communities and generate new opportunities for those who need it most.

Community Offshore Wind has worked directly with organized labor, workforce development, and higher education institutions to ensure that there are pathways for current energy workers to train for careers in offshore wind and clean energy, and that today's students are prepared to pursue the jobs created by the growing offshore wind industry. They recognize the critical importance of a just, equitable energy transition that benefits every New York worker, family, and business. Their existing project in New York includes a \$10 million investment in reduced-cost childcare services for all offshore wind workers and trainees in the state – even those not working directly for Community Offshore Wind. This kind of investment will break down the barriers that too often prevent working parents from accessing stable, high-paying careers, and demonstrates the venture's willingness to work with communities to identify their needs, and develop programs specifically tailored to best serve New Yorkers.

I am confident that Community Offshore Wind's proposal is the right project, at the right time, to simultaneously support our goal of a zero-emission electrical system and create new economic opportunities for communities across our state.

Sincerely,

Regards,



Patricia Malone
Associate Vice President for Professional Education
Assistant Provost for Engaged Learning
School of Professional Development Center for Corporate Education

LOCAL 259

WE CARE ABOUT
WORKING FAMILIES,
COMMUNITIES AND
SAFE AUTOMOBILES



ORGANIZE
BUILD POWER
WIN JUSTICE

REGION 9A

80 JERUSALEM AVENUE
HICKSVILLE, NEW YORK 11801
(516) 433-4579 OFFICE (516) 433-4915 FAX

January 18, 2024

Doreen Harris, President & CEO
New York State Energy Research and Development Authority
17 Columbia Circle
Albany, NY 12203-6399

Dear Ms. Harris,

Community Offshore Wind, a joint venture of RWE and National Grid Ventures, is submitting a proposal in response to NYSERDA's fourth offshore wind solicitation, building on their existing contract to deliver enough offshore wind power for more than 500,000 New York homes. On behalf of UAW Local 259, representing over 1400 members in New York, I support their new proposal, and believe that Community Offshore Wind is the right partner to New York State as we continue to work toward the ambitious clean energy targets set by the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act.

Community Offshore Wind brings together the expertise of a global leader in offshore wind with the local experience of a company that has already delivered large-scale energy infrastructure projects for New York. RWE is the second-largest developer of offshore wind in the world, with 19 projects in operation in 20 countries. National Grid and its legacy companies have operated in the region for decades, serving more than 20 million people across the Northeast, with more than 5,000 employees here in New York. This combination of local experience and global expertise makes Community Offshore Wind an ideal developer for New York, with the ability to deliver an on-time, on-budget project.

Community Offshore Wind's labor engagement is unmatched. The team continues to lead by example in building trust between organized labor unions, community-based organizations, and the offshore wind industry to provide educational, economic, and environmental benefits to under resourced communities. The project is pursuing high-road labor agreements, integrates pre-apprenticeship, registered apprenticeship, and labor-management programs as key pillars of its workforce development strategy, and regularly communicates industry updates. The team is focused on creating a high-road regional supply chain by working with union and MWBE/SDVOB suppliers. UAW Local 259 will continue to collaborate, strategize, and facilitate awareness of Community Offshore Wind and the good union jobs expected from its development.

COSW also recognizes the critical importance of a just, equitable energy transition that benefits every New York worker, family, and business. Their existing project in New York includes a \$10 million investment in reduced-cost childcare services for all offshore wind workers and trainees in the state – even those not working directly for Community Offshore Wind. This kind of investment will break down the barriers that too often prevent working parents from accessing stable, high-paying careers, and demonstrates the venture's willingness to work with communities to identify their needs, and develop programs specifically tailored to best serve New Yorkers.

I am confident that Community Offshore Wind's proposal is the right project, at the right time, to simultaneously support our goal of a zero-emission electrical system and create new economic opportunity for working families across the state.

Sincerely,


Brian Schneck, President

Cc: Membership

"Labor Is Prior To, And Independent Of, Capital. Capital Is Only The Fruit Of Labor, And Could Never Have Existed If Labor Had Not First Existed. Labor Is The Superior Of Capital, And Deserves Much The Higher Consideration." — ABRAHAM LINCOLN



UTILITY WORKERS UNION OF AMERICA

Local 1-2, Affiliated with AFL-CIO

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DARRYL K. TAYLOR

January 2, 2024

Doreen Harris
President & CEO
New York State Energy Research and Development Authority
17 Columbia Circle
Albany, NY 12203-6399

Re: Community Offshore Wind (COSW)

Dear Ms. Harris,

Community Offshore Wind, a joint venture of RWE and National Grid Ventures, is submitting a proposal in response to NYSERDA's fourth offshore wind solicitation, building on their existing contract to deliver enough offshore wind power for more than 500,000 New York homes. On behalf of Local 1-2 of the Utility Workers Union of America, AFL-CIO, representing around 7500 members in New York State, I support their new proposal, and believe that Community Offshore Wind is the right partner to New York State as we continue to work toward the ambitious clean energy targets set by the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act.

Community Offshore Wind brings together the expertise of a global leader in offshore wind with the local experience of a company that has already delivered large-scale energy infrastructure projects for New York. RWE is the second-largest developer of offshore wind in the world, with 19 projects in operation in 20 countries. National Grid and its legacy companies have operated in the New York City region for decades, serving more than 20 million people across the Northeast, with more than 5,000 employees here in New York. This combination of local experience and global expertise makes Community Offshore Wind an ideal developer for New York, with the ability to deliver an on-time, on-budget project.

Community Offshore Wind's labor engagement is unmatched. The team continues to lead by example in building trust between organized labor unions, community-based organizations, and the offshore wind industry to provide educational, economic, and environmental benefits to under resourced communities. The project is pursuing high-road labor agreements, integrates pre-apprenticeship, registered apprenticeship, and labor-management programs as key pillars of its workforce development strategy, and regularly communicates industry updates. The team is focused on creating a high-road regional supply chain by working with union and MWBE/SDVOB suppliers.



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DARRYL K. TAYLOR

UWUA, our National Union, has demonstrated success through its Power 4 America (P4A) training program for the emerging renewables sector by building an onshore wind apprenticeship program in Michigan. In the future, the UWUA and Local 1-2 look forward to collaborating, attending, and creating awareness of COSW, the good union jobs expected from its development, and the offshore wind applications to integrate into the existing training programs.

COSW also recognizes the critical importance of a just, equitable energy transition that benefits every New York worker, family, and business. Their existing project in New York includes a \$10 million investment in reduced-cost childcare services for all offshore wind workers and trainees in the State – even those not working directly for Community Offshore Wind. This kind of investment will break down the barriers that too often prevent working parents from accessing stable, high-paying careers, and demonstrates the venture's willingness to work with communities to identify their needs, and develop programs specifically tailored to best serve New Yorkers.

I am confident that Community Offshore Wind's proposal is the right project, at the right time, to simultaneously support our goal of a zero-emission electrical system and create new economic opportunity for working families across the state.

Sincerely,

James Shillitto
Local 1-2 President

Appendix 8.3-2 Stakeholder Engagement Efforts

This document contains confidential information and is therefore excluded from this public version.

Appendix 8.3-3 Marketing Table

This document contains confidential information and is therefore excluded from this public version.

Appendix 8.3-4 Tribal Engagement

This document contains confidential information and is therefore excluded from this public version.

Appendix 8.3-5 Fisheries Communication Plan

COMMUNITY OFFSHORE WIND

Fisheries Communications Plan

Document Number: 004500694-02



Document Number: 004500694-02

Revision Summary				
Rev	Date	Prepared By	Checked By	Approved By
1.0	08/22/2022	Deirdre Boelke, Michelle Duval	Rick Robins	Daniel Sieger
2.0	03/30/2023	Deirdre Boelke, Michelle Duval	Rick Robins	Daniel Sieger

Description of Revisions				
Rev	Date	Section	Pages	Description
1.0	08/22/2022	All	All	Original document
2.0	03/30/2023	Section 1.1	1	Updated offshore distances to lease
		Section 1.2	3-6	Updated Fisheries Team contact information and bios
		Section 1.3	6-7	Updated best practices used in development of plan

Abbreviations

ASMFC	Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission
BOEM	Bureau of Ocean Energy Management
EA	Environmental Assessment
CFF	Coonamessett Farm Foundation
FL	Fisheries Liaison
FR	Fisheries Representative
FTR	Fisheries Technical Representative
F-TWG	Fisheries Technical Working Group (NYSERDA)
GARFO	Greater Atlantic Regional Fisheries Office
HMS	Highly Migratory Species
MAFMC	Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council
MARCO	Mid-Atlantic Regional Council on the Ocean
NEAMAP	NorthEast Area Monitoring and Assessment Program
NEFMC	New England Fishery Management Council
NEFSC	Northeast Fisheries Science Center
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act
NJDEP	New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection
NMFS	National Marine Fisheries Service
NOAA	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NROC	Northeast Regional Ocean Council
NYSDEC	New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
NYSERDA	New York State Environmental Research and Development Authority
OCLSA	Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act
RODA	Responsible Offshore Development Alliance
ROSA	Responsible Offshore Science Alliance
RWSC	Regional Wildlife Science Collaborative for Offshore Wind
SMAST	School for Marine Science & Technology (UMass Dartmouth)
USCG	U.S. Coast Guard
VIMS	Virginia Institute of Marine Sciences
WEA	Wind Energy Area

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1 Introduction

Community Offshore Wind, a joint venture of RWE Renewables and National Grid Ventures, proposes to develop the Community Offshore Wind Project (the Project), under Commercial Lease of Submerged Lands for Renewable Energy Development on the Outer Continental Shelf (Lease Area OCS-A 0539; Lease Area). Lease Area OCS-A 0539 encompasses approximately 125,964 acres and is located approximately 56 nautical miles (NM) or 104 kilometers (km) south of New York and 32NM (59 km) east of New Jersey (see Figure 1). Water depths range from 30 to 52 meters (16 to 28 fathoms).

