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Governor

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August 29, 2022

Via Electronic Mail

Honorable Carmen Diaz, Acting Board Secretary NJ Board of Public Utilities 44 South Clinton Avenue 1st Floor, P.O. Box 350 Trenton, NJ 08625-0350

Re: In the Matter of the Petition of Ocean Wind LLC Pursuant to

N.J.S.A. 48:3-87.1(f) for a Determination that Certain Easements and Consents Needed for Certain Environmental Permits in, and with Respect to, the County of Cape May are Reasonably Necessary for the Construction or Operation of the Ocean Wind 1 Qualified Offshore Wind Project

BPU Docket No. QO22050347

Dear Acting Secretary Diaz:

Pursuant to the procedural schedule issued by President Fiordaliso on July 14, 2022, please find attached the direct testimony of Maximilian Chang filed on behalf of the New Jersey Division of Rate Counsel in connection with the above-referenced matter.

Consistent with the Order issued by the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities in *In the Matter of the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities' Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic for a Temporary Waiver of Requirements for Certain Non-Essential Obligations*, BPU Docket No. EO20030254, Order dated March 19, 2020, this document is being electronically filed. No paper copies will follow. Please acknowledge receipt of this submission.

Thank you for your consideration and assistance.

Respectfully submitted,

Brian O. Lipman, Esq.

Director, Division of Rate Counsel

By:

/s/ Maura Carosellí

Maura Caroselli, Esq. Deputy Rate Counsel

MC Enclosure

cc: Service List

In the Matter of the Petition of Ocean Wind LLC Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:37.1(f) for a Determination that Certain Environmental Permits in, and with Respect to, the County of Cape May are Reasonably Necessary for the Construction or Operation of the Ocean Wind 1 Qualified Offshore Wind Project BPU Docket No. QO22050347 Service List

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STATE OF NEW JERSEY BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

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BPU DOCKET NO. QO22050347
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DIRECT TESTIMONY OF MAXIMILIAN CHANG ON BEHALF OF DIVISION OF RATE COUNSEL

BRIAN O. LIPMAN, ESQ. DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF RATE COUNSEL

NEW JERSEY DIVISION OF RATE COUNSEL 140 EAST FRONT STREET, 4th FLOOR P.O. BOX 003 TRENTON, NJ 08625

FILED: AUGUST 29, 2022

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	Statement of Qualifications

Attachment 1

1 I. STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS 2 Q. Please state your name, positions, and business address. 3 A. My name is Maximilian Chang. I am a Principal Associate with Synapse Energy 4 Economics, an energy consulting company located at 485 Massachusetts Avenue, 5 Cambridge, Massachusetts. 6 Q. On whose behalf are you submitting testimony in this proceeding? 7 A. I am submitting testimony on behalf of the New Jersey Division of Rate Counsel 8 ("Rate Counsel"). 9 Q. Mr. Chang, please describe your professional background at Synapse Energy 10 **Economics.** 11 A. My experience is summarized in my resume, attached as **Attachment 1**. I am an 12 environmental engineer and energy economics analyst who has analyzed energy 13 industry issues for 13 years. In my current position at Synapse Energy Economics, 14 I focus on economic and technical analysis of many aspects of the electric power 15 industry, including: (1) utility mergers and acquisitions, (2) utility reliability 16 performance and distribution investments, (3) nuclear power, (4) wholesale and 17 retail electricity markets, and (5) offshore wind. 18 Q. Mr. Chang, please describe your educational background. A. 19 I hold a Master of Science degree from the Harvard School of Public Health in 20 Environmental Health and Engineering Studies, and a Bachelor of Science degree

from Cornell University in Biology and Classical Civilizations.

