



STATE OF NEW YORK  
**EXECUTIVE CHAMBER**  
ALBANY 12224

**ANDREW M. CUOMO**  
GOVERNOR

October 3, 2017

Secretary Ryan Zinke  
Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street, N.W.  
Washington D.C., 20240

Re: New York State Offshore Wind Site Recommendations

Dear Secretary Zinke:

I write to you at an important moment for New York State as we continue to significantly improve our energy infrastructure. In order to build New York State's burgeoning offshore wind energy industry and create thousands of new jobs for American workers, New York is proud to submit recommendations to the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) for four new offshore wind energy lease areas. I sincerely hope BOEM will help bring the economic development and clean energy benefits of offshore wind to New York as expeditiously as possible.

Meeting the unprecedented challenge of installing 2.4 gigawatts of offshore wind by 2030 – enough electricity to power more than 1.2 million homes – New York will create many of the 160,000 U.S jobs that the offshore wind industry is predicted to support over the next thirty years. This will position New York and the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic regions as industry leaders in this developing market.

Our focus on offshore wind is a key component of New York's energy policy to improve the affordability and resilience of our power systems, while protecting the State's environment. By developing offshore wind, New York will realize its vision of reducing greenhouse gas emissions 40 percent below 1990 levels, and obtaining 50 percent of all electricity consumed in New York to come from renewable energy sources, by 2030.

The four recommended lease areas New York is submitting result from an unprecedented level of in-depth analysis, stakeholder outreach, and assessment conducted over several years. We look forward to working hand in hand with BOEM to complete the process of identifying additional offshore wind energy areas that will balance the interests of stakeholders, protect our natural resources, and drive competitive interest for this significant new energy resource for the United States.

Sincerely,

ANDREW M. CUOMO

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