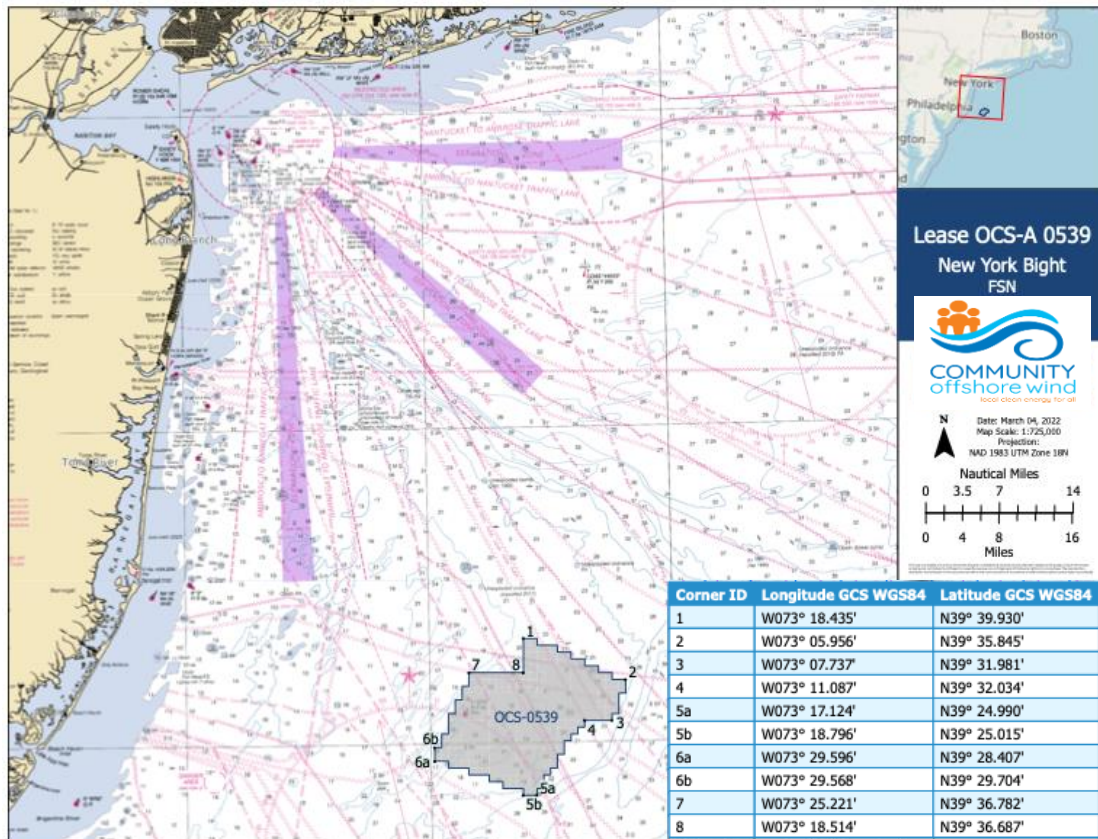


Figure 1. Location of OCS-A 0539 in relation to major navigational routes into the harbor of New York, New York. Coordinates of primary boundaries of Lease Area included in table.

As part of the Project development, Community Offshore Wind is committed to a holistic, adaptive, and integrative approach to fisheries communication and outreach, in partnership with fisheries participants and other stakeholders, including fishing organizations, fishing communities, fisheries agencies, and the general public. The Fisheries Communications Plan (Plan) is foundational to sustainable and successful Project outcomes, and is the primary tool through which the Project team will build collaborative relationships with fisheries participants and stakeholders and affected communities to inform impact avoidance throughout the lifecycle of the Project. The company’s fisheries communications team will guide the development, use, and adaptation of the Plan to reflect feedback and curate knowledge from the fishing community, and promote a shared understanding of current and historic fisheries resources and uses.

This Plan is intended to be a living document that is inclusive of all fisheries participants and stakeholders and is responsive to diverse perspectives and needs. Community Offshore Wind recognizes that effective engagement is built one relationship at a time, and that a successful process often involves difficult conversations. We value open and honest communication and are committed to an “early and often” approach to outreach.

1.1 Fisheries Communication Principles and Objectives

The following principles guide the development, implementation, and future modifications of the Plan, and reflect the core values and philosophy of Community Offshore Wind.:

- **Safety:** Promote the safety of fishermen, communities, project crews, and marine life, from Project design through implementation.
- **Respect:** Build trust through respect for the local knowledge, expertise, and concerns of the fishing community.
- **Understanding:** Develop a detailed understanding of the fisheries resources and uses in the area to inform the successful development of the project.
- **Transparency:** Promote transparency through timely two-way communication that allows for sharing clear feedback and is responsive to fisheries participants and stakeholder communication preferences.
- **Efficiency:** Ensure communication and outreach activities are internally and externally coordinated to achieve efficient communications at the appropriate cadence for all fisheries stakeholder groups.
- **Equity:** Ensure engagement efforts are comprehensive across fisheries participants, stakeholders, and communities, including underserved and non-traditional constituents.
- **Adaptability:** Respond to changing fisheries participant and stakeholder needs and circumstances as an opportunity to adapt and improve communication methods and strategies.
- **Collaboration:** Build a shared, sustainable future for area fisheries and offshore wind through collaboration and inclusivity that ultimately lessens the impacts of climate change.

The goal of Community Offshore Wind is to proactively ensure that all fishing community stakeholders are informed of the Project, and aware of the many opportunities for communication and input throughout the project lifecycle. In addition, our goal is to ensure that the Project team develops a comprehensive understanding of the individual fisheries in the Lease Area, and their social and economic significance to onshore communities within the region. The fisheries team is committed to sharing this knowledge across Community Offshore Wind’s workstreams to best serve the needs of fisheries participants and communities. Together, we are striving to achieve net positive biodiversity outcomes above and below the water line. This Plan includes time and resources for the Fisheries Team to develop and present educational materials across the Community Offshore Wind Project workstreams about relevant fisheries and other ocean user groups in and around the Lease Area and potential export cable routes. The more the Project team understands and appreciates the importance of regional fisheries, the more successful the overall Project will be. The objectives of the Plan in support of these goals are:

- Develop a detailed technical understanding of the current and historical fisheries operating and transiting within and around the Lease Area, and curate the knowledge and expertise of local fishermen and other experts to achieve this.
- Foster a proactive approach to promoting safety and deconflicting the operations of survey and construction crews and fishermen within the Lease Area that is based on the local knowledge of fishing communities and representatives.

- Collaborate with fisheries participants and stakeholders to apply their collective knowledge and understanding of fisheries resources and habitats to avoid and minimize impacts to the extent practicable throughout the Project life cycle.
- Recognize and balance the Project’s need for detailed local knowledge with the burden of engagement for fisheries participants and stakeholders through the use of thoughtful and efficient communication methods, and a commitment to coordinate outreach activities with other developers.
- Engage fishermen and stakeholders in identifying opportunities for cooperative monitoring and research that will contribute to the mutual understanding and successful shared use of the area.
- Develop comprehensive and inclusive stakeholder engagement strategies that are sensitive to the needs of both underserved communities and non-traditional stakeholders, and foster effective two-way communication.

1.2 Fisheries Team

Community Offshore Wind has assembled a fisheries team with experience that spans decades of direct experience in state, interstate, and federal fisheries management, cooperative fisheries research, commercial fisheries development, seafood processing, and commercial and recreational fisheries. The team benefits from strong advisory support from its fisheries technical advisors/fisheries representatives who have extensive experience in their respective fisheries in the project area and broader region. Community Offshore Wind’s Fisheries Team includes:

Name/Title	Role/Responsibilities	Contact Information
Deirdre Boelke Fisheries Liaison	Primary Fisheries Contact, Responsibilities below	DeirdreB@communityoffshorewind.com Cell: 978-518-0638
Michelle Duval Fisheries Liaison	Responsibilities below	MichelleD@communityoffshorewind.com Cell: 919-601-3798
Rick Robins Marine Affairs Manager	Responsibilities below	RickR@communityoffshorewind.com Cell: 757-876-3778
Brady Lybarger Commercial Mobile Fishing Gear Representative (FTA/FR)	Responsibilities below	jettyhunter@mac.com Cell: 609-602-1417
Chris Rainone Commercial Fixed Fishing Gear Representative (FTA/FR)	Responsibilities below	annicemarie@gmail.com Cell: 609-442-8633
TBD Recreational Fishing Representative	Responsibilities below	

Deirdre Boelke, Fisheries Liaison (Primary Contact), has over 20 years of staff experience with the New England Fishery Management Council (NEFMC). She worked on most fishery management plans during her tenure with the Council, including plan coordinator for the Atlantic sea scallop and Atlantic herring fishery management plans. She was the staff lead for the Council's Atlantic sea scallop Research Set Aside program, which coordinated cooperative research to support the management of the fishery. She also staffed the coastwide climate change scenario planning initiative and other regional and national fishery management policy projects. Deirdre is currently a representative on the Responsible Offshore Science Alliance (ROSA) Advisory Council, the New York State Environmental Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) Fisheries Technical Working Group (F-TWG), and Regional Wildlife Science Collaborative (RWSC) Habitat and Ecosystem Subcommittee.