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1 Q. Mr. Chang, have you previously submitted testimony before the Board of

2 **Public Utilities?**

3 Yes, I filed testimony before the Board in several dockets, including, but not A. 4 limited to: I/M/O the Petition of South Jersey Gas Company for Approval of an 5 Energy Efficiency Program ("EEP") with an Associated Energy Efficiency Tracker ("EET") Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:3-98.1, BPU Docket No. GO12050363; 6 7 I/M/O the Merger of Exelon Corporation and Pepco Holdings, Inc., BPU Docket No. EM1406581; I/M/O the Verified Petition of Rockland Electric Company for 8 9 Establishment of a Storm Hardening Surcharge, BPU Docket No. ER14030250; 10 I/M/O the Merger of the Southern Company and AGL Resources, Inc., BPU 11 Docket No. GM15101196; I/M/O the Application of PSEG Nuclear, LLC and 12 Exelon Generation Company, LLC for the Zero Emission Certificate Program -13 Salem Unit 1, BPU Docket No. ER20080557, I/M/O the Application of PSEG 14 Nuclear, LLC and Exelon Generation Company, LLC for the Zero Emission 15 Certificate Program - Salem Unit 2, BPU Docket No. ER20080558, and I/M/O the 16 Application of PSEG Nuclear, LLC for the Zero Emission Certificate Program – 17 Hope Creek, BPU Docket No.ER20080559; I/M/O the Petition of Public Service 18 Electric and Gas Company for Approval of the Second Energy Strong Program 19 (Energy Strong II), BPU Docket Nos. EO18060629 and GO18060630; I/M/O the 20 Verified Petition of Jersey Central Power & Light Company for Approval of an 21 Infrastructure Investment Program, BPU Docket No. EO18070728; I/M/O the 22 Petition of Atlantic City Electric Company for Approval of an Infrastructure 23 Investment Program, and Related Cost Recovery Mechanism, Pursuant to

1		N.J.A.C. 14:3-2A.1, et seq., BPU Docket No. EO18020196, and I/M/O the Ocean
2		Wind, LLC Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:3-87.1(f) for a Determination that Easements
3		across Green Acres-Restricted Properties and Consents Needed for Certain
4		Environmental Permits in, and with Respect to the City of Ocean City, BPU
5		Docket No. QO22020041.
6	Q.	Mr. Chang, have you previously testified before utility regulatory agencies or
7		legislative bodies?
8	A.	Yes. I previously testified before the District of Columbia Public Service
9		Commission, the Hawaii Public Utilities Commission, Illinois State Senate, the
10		Illinois Property Tax Appeal Board, the Maine Public Utilities Commission, the
11		Maryland Public Service Commission, and the Massachusetts Department of
12		Public Utilities. I also filed testimony before the Delaware Public Utilities
13		Commission, the Kansas Commerce Corporation, the Illinois Commerce
14		Commission, the United States District Court for the District of Maine, and the
15		Virginia State Corporation Commission.
16	II.	PURPOSE AND SUMMARY
17	Q.	What is the purpose of your testimony in this proceeding?
18	A.	The purpose of my testimony is to review the petition ¹ filed by Ocean Wind, LLC
19		("Company" or "Ocean Wind") requesting a determination from the New Jersey
20		Board of Public Utilities ("Board") that its preferred onshore export cable route

¹ <u>I/M/O the Petition of Ocean Wind, LLC Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:3-87.1(f) for a Determination that Easements Across Green Acres-Restricted Properties and Consents Needed for Certain Environmental Permits in, and with Respect to the County of Cape May are Reasonably Necessary for the Construction or Operation of the Ocean Wind 1 Qualified Offshore Wind Project, BPU Docket No. QO22050347.</u>

("Preferred Route") is reasonably necessary for the construction and operation of the 1,100-megawatt ("MW") Ocean Wind I project ("Ocean Wind" or "Project"). Ocean Wind also requests the Board to find and determine that the easements described in its petition over property owned by the County of Cape May ("County") are reasonably necessary for the construction and operation of the Ocean Wind I. Lastly, Ocean Wind requests the Board issue an Order preempting or superseding all consents needed from the County pertaining to New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection permits.

Q. Please summarize your findings and recommendations.

- My findings and recommendations are summarized as follows: 10 A.
- 11 Ocean Wind's preferred plan requires a temporary easement over Block 3350.01, Lot 17.01, in Ocean City, New Jersey.² 12
 - Ocean Wind's Preferred Route would impact 0.257 acres.³
- 14 While Ocean Wind indicated that it did quantify the cost of its Preferred 15 Route, Ocean Wind did not provide the projected costs of the Preferred Route 16 and it indicated that it had not quantified the costs of the alternative routes.⁴ 17 Further, Ocean Wind contends that the costs associated with the transmission 18 from the offshore wind turbines to the onshore substation are solely borne by 19 Ocean Wind. Ocean Wind also contends that the preferred route will not 20 impact the Transmission System Upgrade Sharing Mechanism costs that are shared by ratepayers and Ocean Wind.

