

## STATE OF NEW JERSEY

Board of Public Utilities 44 South Clinton Avenue, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0350 www.nj.gov/bpu/

# **CLEAN ENERGY**

IN THE MATTER OF THE OPENING OF NEW
JERSEY'S THIRD SOLICITATION FOR
OFFSHORE WIND RENEWABLE ENERGY
CERTIFICATES (OREC)

)	ORDER EXTENDING APPLICANT
)	NOTIFICATION DEADLINE TO BOARD
)	STAFF ON CONTINGENT PROJECTS
)	
)	DOCKET NO. QO22080481

#### Party of Record:

Brian O. Lipman, Esq., Director, New Jersey Division of Rate Counsel

BY THE BOARD:

By this Order, the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities ("Board" or "BPU") considers granting Board Staff ("Staff") the ability to further extend, as necessary, the deadline for applicants in the third offshore wind solicitation ("Third Solicitation") to notify Staff regarding removal of their respective contingent projects from consideration.

#### **BACKGROUND**

In accordance with the Offshore Wind Economic Development Act ("OWEDA" or "Act"), Governor Murphy's Executive Order No. 8 ("EO 8"), Executive Order No. 92 ("EO 92") and Executive Order No. 307 ("EO 307"), on March 6, 2023, the Board opened the application window for the Third Solicitation for offshore wind projects in lease areas designated by the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management in federal waters on the outer continental shelf off the coast of New Jersey. The Board also approved the use of the Solicitation Guidance Document ("SGD") to inform applicants of the Third Solicitation process and the application requirements consistent with the rules at N.J.A.C. 14:8-6-1 et seq.<sup>2</sup>

Section 1.3 of the SGD addresses the requirements for contingencies related to other states' concurrent offshore wind solicitations, and allows Third Solicitation applicants to submit one or

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> In re the Opening of New Jersey's Third Solicitation for Offshore Wind Renewable Energy Certificates (OREC), BPU Docket No. QO22080481, Order dated March 6, 2023 ("March 2023 Order").

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> SGD, <a href="https://njoffshorewind.com/third-solicitation/solicitation-documents/Final-Solicitation-Guidance-Document-with-attachments.pdf">https://njoffshorewind.com/third-solicitation/solicitation-documents/Final-Solicitation-Guidance-Document-with-attachments.pdf</a>.

more projects that are contingent on the outcome of other offshore wind solicitations ("Contingent Project"), subject to certain conditions.<sup>3</sup>

One of those conditions was that the applicant must notify Staff no later than July 31, 2023, whether a Contingent Project should be removed from consideration by New Jersey ("Contingent Project Notification Date") even if the applicant has not been notified of selection for negotiation of a contract by another state prior to that date.<sup>4</sup>

On June 7, 2023, the Board extended the application submission deadline for the Third Solicitation, and modified certain portions of the Third Solicitation timeline.<sup>5</sup> In the June 7, 2023 Order, the Board extended the Contingent Project Notification Date to September 11, 2023.<sup>6</sup>

Section 1.3 of the SDG allows Staff to extend the Contingent Project Notification Date one time, for up to 30 additional days. On September 1, 2023, in the transmittal of clarifying questions set one, Staff extended the Contingent Projects Notification Date to October 11, 2023.

Subsequent to the June 7, 2023 Order, New York updated its solicitation schedule for offshore wind generation projects ("New York Solicitation Schedule") to reflect a revised submission deadline of August 24, 2023, and offshore wind generation projects award announcement ("Award Announcement") in Q4 of 20238. Based on New York's revised schedule, extending the Contingent Projects Notification Date to October 11, 2023 could be insufficient to fully consider Contingent Projects.

### **DISCUSSION AND FINDINGS**

The Board recognizes that changes made to the New York Solicitation Schedule may require Staff to further adjust the Contingent Project Notification Date, as it is currently uncertain and difficult to predict when, exactly, New York will make its Award Announcement. The Board also recognizes that Staff needs the flexibility either to keep the current Contingent Project Notification Date of October 11, 2023, or to adjust it to take into account any subsequent changes to the New York Solicitation Schedule or any subsequent changes to the Third Solicitation evaluation schedule. Therefore, the Board <u>HEREBY AUTHORIZES</u> Staff to adjust the Contingent Project Notification Date as necessary in order to evaluate all Third Solicitation project options as fully as possible.

All other dates and deadlines in the SGD and in the June 7, 2023 Order remain the same.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Section 1.3 of the SGD is entitled "Introduction and Overview of the OREC Program - Contingencies Related to Other States' Concurrent Solicitations."