Michelle Duval, Fisheries Liaison, has extensive experience in state and federal fisheries management, serving for 10 years with North Carolina Division of Marine Fisheries, representing the agency to the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission (ASMFC) and the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council, which she also chaired. She currently serves on the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council (MAFMC) as Chair of the Research Set Aside and Ecosystem and Ocean Planning Committees, and is the Council's representative to the ROSA Advisory Council. Michelle also serves on the NEFMC's Sea Scallop, Habitat, and Ecosystem-Based Fishery Management Committees.

As Fisheries Liaisons (Liaisons), Deirdre and Michelle will represent the Project to the fishing community and serve as a primary point of contact for fisheries participants and stakeholders. Responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

- Engage directly with fisheries stakeholders, and with the project's Fisheries Technical Advisors and Representatives, to develop and curate the local knowledge to successfully avoid fisheries impacts.
- Effectively convey industry and stakeholder concerns to project management team to proactively and collaboratively identify solutions.
- Develop a flexible two-way communications network between the fishing industry and the project that is responsive to stakeholder needs and provides timely feedback.
- Coordinate communications between the Project and state and federal fisheries managers and agencies.

Rick Robins, Marine Affairs Manager, has a background in commercial fisheries development, seafood processing and export market development, and state and federal fisheries management. He served as an Associate Member of the Virginia Marine Resources Commission, chaired the MAFMC, and served as a fisheries liaison for offshore wind energy development. He engaged the Council with the Mid-Atlantic Regional Council on the Ocean (MARCO) in its marine spatial planning process and with BOEM in the development of best practices for fisheries. He served on the Collaborative Fisheries Planning Team to develop the Collaborative Fisheries Planning for Virginia's Offshore Wind Energy Area report (OCS Study BOEM 2016-040). Rick is currently a representative on the ROSA Advisory Council, F-TWG, and RWSC Habitat and Ecosystem Subcommittee. As Marine Affairs Manager, it is Rick's role to plan and coordinate the company's marine operations and interactions with the maritime industries. Responsibilities include:

- Lead and coordinate marine affairs to support the development of the company's wind energy development projects.
- Lead engagement with all relevant maritime stakeholders, including, but not limited to: commercial and recreational fisheries, commercial shipping, owner/operators of subsea infrastructure, ports and harbors operators, the US Department of Defense, the US Coast Guard

(USCG), the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM), and the Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement.

- Lead development of offshore wind projects' marine affairs strategies and maritime stakeholder engagement plans.
- Provide internal coordination on all marine affairs issues and considerations to support project development.

Fisheries Technical Advisor (FTA): The role of Fisheries Technical Advisors is to provide technical expertise regarding the operations and characteristics of fisheries working in and/or transiting through the Lease Area so that potential negative fisheries impacts can be avoided, minimized, and thoughtfully considered throughout the Project lifecycle. Responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

- Provide information regarding vessel movements and configuration and fishing of mobile and fixed gears in the Lease Area.
- Describe the seasonality and distribution of fisheries over time within the Lease Area.
- Provide recommendations regarding fisheries constituent identification and interaction.

Fisheries Representative (FR): Fisheries Representatives serve the interests of the fisheries for which they have knowledge and expertise and are trusted focal points for fishing industry contact and communication regarding the Project. FRs typically also serve as FTAs to provide technical expertise to the Project team. Responsibilities of FRs include, but are not limited to:

- Identify and cultivate industry concerns and proactively share those with the Project team to facilitate shared use and fisheries impact avoidance.
- Work with the Liaisons to improve and adapt the Plan and ensure it is responsive to fisheries participant and stakeholder feedback.
- Disseminate Project information to industry to promote awareness and facilitate effective outreach and engagement.

Community Offshore Wind Plans to add FTAs/FRs across a range of fisheries active in the project area and is currently recruiting for these positions. Two FTAs/FRs joined the team in summer 2022, and we plan to hire at least one more FTA/FR with expertise in recreational fishing and support services in the coming months.

Brady Lybarger is a commercial Fisheries Technical Advisor and Fisheries Representative from the sea scallop fishery. He is based in Cape May, New Jersey and has participated in the commercial scallop fishery since 1999. He has been a scallop advisory panel member for the NEFMC for about ten years, and has participated in several Scallop Research Set Aside projects. Brady is also an avid recreational fisherman and participates in the commercial hook and line fishery, currently targeting tuna, swordfish and tilefish. He also owns a direct-to-consumer seafood business in Cape May, NJ that offers fresh seafood such as scallops, shrimp, and tuna directly to consumers since 2020.

Chris Rainone is a commercial Fisheries Technical Advisor and Fisheries Representative from the monkfish industry. Chris has fished for the past twenty years out of Barnegat Light, New Jersey. Before commercial fishing Chris worked his way through Stockton University as a commercial crabber and upon graduation he pursued a career on the ocean. Today he is the owner operator of a gillnet vessel that primarily targets monkfish, dogfish and other species. Throughout his vocation Chris has been actively involved in fisheries management to help sustain, protect, and increase the United States seafood supply. For the past ten years Chris has served on the NEFMC/MAFMC monkfish advisory panel and has been

working with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Cooperative Research Program in the collection of important fisheries data.

The goal of Community Offshore Wind's fisheries team is to ensure the objectives of the Plan are achieved through effective implementation of outreach and engagement strategies that are targeted to the specific needs and preferences of various fisheries stakeholders. In particular, the fisheries team has extensive experience working with regional Fishery Management Councils responsible for developing federal fishery management advice. The Council process is a stakeholder driven, fully public and transparent process that uses local knowledge to develop science-based plans that balance many objectives. The team intends to use many of these same principles to design a successful Project in close collaboration with stakeholders. The roles and responsibilities of team members are similar, but complementary, as described above. Overall, this fisheries team has extensive professional experience across a wide range of fisheries and is highly approachable. Each member has direct experience working with fishery stakeholders throughout the region. They already have strong relationships with fishing communities along the east coast built on trust and communications. The Plan will be updated to include contact information as additional individuals are onboarded.

1.3 Best Practices

As noted in Section 1.1, this Plan is intended to be adaptive to changing conditions and fisheries participants' and stakeholder needs and is expected to improve over time as their feedback is incorporated and as the Project matures. Community Offshore Wind is committed to open, honest, and frequent engagement with the fishing community to ensure inclusion of stakeholder input regarding project design, construction, and operation. We will work with fishing representatives to establish appropriate and accessible feedback mechanisms so that communities can see and understand our dedication to transparency and collaboration.

Development of the Plan was informed by guidance and recommended best practices that include, but are not limited to, the following resources:

- BOEM Decision Memorandum, NY Bight Final Sale Notice.¹
- Development of Mitigation Measures to Address Potential Use Conflicts between Commercial Wind Energy Lessees/Grantees and Commercial Fishermen on the Atlantic Outer Continental Shelf. OCS Study BOEM 2014-654.²
- FLOWW Best Practice Guidance for Offshore Renewables Developments: Recommendations for Fisheries Liaison. January 2014.³
- Guiding Principles for Offshore Wind Stakeholder Engagement (v1 10/21). NYSERDA.⁴
- Guidelines for Providing Information on Fisheries Social and Economic Conditions for Renewable Energy Development on the Atlantic Outer Continental Shelf. BOEM. 2020.⁵

¹ <https://www.boem.gov/renewable-energy/state-activities/new-york-bight-final-sale-notice-decision-memorandum>

² <https://www.boem.gov/sites/default/files/renewable-energy-program/Fishing-BMP-Final-Report-July-2014.pdf>

³ <https://www.sff.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/01/FLOWW-Best-Practice-Guidance-for-Offshore-Renewables-Developments-Jan-2014.pdf>

⁴ <https://www.nyserda.ny.gov/-/media/Project/Nyserda/Files/Programs/Offshore-Wind/LSR-OSW-engageguide.pdf>

⁵ <https://www.boem.gov/sites/default/files/documents/about-boem/Social%20%26amp%3B%20Econ%20Fishing%20Guidelines.pdf>

- Information Guidelines for a Renewable Energy Construction and Operations Plan (COP), Attachment A. Version 4.0, 2020.⁶
- Central California Joint Fisheries/Cable Liaison Committee Final Agreement Between Cable Companies and Fishermen as Amended (v. 140519).⁷
- Oregon Fishermen’s Cable Committee Procedures (v. 2.6.17)⁸
- International Cable Protection Committee Government Best Practices for Protecting and Promoting Submarine Telecommunications Cables (v. 1.1).⁹
- Maine Offshore Wind Roadmap: Draft Initial Recommendations. March 1, 2022.¹⁰
- BOEM Request for Information: Guidance for Mitigating Impacts to Commercial and Recreational Fisheries from Offshore Wind Energy Development. Nov. 22, 2021.¹¹
- BOEM Draft Guidelines for Mitigating Impacts to Commercial and Recreational Fisheries on the Outer Continental Shelf. June 22, 2022.¹²
- NOAA Fisheries and BOEM Federal Survey Mitigation Implementation Strategy – Northeast U.S. Region. December 2022.¹³
- ROSA Offshore Wind Project Monitoring Framework and Guidelines. March 2021.¹⁴
- Identifying Information Needs and Approaches to Assessing Potential Impacts of Offshore Wind Farm Development in the Northeast Region. BOEM. 2015.¹⁵
- Options for Cooperation Between Commercial Fishing and Offshore Wind Energy Industries: A Review of Relevant Tools and Best Practices. SeaPlan. 2014.¹⁶
- MAFMC Best Management Practices Workshop. 2014.¹⁷
- New York State Offshore Wind Master Plan. NYSERDA. 2018.¹⁸

Importantly, the communication and engagement strategies the team proposes to use have been reviewed with several members of the commercial and recreational fishing industries as well as other stakeholders. The team is grateful for this early feedback, and will continue to refine these strategies with stakeholder input over the life of the Project.