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 $\frac{1}{3}$ <u>Id.</u> at ¶ 30. $\frac{1}{3}$ <u>Id.</u> at ¶ 30.

⁴ Response to RCR-INF-14.

- Since Ocean Wind is unwilling to provide cost information of its Preferred
 Route and claims that it bears the sole responsibility of the costs to the
 onshore substation, I recommend that the Board find that Ocean Wind has not
 demonstrated that its Preferred Route is reasonably necessary.
 - Should the Board grant Ocean Wind its requested easement, I recommend that the Board require Ocean Wind to provide an estimate of the network transmission upgrade costs associated with each of the point of interconnection ("POI") options under different build out scenarios for Ocean Wind I and future phases, since ratepayers are obligated to share transmission network upgrade costs with Ocean Wind, and assume 100% of the transmission network upgrade costs beyond \$174 million.

12 III. OCEAN WIND'S PREFERRED PLAN

Q. Please summarize the Company's proposed plan.

A. Ocean Wind's petition describes the Company's plans to install its export cables from its offshore wind turbines along what it has deemed the Preferred Route that follows the north side of Roosevelt Boulevard to a horizontal direction drilling ("HDD") entry point on the east side of the bridge across Peck Bay, continues under wetlands and Peck Bay to an HDD exit point on the west side of Peck Bay, and then continues to State Route 9.⁵ The Preferred Route eventually connects to a substation located at the decommissioned B.L. England generating station where it will interconnect with the PJM grid as described in more detail in Ocean Wind's

⁵ Response to RCR-INF-9.

petition. The Preferred Route is also predicated on Ocean Wind obtaining approval of other permanent rights of way and easements under Green Acres encumbered parcels pertaining to the Project's cable beach crossings in Ocean City, New Jersey. These rights of way and easements associated with the cable beach crossings are the subject of a separate open proceeding before the BPU in Docket No. QO22020041. The Company's Preferred Route is dependent on the Board's approval of easements in BPU Docket No. QO22020041 and this proceeding. Therefore, the Board is also de facto determining whether the Preferred Route is reasonably necessary for both proceedings simultaneously. Without the approval of the easements and rights of way in this proceeding or in BPU Docket No. QO22020041, the path of Preferred Route would be altered.

Q. Does the Company have an alternative for its Preferred Route in this petition?

14 A. Yes, but the proposed alternatives all follow Roosevelt Avenue either to the North 15 or South of the roadway. As such, all the alternative routes are the same as the 16 Preferred Route with only minor differences.

Q. Please describe your understanding of the Board's obligations in thisproceeding.

It is my understanding that the Board must decide that the temporary easement required for the Preferred Route - and therefore the route itself - are "reasonably necessary for the construction or operation of the qualified offshore wind project

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⁶ Petition at ¶ 13.

⁷ Response to RCR-INF-9.

or open access offshore wind transmission facility."8 If the Board finds that the 1 2 Company's petition is consistent with the "reasonably necessary" standard, then 3 the applicable statute states: 4 [T]he board shall issue an order approving the acquisition 5 of the requested easement, right-of-way, or other real property interest, and notwithstanding the provisions of any 6 7 other State law, rule, or regulation to the contrary, such 8 order shall effectuate the qualified offshore wind project's 9 or the open access offshore wind transmission facility's 10 property interest and shall be recorded by the appropriate county recording officer at the request of the qualified 11 12 offshore wind project or open access offshore wind transmission facility.9 13 14 15 Additionally, I understand that in similar matters where the Board is asked to 16 17 approve a utility route and the associated easements, the Board is required under 18 applicable case law to consider cost as a factor in its analysis when it determines whether the route is "reasonably necessary." ¹⁰ 19 20 Q. Has the Company provided a cost estimate for its proposed plan? 21 A. No. Instead, Ocean Wind contends that: 22 [M]any of Rate Counsel's requests seek information 23 relating to the cost of alternatives considered by Ocean 24 Wind. Given the structure of the Board of Public Utilities' 25 [Offshore Renewable Energy Certificate] OREC Order and 26 award, the financial risk and costs association with 27 alternative routes falls largely on Ocean Wind. It is Ocean 28 Wind, and not New Jersey electric utility ratepayers, that

⁸ N.J.S.A. 48:3-87.1(f)(2).