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> <u>See</u> SGD, Section 1.3(iii). The other states that would notify an Applicant regarding its selection for negotiation of a contract for the Applicant's Contingent Project are limited specifically to New York and Rhode Island. <u>Id.</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup>In re the Opening of New Jersey's Third Solicitation for Offshore Wind Renewable Energy Certificates (OREC), BPU Docket No. QO22080481, Order dated June 7, 2023 ("June 7, 2023 Order").

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> ld.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> SGD, Section 1.3(v).

<sup>8</sup>https://portal.nyserda.ny.gov/servlet/servlet.FileDownload?file=00P8z000002zRAYEA2.

The effective date of this Order is October 4, 2023.

DATED: September 27, 2023

**BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES** 

BY:

CHRISTINE GUHL-SADOV

**PRESIDENT** 

MARY-ANNA HOLDEN COMMISSIONER

DR. ZENON CHRISTODOULOU

COMMISSIONER

MARIAN ABDOU COMMISSIONER

ATTEST:

SHERRI L. GOLDEN

SECRETARY

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the within document is a true copy of the original in the files of the Board of Public Utilities.

# IN THE MATTER OF THE OPENING OF NEW JERSEY'S THIRD SOLICITATION FOR OFFSHORE WIND RENEWABLE ENERGY CERTIFICATES (OREC)

#### **DOCKET NO. Q022080481**

#### SERVICE LIST

New Jersey Board of Public Utilities

44 South Clinton Avenue, 1st Floor P.O. Box 350 Trenton, NJ 08625-0350

Sherri L. Golden, Secretary board.secretary@bpu.nj.gov

Bob Brabston, Esq., Executive Director robert.brabston@bpu.nj.gov

Stacy Peterson, Deputy Executive Director <a href="mailto:stacy.peterson@bpu.nj.gov">stacy.peterson@bpu.nj.gov</a>

Taryn Boland, Chief of Staff taryn.boland@bpu.nj.gov

Henry Gajda, Deputy Chief of Staff henry.gajda@bpu.nj.gov

General Counsel's Office

Michael Beck, General Counsel michael.beck@bpu.nj.gov

Carol Artale, Deputy General Counsel carol.artale@bpu.nj.gov

Kim Diamond, Senior Counsel kimberly.diamond@bpu.nj.gov

Charles Gurkas charles.gurkas@bpu.nj.gov

**New Jersey Division of Rate Counsel** 

140 East Front Street, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor Trenton, NJ 08625-0003

Brian O. Lipman, Esq., Director blipman@rpa.nj.gov

Maura Caroselli, Esq., Managing Attorney mcaroselli@rpa.ni.gov

Office of the Economist

Dr. Ben Witherell, Chief Economist benjamin.witherell@bpu.nj.gov

Farhana Rahman <u>farhana.rahman@bpu.nj.gov</u>

Division of Clean Energy

Jim Ferris, Deputy Director jim.ferris@bpu.nj.gov

Earl Thomas Pierce earl.pierce@bpu.nj.gov

Kevin Dillon

Kevin.Dillon@bpu.nj.gov

Kira Lawrence

kira.lawrence@bpu.nj.gov

Genevieve DiGiulio

Genevieve.DiGiulio@bpu.nj.gov

Bailey Wild

Bailey.Wild@bpu.nj.gov

**Division of Water & Energy** 

Bart Kilar

bart.kilar@bpu.nj.gov

New Jersey Division of Law

Public Utilities Section R.J. Hughes Justice Complex 25 Market Street, P.O. Box 112 Trenton, NJ 08625

Daren Eppley, Section Chief, DAG daren.eppley@law.njoag.gov

Pamela Owen, Assistant Section Chief, DAG pamela.owen@law.njoag.gov

Paul Youchak, DAG paul.youchak@law.njoag.gov

David Apy, DAG

david.apy@law.njoag.gov

Attentive Energy LLC

Caroline Tkachuk

caroline.tkachuk@totalenergies.com

Christen Wittman

christen.wittman@totalenergies.com

**Invenergy Wind Offshore LLC** 

Aaron Geschiere

ageschiere@invenergy.com

Wes Jacobs

wjacobs@invenergy.com

**Atlantic Shores Offshore Wind** 

Nathalie Jouanneau

nathalie.jouanneau@atlanticshoreswind.com

Ryan Donnelly

ryan.donnelly@atlanticshoreswind.com

**New Jersey Dept. of Environmental Protection** 

P.O. Box 420 Trenton, NJ 08625

Katherine Nolan

katherine.nolan@dep.nj.gov

Megan Brunatti

megan.brunatti@dep.nj.gov

Elizabeth Lange

elizabeth.lange@dep.nj.gov

**Community Offshore Wind, LLC** 

Matthew Frank

matthew.frank@rwe.com

Louis Winkler

louis.winkler@nationalgrid.com

Doug Perkins

douglas.perkins@rwe.com

Pat Johnson

Patrick.Johnson@nationalgrid.com