1.4 Authorities, Regulations, and Lease Conditions

Several statutory authorities and regulations intersect the Plan, directly or indirectly. This includes requirements under subsection 8(p) of the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act (OCSLA) that BOEM ensure

⁶ <https://www.boem.gov/sites/default/files/documents/about-boem/COP%20Guidelines.pdf>

⁷ http://www.cencalcablefishery.com/uploads/2/2/6/5/22655546/140519_final_agreement_as_amended.pdf

⁸ <http://www.ofcc.com/Procedures2.6.17.pdf>

⁹ <https://www.iscpc.org/documents/?id=3733>

¹⁰ <https://www.maineoffshorewind.org/working-group-recommendations/environment-wildlife/>

¹¹ <https://www.boem.gov/renewable-energy/boem-2021-0083-0001>

¹² <https://www.boem.gov/renewable-energy/draft-fisheries-mitigation-guidance>

¹³ <https://repository.library.noaa.gov/view/noaa/47925>

¹⁴ <https://www.rosascience.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/ROSA-Offshore-Wind-Project-Monitoring-Framework-and-Guidelines.pdf>

¹⁵ <https://www.boem.gov/sites/default/files/environmental-stewardship/Environmental-Studies/Renewable-Energy/OCS-Study-BOEM-2015-037.pdf>

¹⁶ <https://osf.io/preprints/marxiv/sfu9e/>

¹⁷ https://www.mafmc.org/s/MAFMC_Offshore-Wind-Workshop_Final-Report-4nan.pdf

¹⁸ <https://www.nyserda.ny.gov/-/media/Project/Nyserda/Files/Publications/Research/Biomass-Solar-Wind/Master-Plan/Offshore-Wind-Master-Plan.pdf>

any activities provide for protection of the environment and prevent interference with reasonable uses of the federal Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ), including fishing. The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA; 42 U.S.C. §§ 4321 *et seq.*) also requires that BOEM evaluate the social and economic impacts of any potential project, and BOEM's own regulations require that it coordinate with other federal agencies to avoid conflicts among users and maximize the economic and ecological benefits of potential projects (30 CFR 585.102(a)(5)).

This Plan is intended to develop the necessary information for the Project to meet these requirements and additional regulatory provisions within 30 CFR Part 585 Subpart F (e.g., communications with stakeholders, agencies, and other potentially affected parties; social and economic conditions of commercial and recreational fisheries; and measures to avoid, minimize, reduce, eliminate, and monitor environmental impacts).

Community Offshore Wind is also subject to a number of Lease-specific terms, conditions, and stipulations contained in Appendix C of the Lease agreement. The design and implementation of this Plan is intended to meet the conditions included in Section 3 (Reporting), specifically 3.1, 3.1.1, 3.1.2.1, 3.1.2.4, and 3.1.3.

2 Project Background

2.1 Community Offshore Wind Lease Area

On March 21, 2021, BOEM announced its intent to conduct an Environmental Assessment (EA) for activities associated with site assessment (e.g., installation of meteorological buoys) and characterization (e.g., biological, geophysical, archaeological, etc. surveys) of the New York Bight Wind Energy Areas (WEAs), including cable corridors and project easements. A draft EA was released for public comment on August 10, 2021, and a final EA was issued on December 16, 2021, that concluded site assessment and characterization activities would have no significant impact on the environment in any of the wind energy areas.

On June 14, 2021, BOEM published a Proposed Sale Notice (PSN) for eight potential lease areas. The Final Sale Notice (FSN) was published on January 12, 2022, proposing the auction of six final lease areas. The Community Offshore Wind Lease Area was substantially modified by BOEM between the PSN and FSN to deconflict and address high value commercial fisheries, recreational fishing hot spots, and benthic habitats in the region. Specifically, BOEM removed from consideration a portion of adjacent lease OCS-A 0540 and all of OCS-A 0543 (adjacent to OCS-A 0540), as these areas had the highest landings and revenue from the surfclam fishery and significant overlap with habitats identified through New Jersey's Prime Fishing Areas dataset. As a result, BOEM expanded Lease OCS-A 0539 westward and removed OCS-A 0540 due to its reduced viability as a stand-alone lease¹⁹.

BOEM also adjusted the eastern border of Lease OCS-A 0539 to establish a 2.5 NM buffer between the Lease and the nearby scallop fishery access area in response to fishing industry requests, identification of important fish habitats, and the occurrence of active scallop fishing activity adjacent to the access area²⁰. Additionally, 11,637 acres of the Lease Area are subject to a no surface occupancy Lease stipulation (i.e., a permanent prohibition on placement of objects on the ocean surface) along the northern, southern,

¹⁹ [New York Bight Final Sale Notice Decision Memorandum](#), p. 10

²⁰ [New York Bight Final Sale Notice Decision Memorandum](#), p. 9-10

and eastern borders of the lease. The no-occupancy areas on the northern and southern borders contribute to the 2.44 nautical mile transit corridors between adjacent lease areas in response to fishing community and Department of Defense requests, and in consideration of vessel traffic patterns BOEM's proactive establishment of corridors at the northern and southern boundaries of Lease OCS-A 0539 provides additional accommodation of commercial and recreational fisheries transits through the Hudson South lease areas.

This Plan has been developed at the outset of the site assessment and characterization component of the Community Offshore Wind Project, which will inform the development of a Construction and Operations Plan (COP) for the Lease, and will be adjusted in response to fisheries participant and stakeholder feedback. The COP will be subject to regulatory review, as required by law, that will provide additional opportunities for public input prior to construction and implementation. As the Project matures into the construction and operation phases, the Plan will also evolve to reflect the communication and engagement needs specific to these Project stages.

2.2 RWE Renewables and National Grid

Community Offshore Wind is a joint venture of RWE Renewables and National Grid and is dedicated to providing clean energy, good local jobs, and building a network of trust in the communities it serves. RWE is a global leader in the development of offshore wind facilities, with 20 successful projects in the past two decades, while National Grid brings expertise in renewable energy delivery systems in the northeast and internationally. Both organizations have ambitious objectives for achieving net zero emissions in the coming decades through innovations such as testing recyclable turbine blades and piloting green hydrogen, while generating sustainable economic opportunities for local communities.

RWE and National Grid share a common goal of advancing an equitable clean energy future through the core principles of promoting health, safety, and care for the environment and community throughout the lifecycle of the Project. This includes a commitment to continuous improvement and evolution by truly listening to stakeholders, integrating that feedback directly into the development and design of the Project, and becoming a standard-bearer for accountability and transparency.

3 Fisheries Characterization

Both commercial and recreational fisheries operate within the Lease Area, and as noted in Section 2.1, BOEM implemented modifications to reduce interactions with high value commercial fisheries and fish habitats. While data limitations may preclude precise spatial identification of specific fisheries working in or transiting the Lease, one of the objectives of this Plan is to curate the detailed knowledge necessary to fill in data gaps in collaboration with fisheries participants and stakeholders.

3.1 Stakeholder Identification

Information used to identify categories of fisheries stakeholders includes available commercial, recreational, and habitat data sets from the MARCO Data Portal, Northeast Ocean Data Portal, aggregated commercial Vessel Trip Reports (VTRs) from the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), as well as proactive outreach to individual commercial and recreational fishery participants. Additional fisheries stakeholders will be identified by the Liaisons in coordination with FRs and FTAs. The Liaisons will work with these stakeholders as well as state and federal fisheries managers to fill data gaps and ensure existing data are appropriately interpreted so that fisheries impacts can be avoided to the extent practicable.

In addition to commercial and recreational fisheries participants and stakeholders, Community Offshore Wind understands the significance and value of other coastal and marine recreational activities, including whale watching, surfing, paddleboarding, SCUBA diving, kayaking, sailing, and birdwatching, among others. The regional ocean planning bodies in the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic (the Northeast Regional Ocean Council [NROC] and MARCO, respectively), in collaboration with the states and recreational user groups, have coordinated the collection of data and information to identify important use areas, patterns, and demographics. The Project's outreach activities will include these recreational ocean user groups, and the Plan will be updated to reflect their communication needs and preferences that are not included in other Project stakeholder engagement plans. While some engagement efforts may overlap due to the intersection of multiple interests, these will be coordinated among the Project team.

Community Offshore Wind recognizes the importance of equity and inclusivity in stakeholder identification and engagement, particularly for underserved communities, who face challenges that often prevent full participation in public processes. Consistent with the principles described in the NMFS Draft Equity and Environmental Justice Strategy²¹, the Plan seeks to improve Project awareness and identification of underserved communities so that outreach activities can be tailored to address their specific barriers to engagement. This includes underserved components of traditional fisheries stakeholder designations, e.g., commercial, recreational, for-hire, and private anglers, as well as other ocean users. The intent is to build an engagement network and approaches that are comprehensive across fisheries and ocean user groups, and promote participation by non-traditional stakeholders and others who may not typically be involved in these processes.

3.2 Current and Historical Fisheries Operations

3.2.1 Commercial Fisheries

According to federal VTR data, which includes spatial reporting requirements, commercial fisheries operating in the Lease Area are primarily Atlantic sea scallop and surfclam, but also include summer flounder, monkfish, and inconsistent harvest of black sea bass and skates. These fisheries are harvested with a variety of gear types. Dredges are used almost exclusively in the sea scallop fishery, while surfclams are harvested solely with hydraulic dredges. Summer flounder and black sea bass are pursued with bottom trawls, although pot gear is also occasionally used for black sea bass. Monkfish harvest in the area is primarily subject to targeted use of anchored gillnets on a seasonal basis. Examination of VTR data from the MARCO Data Portal indicate that dredges are the predominate gear type used in the Project area, but also show limited bottom trawl, pot, and gillnet gear. Important commercial ports with harvest from within the Lease Area include Atlantic City, Barnegat Light, Point Pleasant, and Cape May, New Jersey. Other ports with commercial harvest include Long Beach, and Montauk, New York; New Bedford, Massachusetts; and ports in the Hampton Roads area of Virginia.

Limited information exists regarding commercial fisheries that may be transiting the area. While spatial reporting is a requirement of the VTR program, these data are coarse and not intended for fine-scale representation of where fisheries operate. Vessels participating in specific commercial fisheries are subject to Vessel Monitoring System (VMS) requirements, including those in the sea scallop, surfclam, and monkfish fisheries. Examination of VMS data in the MARCO Data Portal indicates most surfclam harvest has occurred in the western two-thirds of the Lease Area, while most sea scallop harvest has occurred in the eastern third. VMS data also suggest possible transit and/or historical trips from mid-

²¹ https://media.fisheries.noaa.gov/2022-05/2022-05-NOAAFisheries-EEJ_508.pdf

water trawl fisheries such as those for Atlantic mackerel and squid, as well as Northeast Multispecies (groundfish). It is important to note that VMS regulations generally require vessels to maintain VMS units in operational mode at all times, even when participating in a non-VMS fishery. Automatic Identification System (AIS) data may provide additional information regarding commercial vessel transit and use of the Lease Area, but the detailed local knowledge of fishermen is critical to identifying and properly characterizing these data. Project leadership has proactively met with stakeholders in Shinnecock, New York, Greenport, NY, Barnegat Light, Belford, and Cape May, New Jersey, and other regional ports to begin this dialogue. Fishery information will be updated as local fisheries knowledge is developed in collaboration with fishery participants.

Effective April 1, 2022, NMFS implemented the Atlantic Sea Scallop 2022-2023 fishing year regulations, which include the New York Bight Scallop Rotational Closed Area. The closed area encompasses the eastern half of the Lease Area (as well as the entirety of OCS-A 0538 and the southern half of OCS-A 0537), and was established to protect several scallop year classes that are anticipated to support future fishing activities. The Virginia Institute of Marine Sciences (VIMS) 2021 dredge survey indicated the presence of 1-2 year old scallops in the northeastern portion of the Lease Area. Based on normal growth rates, these scallops would be expected to be available to the fishery within 2-4 years.

3.2.2 Recreational Fisheries

Information on recreational fisheries operating in and transiting through the Lease Area is also limited. Similar to commercial fisheries, for-hire vessels operating in federally-managed fisheries are subject to VTR requirements and information from the MARCO data portal indicates occasional for-hire fishing (charter and party boats) activity within the Lease Area, though higher amounts of activity inshore of and beyond the Lease Area were observed. Seasonally-important recreational fisheries for both private anglers and for-hire fleets have included summer flounder, black sea bass, scup, and bluefish, as well as pelagic species such as dolphinfish (mahi mahi) and Highly Migratory Species (HMS) such as bluefin and yellowfin tunas. Blueline and golden tilefishes (deepwater bottom species) have also increased in popularity over the years, although they are targeted over bottom contours seaward of the Lease Area. It is likely that important ports for the for-hire and private boat fleets that may be transiting and/or operating within the area include Barnegat Light, Point Pleasant, Cape May, Little Egg Inlet, Ocean City, New Jersey, and additional ports in New York.

The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) maintains an Artificial Reef Program, although the majority of reefs are within 2NM to 8NM of shore; only one reef is located 23NM from shore and is well to the southwest of the Lease Area. As noted in Section 2.1, the New Jersey Prime Fishing Areas dataset was used to deconflict the Lease Area with recreational fishing hot spots and activities. While none of the Prime Fishing Areas overlap the Lease Area, three sites are adjacent to it: 1) Fingers is an irregular lump adjacent to the southwestern (inshore) boundary of the Lease that is surrounded by sandy, shelly bottom; 2) Triple Wrecks South is a sandy slough so named for the wrecks on it, and abuts the northeastern corner of the Lease, extending to the north-northeast and south-southwest of the Lease Area; 3) The CORVALLIS, an isolated wreck adjacent to the northern boundary of the Lease Area and the southern boundary of lease OCS-A 0538. Curated local knowledge will also be critical to identifying information gaps for recreational fisheries, locations of any known structures or other important oceanographic features within the Lease and surrounding area, and appropriately interpreting existing data so that impacts can be thoughtfully considered and avoided. The fisheries team will compile the available data on any known hangs within the project area. No named shipwrecks are located within the Lease Area.

3.2.3 Other Ocean Uses

Data from the Northeast Coastal and Marine Recreational Use Characterization Study conducted by NROC²² and recreational ocean use workshops conducted by the mid-Atlantic states are available via the NROC and MARCO Data Portals, and provide a footprint of the range and general density of shore-based, coastal, and ocean uses from Virginia through Maine. As noted previously, these include whale and dolphin-watching, shore-based wildlife viewing, diving, recreational boating, sailing, surfing, and kayaking. The information currently in the data portals does not display overlap of any of these activities within the Lease Area, but indicates several activities occur to the east and south along the continental shelf break, and to the north along the Hudson Canyon and vicinity. The data layers show many of these activities have occurred inshore of the Lease Area and in higher densities, and could be impacted by future cable routes.

Many coastal and ocean recreational users and operators belong to organizations and/or clubs promoting resource conservation and enjoyment of these recreational pursuits. The fisheries team will coordinate our outreach to these groups with the efforts of other Project team members to reduce stakeholder engagement burden, increase efficiency, and ensure we are providing accessible opportunities for two-way communication and feedback. Our objective is to ensure recreational users are able to participate throughout the Project development process.

3.3 Fisheries Habitats

The Lease Area overlaps Essential Fish Habitats (EFH) for various life stages of most species managed by the MAFMC, with the exception of golden and blueline tilefish. It is also designated EFH for different life stages of several groundfish species managed by the NEFMC, as well as monkfish, skates, and sea scallops. EFH designations for multiple HMS species occur in the area, primarily sharks but also bluefin and skipjack Tunas. According to information in the MARCO Data Portal, benthic habitats within the Lease Area include mostly moderate to high flat gravel and sand, with some sandy depressions.

3.4 Fisheries Management

The fisheries occurring and potentially transiting the Lease Area are managed by a suite of federal and state agencies and partners, including the NJDEP Division of Fish & Wildlife, New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC), MAFMC (e.g., summer flounder, scup, black sea bass, surfclam), NEFMC (sea scallop, monkfish [jointly with MAFMC]), the ASMFC, NMFS HMS Division (tunas, billfishes, sharks), NMFS Greater Atlantic Regional Fisheries Office (GARFO), and NMFS Northeast Fisheries Science Center. Each entity is responsible for the stewardship of fisheries resources through the conduct and/or oversight of biological and habitat surveys, fishery-dependent data collection and analyses, and policy implementation. These efforts contribute to a fisheries management framework that is coordinated to varying degrees across state and federal jurisdictions. Each organization has constituent outreach, communication, and public engagement processes that are important to the success of both individual and collective management initiatives.

This Plan recognizes the knowledge and expertise of agencies and partners and seeks to integrate their input and experience in stakeholder mapping to promote sustainable shared use of the Project Area. While the project area is most closely located to New Jersey and New York, the fisheries communications

²² http://archive.neoceanplanning.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/10/Recreation-Study_Final-Report.pdf

team is also committed to understanding the relationship of other state's fleets to the area. Given the regional nature and economic importance of the fisheries operating in and/or transiting through the Lease, the fisheries communications team will engage state agencies from North Carolina through Maine. Project leadership has proactively reached out to states and federal partners to begin this dialogue and develop relationships with industry stakeholders. This Plan has identified communication with fishery managers as a potential opportunity for collaboration among developers. The team recognizes that multiple state and federal agencies have already invested large amounts of resources and time to support development of wind energy to date, and this is an area where efficiency can be explored. The team will also ensure that engagement with marine fisheries agencies is coordinated with the Project's Agency Communications Plan to reduce duplication of effort.

4 Offshore Project Operations

Offshore survey activities will occur in the Lease Area and potential export cable corridors as part of site assessment and characterization activities. One of the primary objectives of any survey campaign will be proactive coordination with commercial and recreational fleets to develop comprehensive awareness of the seasonality and pattern of fisheries activities so that impacts are avoided and deconflicted, particularly during peak fishing seasons. The goal of the Plan is to consider each survey campaign as an opportunity to improve two-way communications and feedback mechanisms between the Project and fisheries stakeholders as part of an adaptive communications framework. As the project matures from site assessment to construction and operations, this section of the Plan will be updated accordingly.

4.1 Survey Operations and Site Assessment

Site characterization and assessment will involve high-resolution geophysical, geotechnical, and benthic activities, such as depth sounding with multi-beam echo sounders to determine bathymetry, seafloor imaging with sidescan sonar, sub-bottom profilers to determine stratigraphy below the seabed, magnetometers to map ferrous returns, collection of sediment cores, and collection of benthic sediment samples to aid in habitat characterization. These activities are likely to involve multiple vessels depending on location and water depth, particularly once specific export cable corridors have been identified.

As a component of the Project's proactive approach to fisheries impact avoidance, a pre-survey risk assessment will be conducted in advance of each survey campaign to identify spatial and temporal overlap with commercial and recreational fishing activities. The assessment will be conducted in coordination with FRs and fishery participants to appropriately characterize peak and seasonal activity, and will include mitigation measures designed to avoid, minimize, and mitigate any specific fisheries risks identified. Such measures will be collaboratively developed and could include a protocol for calibration of sonar gear to identify appropriate features for this activity and specifically avoid popular fishing structures, as well as use of scout vessels. Onboard fisheries liaisons (OFLs) may also be employed depending on the survey methods used and the potential for interaction with fishing activities and/or gear. The fisheries communication team has been actively involved in the initial survey planning phase of this Project to ensure fishery and ecosystem issues are integrated in the design and execution of all survey operations.

4.2 Survey Team Communications

The Liaisons will work with the survey team during each pre-survey risk assessment (Section 4.1) to provide forecasts of expected commercial and recreational fisheries activities, state and federal resource surveys, recreational fishing tournaments (e.g., HMS), and known fixed-gear placements to facilitate

impact avoidance. The Liaisons will conduct daily briefings with survey vessels to provide the survey teams with updated information regarding fisheries operating in or transiting through the survey area prior to initiation of each day's activities, and will receive feedback from the survey team daily. The Liaisons will serve as the primary contact for both industry and the survey team to identify and resolve any issues that occur during survey operations, and will develop notices of survey operations for distribution to commercial and recreational fishery participants and stakeholders via communication methods and outlets identified for each sector (see sections 5.2 and 5.3), as well as USCG Notices to Mariners. All notices will be distributed to the fishing industry as early as practicable and no later than two weeks in advance of any scheduled survey or site assessment activity. The Liaisons will also work with the FRs to ground-truth and update information conveyed to survey teams. Survey vessels will monitor VHF channel 16 at all times during survey operations for communication with fishing vessels in the area on a bridge-to-bridge basis.

Given the importance of timely and accurate two-way feedback during survey preparation and operations, the communications team is exploring innovative digital technologies, to communicate survey activity, receive stakeholder input, and facilitate avoidance of fisheries impacts. If successful, these could reduce the burden of engagement on fishing communities, while also promoting safe co-occurrence of fishing and survey operations. The team is committed to continued pursuit of approaches that support efficient and innovative communications for the benefit of fishing participants and stakeholders.

4.3 Gear Loss and Interactions

While every effort will be made to avoid and deconflict fisheries impacts prior to each survey campaign, the Project has established a gear loss claim procedure for loss or damage to fishing gear due to survey activities (please see Appendix 3). The procedure establishes the reporting process for fishermen who experience a gear loss or damage associated with the project's offshore operations, and confirm the Project's commitment to processing claims for lost/damaged fishing gear in a timely manner. A Survey Fishing Gear Incident Form and procedures will be used by contracted survey vessels to report any gear interactions, and a Gear Loss/Damage Claim Form is available to fishermen who experience a gear loss or damage event associated with any vessels contracted to the Project and will be posted on the Project website. The Liaisons will be the point of contact for fishermen to assist them with this process. As per the lease stipulations, an annual summary of claims will be provided to BOEM.

Community Offshore Wind acknowledges the concerns expressed by fishermen regarding the potential differences in gear loss/damage claim processes across different Projects. We are committed to working with other leaseholders to develop procedures that will minimize stakeholder burden and increase transparency and consistency.

5 Fisheries Communication Strategies

The communication strategies outlined below are built on the Project's core communication principles to meet the Plan objectives described in Section 1.1. These approaches are intended to be specific and adaptable to the needs of each stakeholder group and promote effective, two-way engagement that contributes to the safe, successful, and sustainable shared use of the Lease Area. This Plan anticipates using a combination of engagement methods including one-on-one interviews, small group meetings in fishing communities, larger workshops that potentially include other developers and multiple stakeholder types, etc. to identify key concerns and provide avenues for stakeholders to contribute their observations and requests. Each component outlined in the following sections should function as an interconnected node in a broader communications network to advance shared understanding between the Project and

fisheries stakeholders that is based on the curated local knowledge of the fishing community. As the network and strategies evolve throughout the Project lifetime, the Plan will be updated accordingly, and revised versions will be posted on the Community Offshore Wind website. As noted previously, the fisheries team proactively engaged some members of the commercial and recreational fishing communities to discuss the suitability of various communications nodes and approaches.

The Project is also committed to understanding the differing communication preferences within and among stakeholder groups. A successful Project outcome requires addressing these needs in a manner that is sensitive to cultural and language differences, as well as accessibility to information sources. The Liaisons will coordinate with FRs to identify specific approaches that meet unique stakeholder needs and promote inclusivity.

Community Offshore Wind recognizes the high stakeholder engagement burden given the number of active leases in the Mid-Atlantic and New England regions. The Project is committed to building initiatives with other developers to streamline this burden, while acknowledging the inherent tension this creates among competing entities. For example, the team has discussed it may be more efficient for multiple developers to host topic-based workshops so stakeholders could provide input on a particular issue, compared to area-specific feedback. This team is aware of the time constraints many fishery stakeholders have and efficiency is a core objective of this plan.

5.1 Commercial Fisheries Communications

The Liaisons will work closely with the FRs and industry to develop the most appropriate methods (e.g., paper, text, email, public listserves, social media, websites) to reach the greatest number of stakeholders, being mindful of the cadence and mode of information delivery. Approaches will be tailored to each fishery and/or communication node, although some overlap is expected. The Liaisons will also develop and maintain a list of contacts for various commercial fishing constituencies (e.g., fish houses/dealers/processors, commercial associations, key fishery participants, etc.).

5.1.1 Fisheries Operating in and Transiting Lease

As described in Section 3.2.1, the primary commercial fisheries operating in the Lease Area are dredge fisheries, but some bottom and mid-water trawl, gillnet, and pot effort has also historically occurred in and/or transited through this area. The Liaisons will work with the FRs, FTAs, local industry, state and federal marine fisheries agencies, and regional fishery management councils to identify stakeholders with current and historical knowledge who may be available for direct communication. Engagement with industry members who can interpret and fill information gaps is critical to a shared understanding and impact avoidance. For example, our marine affairs team proactively engaged industry with Project engineers to promote technical understanding of dredge gear configuration and operation. Such exchanges can also inform development of appropriate communication strategies for different phases of the Project.

In recognition of stakeholder burden, the Liaisons will work with the FRs to coordinate in-person engagements with individuals and groups. Anticipated communication methods during survey activities include, but are not limited to: USCG Notices to Mariners; local notices to fishermen via appropriate state agency communication lists; text and/or email messages to individuals operating in the same fishery/gear type; social media and postings on the Project website; and distribution/posting of paper notices of survey operations at appropriate locations.

5.1.2 Commercial Fisheries Associations/Representatives

Commercial fisheries associations and representatives serve a valuable role for commercial stakeholders as trusted sources of information regarding management issues under consideration and upcoming regulatory changes at both the state and federal level. Most, if not all, send out regular communications to their memberships, hold leadership (i.e., board of directors) meetings, and may host or participate in community engagement events. The Liaisons will work with the FR to identify a list of appropriate organizations for outreach regarding the Project. The Liaisons will endeavor to provide general Project information and fishery notices regarding survey activities to associations and representatives for distribution to their membership, attend association meetings to listen to and provide feedback regarding industry concerns (as appropriate and requested), and be available as a resource. The Liaisons will work with other leaseholder liaisons to coordinate communication and engagement efforts to reduce the burden on organizations to respond to multiple requests. As appropriate, the Project may also host a booth at trade shows where representatives of commercial fishing organizations may be in attendance to provide information that organizations may distribute to their members.

5.1.3 Shoreside Infrastructure/Communities

Shoreside infrastructure such as docks, fish houses/dealer/processor facilities, and vessel repair shops can be important communication sites for busy commercial stakeholders entering or leaving port. The Liaisons will work with the FRs to identify shoreside infrastructure hubs for posting of fishery notices, via electronic or traditional media as desired and appropriate, regarding upcoming survey activities. The Liaisons will also engage directly with shoreside infrastructure owners to establish communication and serve as a resource for industry concerns and questions.

5.2 Recreational Fisheries Communications

Recreational fishermen receive information using similar modalities as commercial fishermen (i.e., social media, websites, other electronic platforms, paper) as well as similar types of information sources (e.g., USCG Notices to Mariners, organizations and clubs, marinas, boat ramps). The Liaisons will work with FRs to identify and tailor the mode and frequency of communications as appropriate for each recreational stakeholder constituency to promote avoidance of recreational fisheries impacts throughout the life cycle of the Project.

5.2.1 Fisheries Operating in and Transiting Lease

The majority of offshore recreational fishing effort operating out of New Jersey and New York is from private anglers fishing for summer flounder, black sea bass, and bluefish, as well as striped bass, sharks, tunas, and other HMS species. However, spatial data on recreational fisheries are limited and the team plans to work directly with recreational captains and angling organizations to develop a detailed understanding of recreational effort, including for HMS species, within and around the Lease Area. This will include efforts by the fisheries team to understand fisheries transits through the project area. It is likely that targeted, deepwater trips (such as for bluefin and golden tilefish), which may be combined with trips for HMS species, will transit the Lease Area on the way to fishing grounds seaward of the Lease. In 2021, there were over 4,000 HMS Angling Permits homeported in New Jersey (second only to Florida) and just under 2,800 homeported in New York, indicating high interest in these fisheries²³. The Liaisons

²³ [2021 Stock Assessment and Fishery Evaluation Report \(SAFE\) for Atlantic Highly Migratory Species](#), p. 69

will work with the FRs, state and federal agencies, regional fishery management councils and partners, as well as local fishing clubs, to identify anglers with historic experience in and near the Lease Area. Whenever possible, engagement with local fishermen to curate their knowledge and determine communication preferences will be coordinated with other leaseholders to minimize engagement burden. The fisheries team is committed to improving the efficiency and effectiveness of recreational fishery outreach through collaboration with other leaseholders.

5.2.2 For-Hire Fisheries

For-hire fisheries (charter boats and headboats) are socially, culturally, and economically important to surrounding shoreside communities, and the Liaisons will develop outreach protocols suited to this unique sector. The for-hire trips most likely to be transiting and/or operating in the lease area are HMS trips; as of October 2021, there were just over 400 HMS Charter/Headboat Permit homeported in New Jersey (second to Florida), and about 370 homeported in New York²⁴. The Liaisons will coordinate with the FRs and state and federal agencies to identify marinas that serve as hubs for the charter and headboat fleets, and will engage marina operators as important constituents in communication efforts. As noted above, outreach and communication methods will likely include written/posted materials regarding survey activities, as well as electronic and social media, but the mode and frequency will be tailored according to feedback from marina operators.

5.2.3 Recreational Tournaments

Recreational fishing tournaments occur seasonally, generally spring through fall, and tournaments focused on HMS species are most likely to incur transit through the lease area. The Liaisons will work with for-hire captains, recreational fishing organizations, and agencies to develop a list of tournaments in the area, and will post written survey information at tournament locations, as well as communicate to tournament organizers the timing and extent of survey operations. For tournament fleets that may transit the project area, tournaments will be provided in advance with communications materials describing any offshore survey operations or related activities to promote awareness and safety. The project will also offer to send a representative to tournament captain's meetings as appropriate to notify the captains of any offshore operations.

5.2.4 Recreational Fisheries Organizations/Representatives

A number of recreational fishing organizations exist in the region and serve important roles as communication and information dissemination nodes for private anglers and for-hire fleets. Some serve both constituencies while others focus specifically on one stakeholder group, but most communicate regularly with their memberships via electronic communications, social media, and/or printed newsletters. Many organizations participate in the fisheries management process, and some host fishing tournaments or sponsor community events. The Liaisons will develop a list of recreational fishing organizations to engage in dialogue regarding survey activities, member concerns and feedback, and determine the appropriate modes and frequency of communication in coordination with organization leadership.

²⁴ [2021 Stock Assessment and Fishery Evaluation Report \(SAFE\) for Atlantic Highly Migratory Species](#), p. 68

5.2.5 Shoreside Infrastructure/Communities

Marinas, boat ramps, and tackle shops are components of shoreside infrastructure that are also important communication conduits for the recreational fishing community. The Liaisons will work with state agency staff, FRs, and recreational fishing organizations to identify high use infrastructure for posting of survey information. Tackle shops or sporting goods stores may also serve as community hubs, and some occasionally sponsor or host lectures or information sessions for clients/constituents. The Liaisons will explore the possibility of adding these as engagement nodes and coordinating with other leaseholders in outreach activities tailored for these groups.

5.3 State and Federal Management Entities and Agencies

State and federal fisheries agencies and regional management entities participate in the stewardship of fisheries occurring in and transiting through the Lease Area, and conduct or coordinate several fishery-independent surveys within the Lease Area and/or within potential export cable corridors. These surveys provide critically important information for regional fisheries assessment and management, and data to inform the Project and Plan goal of fisheries impact avoidance. The Liaisons will work with state and federal agency staff to develop a list of resource surveys, and with survey coordinators to avoid scheduling conflicts between resource and project survey operations. The intent of these activities is to ensure the concerns as well as expertise of agencies and management entities are incorporated throughout the project lifecycle.

This Plan acknowledges that a similar communication burden exists for agencies as for stakeholders given the pace of offshore leasing activities, and is committed to working with other developers to coordinate and streamline these efforts whenever possible. As noted previously, the fisheries team will also coordinate efforts with the Project's Agency Communications Plan. The objective is to develop an appropriate frequency and method of communication with state and federal agencies, fisheries management entities, and other partners that will promote future collaborative opportunities (see Section 6) and support agency climate resiliency initiatives.

5.3.1 Federal Agencies

The Plan will coordinate engagement with GARFO, Northeast Fisheries Science Center (NEFSC), and the NMFS HMS Division to ensure that Project survey activities are appropriately communicated and scheduled to avoid impacts to important agency biological surveys, such as: the NEFSC Spring and Fall Bottom Trawl Surveys; Northeast Area Monitoring and Assessment Program (NEAMAP) Survey; Ecosystem Monitoring Surveys; North Atlantic Right Whale Aerial Surveys; Marine Mammal and Sea Turtle Aerial Surveys; Marine Mammal, Sea Turtle, and Seabird Ship-based Surveys; Seal Aerial Abundance Surveys; Coastal Shark Bottom Longline Surveys; and the Cooperative Atlantic States Shark Popping and Longline/Gillnet Survey. The Liaisons will also work with federal agencies and the managers of industry collaborative resource surveys (e.g., School of Marine Science and Technology (SMAST) at University of Massachusetts-Dartmouth, Virginia Institute of Marine Science (VIMS) and Coonamessett Farm Foundation (CFF) scallop surveys, NOAA/surflam industry resource surveys) to align Project survey schedules with these activities. The Plan recognizes the impacts that construction and operations of offshore wind facilities will have on these critical surveys. An objective of this engagement is to explore opportunities to develop future project monitoring activities that are compatible with existing surveys and can contribute to the management of fisheries resources, consistent with the Draft NOAA Fisheries and BOEM Federal Survey Mitigation Strategy.

5.3.2 State Agencies

Although the Lease Area is closest to New York and New Jersey, the Liaisons will coordinate engagement with state marine fisheries agencies from North Carolina through Maine due to the regional nature of the fisheries operating in and transiting through the Lease. Project leadership proactively contacted NJDEP and NYSDEC, as well as the NYSERDA, and other state agencies, to begin building these important relationships. Since then, the fisheries team has conducted targeted outreach with fisheries division staff from several state agencies to explore and discuss the proposed communication strategies. Further engagement with the NYSERDA Fisheries Technical Working Group (F-TWG), of which RWE is a member, and the NJDEP Offshore Wind (OSW) Working Group is anticipated. The Liaisons will provide an overview of the Plan to state agency staff for feedback and suggestions, and to determine the appropriate communication methods, outlets, and tempo for agency engagement. The Liaisons will also explore leveraging agency communication portals with staff to expand stakeholder engagement and awareness of the Project, and to promote inclusion of all interested and affected constituencies. As noted, objectives of the Plan include coordination of Project survey operations so as to avoid impacts to state biological resource surveys, and incorporation of agency expertise.

5.3.3 Regional Fishery Management Entities

The regional fishery management councils and the ASMFC are important stewards of marine fisheries resources, working in partnership with each other and NMFS to develop and implement regulations that promote sustainable future fishing opportunities. The MAFMC and NEFMC have extensive communication and stakeholder engagement networks, and the Liaisons will work with both councils to provide project updates as appropriate (e.g., an introductory presentation to the MAFMC at its August 2022 meeting) and to determine acceptable methods and frequency of communications. This may include working with staff to provide survey notices and fact sheets for the Joint NEFMC/MAFMC Offshore Wind webpage and/or for distribution via email and social media postings. Similarly, the ASMFC is responsible for fishery management plans in state waters along the entire east coast. Therefore, they too have an extensive stakeholder network including commercial, recreational, and other interested parties. The team will also explore coordination of information “open houses” with other developers to provide opportunities for stakeholder feedback in conjunction with Council and/or Commission meetings.

5.4 Other Partners

Multiple organizations are active participants in the conversations surrounding development of offshore wind in the U.S., including the Responsible Offshore Development Alliance (RODA), ROSA, the RWSC, academic institutions, and several environmental nongovernmental organizations. Community Offshore Wind recognizes the contributions and continuing efforts of RODA, ROSA, RWSC, scientists, and others to improving the dialogue between fishing communities and the offshore wind industry, developing recommendations regarding impact fees and mitigation, hosting workshops and other collaborations, and conducting research and monitoring to promote a shared understanding of the state of the science and future scientific needs. The Project’s fisheries communications team is committed to participating in and contributing to these efforts and future initiatives, and providing efficient and productive settings for early engagement and dialogue.

5.5 Communications Tracking

The Plan includes a stakeholder management system to record efforts across all Project communications plans and track stakeholder concerns and requests. Every engagement opportunity will be documented by engagement type, stakeholder category, relevance and specific input provided. The team will detail

how that input has been communicated and integrated into the overall planning of the Project. This will improve transparency and illustrate the variety of engagement strategies planned. This information will be included in the semi-annual progress reports, which are a BOEM lease condition, and will be posted on the Project website. Reports will note when and how each concern has been addressed or integrated into the design, development, or operation of the project.

6 Collaborative Opportunities

A major focus of the Plan is to engage fishing communities in the development of collaborative opportunities for monitoring and research, as well as safety and training enhancements, that are informed by their local knowledge of historic and current fishing activities and resources. The objective is a robust research, monitoring, enhancement, and data sharing program that addresses relevant needs identified by fishing community stakeholders, state and federal agencies, and other partners. Coordination with other developers will be explored whenever feasible to maximize the efficiency and effectiveness of these efforts.

6.1 Monitoring

Pre-, during, and post-construction monitoring is an important component of avoiding and addressing fisheries impacts, providing for the continuity of existing data streams, and piloting the application of new technologies and survey designs. Community Offshore Wind envisions a collaborative monitoring program that is adaptive to fisheries management, stakeholder, and Project needs, and provides opportunities for coordination across leaseholders. The following is a non-exhaustive list of potential collaborative monitoring initiatives:

- Provide opportunities for commercial and for-hire vessels to participate in pre- and post-construction resource, mapping, and benthic surveys.
- Piloting integration/transition from NOAA vessels to industry vessels in fishery independent survey areas impacted by turbine construction.
- Development and testing of consistent monitoring methods and survey designs in coordination with other leaseholders to facilitate integration with long-term resource surveys.
- Join ROSA Advisory Council, pending membership approval, and participate in the organization's efforts to advance collaborative and consistent regional approaches to monitoring.
- Support and participate in the development of the American Clean Power Recreational Fisheries Engagement initiative, and explore opportunities for recreational participation in innovative monitoring approaches.
- Support for socio-economic monitoring of fishing communities to document Project impacts and benefits.

6.2 Research

State and federal agencies, regional fishery management bodies, and other partners have contributed significant resources to identifying research needs regarding impacts of offshore wind development on fisheries resources and management. Community Offshore Wind is committed to active participation and coordination with other leaseholders in addressing and supporting these needs, recognizing the strain that rapid expansion of offshore wind has placed on the region's research community. The following is a non-exhaustive list of potential opportunities that will be expanded as the Project's fisheries communications team engages in existing conversations on development of research needs:

- Engagement with academic institutions and research collaboratives (e.g., VIMS, Rutgers, SMAST, CFF, State University of New York (SUNY), Science Center for Marine Fisheries (SCMFIS), etc.) regarding research needs for fisheries occurring in the Lease Area.
- Explore potential sponsorship/support opportunities for workshops and research activities focused on scallop and/or surf clam resources.
- Coordinate with regional fishery management councils, NMFS, ROSA, RWSC, and academic partners to identify and develop collaborative research projects for affected species that are suitable for commercial and headboat platforms.
- Provide support for exploratory research to improve compatibility and/or efficiency of dredge gear within offshore wind arrays.
- Support research to address potential impacts of wind energy areas on federal surveys and resource assessments (e.g., collaborate on relevant resource assessment modeling efforts, potential calibration of various survey techniques, etc.)
- Support habitat research relevant to species occurring within lease area.
- Explore potential research opportunities for private anglers through the American Clean Power Association's Recreational Fisheries Engagement initiative.
- Support for internship opportunities.

6.3 Information and Data Sharing

A tremendous amount of data and information will be generated during site characterization and assessment, construction and post-construction monitoring, and collaborative opportunities described above. The project is committed to providing timely access to fisheries data and information to the extent practicable to improve management of ocean resources. Anticipated activities to support this objective include:

- Explore utility of project data to ecosystem and other resource assessments.
- Collaborate with researchers and/or educators to distill research and monitoring results into formats suitable for general public audiences (e.g., ArcGIS Story Maps) and students.
- Provide public access to research and monitoring data within the bounds of federal confidentiality requirements necessary to protect individual fishing entities.
- Develop a data sharing/confidentiality policy that clearly outlines the Project's expectations of contracted entities (e.g., academic researchers) with respect to pre-, during, and post-construction data collection funded by the Project.

6.4 Safety and Training

Safety of fishermen, communities, and Project crews is a core principle of the Plan that is aligned with the overall philosophy of avoidance of fisheries impacts whenever possible. The Project is committed to promoting the safe and sustainable coexistence of fishing activities and offshore wind through initiatives such as:

- Engage local fishermen to serve as scout vessels during survey operations and as guard vessels during project construction.
- Incorporate the ability for fishermen to provide real-time updates regarding changes in fishing operations via innovative digital approaches (see Section 4. 2).
- Provide marine simulator training for commercial and recreational vessels to experience navigation through different potential project design configurations under a variety of weather conditions.

- Support the American Clean Power Association's Recreational Fishing Industry Engagement initiative as a venue to identify and address the unique safety concerns of for-hire and private anglers.
- Provide support for vessel radar upgrades and/or testing of new equipment for commercial and for-hire fishing vessels.
- Collaborate with NOAA, the USCG, and chart plotting companies to develop an efficient process for providing updated chart information at appropriate timeframes, based on site assessment activities and continuing throughout project construction and operation.

7 Conflict Prevention and Resolution

The philosophy of Community Offshore Wind is that integration of curated, local fisheries knowledge into the Project design will prevent conflicts by avoiding fisheries impacts to the greatest extent practicable. The intent of the FCP is for Liaisons to work with FRs and fishing communities to develop this knowledge, collaboratively identify potential impacts from the Project, and where those impacts cannot be avoided, engage in a bottom-up process to develop approaches to minimize, rehabilitate, and mitigate those impacts. Approaches to prevent conflicts that might arise include but are not limited to the following:

- Engage fishing communities early in discussions of options for export and inter-array cable layouts, as well as installation/burial techniques, that minimize impacts to fishing activities and habitats.
- Coordinate with fishing communities and adjacent developers to identify options that could avoid or reduce impacts on fishing activities.
- Engage fishing communities to develop seasonal and geographic awareness of fisheries operations so they can be considered in the scheduling of site assessment and construction activities.

Our fisheries team will focus on constructive, proactive engagement with the fishing industry in order to avoid and minimize project conflicts with marine fisheries. In recognition that it may not be possible to avoid all conflicts, the Project will implement a stepwise approach to address disputes. This process will begin with the fisheries team working to address differences within a reasonable timeframe (e.g., 30 days), followed by an intermediate step allowing for external consultations as needed, and a final step of engaging of a professional facilitator to assist in the identification of potential solutions or resolutions. The intent is to provide members of the fishing community a clear process to address disagreements, as well as opportunities to notify the Project of previously unknown conflicts and concerns via multiple tools (e.g., website, mobile app, contact with FRs and Liaisons), and suggestions for resolution. We are committed to successful, long-term coexistence with the fisheries, and will be proactive in our efforts to identify and work through any potential conflicts.

8 Coordination Across Leases

Coordination with other developers is a theme that is integrated throughout the Plan, and the Project is committed to advancing these efforts. Project leadership currently participates in the American Clean Power Fisheries Subcommittee, as well as the NYSERDA F-TWG and E-TWG to collaborate on issues of common interest among leaseholders, including:

- Collaborating with other leaseholders to develop consistent monitoring practices that are informed by state and federal resource needs, and fisheries stakeholder concerns.

- Development of consistent protocols for compensation for gear loss and damage as well as potential lost fishing income.
- Coordinated stakeholder engagement efforts (e.g., joint topic workshops, port hours, curating local knowledge, identifying communication preferences and opportunities to improve communications efficiency and reduce the burden on fishermen, etc.)
- Agency communication and engagement.

9 Indicators and Metrics

This plan will include specific metrics and indicators to measure the success and efficacy of the Plan. The team will collaborate with stakeholders to seek early feedback on candidate qualitative and quantitative metrics. Once defined these performance metrics will be described in future versions of the Plan and updates included in progress reports. This is an important step in identifying clear ways to evaluate and continuously improve the Plan. Some candidate metrics include:

- Target meeting frequencies for state and federal agencies and their offshore wind working groups, as well as fisheries management entities, to convey updates on project status and solicit feedback.
- Number of interviews with participants and representatives of various fisheries sectors.
- Number of open houses and/or port meetings hosted (in-person and virtual) to develop collaborative research and monitoring opportunities.
- Achievement of team development goals (e.g., number of FRs representing different fisheries and sectors)
- Number of fishery and/or sector specific fact sheets developed.

Appendix 1 – Fisheries Team Contact Information

Name/Contact Information	Title
Deirdre Boelke (Primary Contact) RWE Renewables Americas, LLC 100 Federal St. Boston, MA 02110 DeirdreB@communityoffshorewind.com Cell: 978-518-0638	Fisheries Liaison
Michelle Duval Mellivora Consulting 841 Parkside Ave West Chester, PA 19382 MichelleD@communityoffshorewind.com Cell: 919-601-3798	Fisheries Liaison
Rick Robins RWE Renewables Americas, LLC 100 Federal St. Boston, MA 02110 RickR@communityoffshorewind.com Cell: 757-876-3778	Marine Affairs Manager

Appendix 2 – Example Engagement Tracking Template

The following is an example of a potential stakeholder engagement tracking template and the types of information the fisheries team anticipates collecting to describe and document how input from fisheries participants and stakeholders is being integrated into the Project, and how feedback is being provided. As noted in Section 5.5, a Project-wide stakeholder management system is being developed to comprehensively track all stakeholder input and feedback mechanisms across all required Project communications plans.

Date of Engagement	Engagement Type	Fisheries Team member(s)	Stakeholder Category	Stakeholder Name(s)	Organization (if applicable)	Location	Phone	Email	Summary of Issues Discussed	Project-Specific Input Provided	Actions in Response to Feedback

Appendix 3 – Gear Loss Claim Form



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.
- 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 (chart plotter, logbook, other—specify, and please provide image, copy):

Gear description and markings: _____

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 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 (chart plotter, 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 let the liaison know if you have any questions and 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.