¹⁰ In re Pub. Serv. Elec. & Gas Co., 35 N.J. 358, 377 (1961)(emphasis added). See also In re S. Jersey Gas Co., 447 N.J. Super. 459, 481 (App. Div. 2016) and In re Pub. Serv. Elec. & Gas Co., 2013 N.J. Super. Unpub. LEXIS 304, 32 (2013)(finding that the Board fulfilled its obligation to consider cost in determining reasonable necessity).

1 2 3 4		bears the risk of the project costs for onshore transmission to the substation. 11 Accordingly, Ocean Wind did not provide cost estimates for its Preferred Route
5		or any of the qualitatively evaluated alternative paths. 12
6	Q.	Does the Company contend that it bears the cost risks associated with the
7		onshore connection to the B.L. England substation?
8	A.	Yes, the Company contends that the cost of the onshore connection to the B.L.
9		England substation for the Preferred Route and the analyzed alternatives are part
10		of the project costs that are borne by the developer. 13
11	Q.	Do you agree with the Company's contention regarding the financial risks
12		and costs of the project costs?
13	A.	I accept Ocean Wind's statement that it will bear the risk of project costs for
14		onshore transmission to the substation and that the network upgrade costs would
15		be the same regardless of the route. 14 That said, Ocean Wind should be obligated
16		to provide the Board and Rate Counsel with information regarding actual costs of
17		its Preferred Route since ultimately ratepayers are bearing the full cost of the
18		project through the approved OREC structure.

Introductory statement applicable to Responses RCR-INF-1 through RCR-INF-16. July 28, 2022. The Company's Response to RCR-INF-14 indicates that costs were not quantified for any of the proposed routes other than the Preferred Route, but the Company did not provide a cost estimate for the Preferred Route in discovery.

Response to RCR-INF-16.

Response to RCR-INF-16.

Q. Has the Company identified specific transmission system upgrade costs in

2 this petition?

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- 3 A. No, the Company's petition does not explicitly identify any related transmission
- 4 system network upgrade costs.

5 Q. Does the Company identify substation upgrades in its petition?

Yes, in response to a discovery question served by Rate Counsel, the Company 6 A. 7 provided a limited narrative of the required substation upgrade costs that would be required at the B.L. England, Highee, and Ontario substations. ¹⁵ Specifically, 8 9 Ocean Wind noted that the B.L. England substation would be "able to receive up 10 to 432 MW without any upgrades" but in the next sentence, Ocean Wind noted that there would need to be a substation upgrade of \$1.5 million. 16 In the same 11 12 response, Ocean Wind indicated that the Higbee and Ontario substations would require "significant grid upgrades" since the operating voltage for both 13 14 substations would need to change from 69 kilovolt ("kV") to 138 kV, and that both substations would not be able to handle the injection of capacity from Ocean 15 Wind I. 17 Ocean Wind further indicated that upgrades for the Higbee substation 16 could cost in the range of \$285 million.¹⁸ 17

17 <u>Ibid.</u>
18 <u>Ibid.</u>

¹⁵ Response to RCR-INF-4.

^{16 &}lt;u>Ibid.</u>

Q. If there are no specific transmission system upgrade costs specified in the petition, why are you concerned about costs to ratepayers?

A. When the Board issued its 2019 Order approving the Ocean Wind project, the Board contemplated that there would be transmission upgrade costs expected to be between \$36 to \$130 million. 19 Even with the proposed B.L. England and Oyster Creek substation POIs, Ocean Wind anticipates that its project will require transmission upgrade work, since the completed wind farm will inject more power into the transmission network. 20 21 At this time there appears to be limited opportunities for stakeholders to provide input to the Board as Ocean Wind embarks on its process to install 1,100 MW of offshore wind. There is a nexus between the decisions about the easements for the export cable routes and the substation requirements, which then impact the POI for the project. These decisions, in turn, impact what transmission upgrades will be required for the Project. Later in my testimony, I illustrate how the Board's transmission upgrade cost sharing allocation appears to create an incentive for the Company to propose more expensive transmission upgrades, since the Company's cost share becomes capped if there is a transmission upgrade cost of more than \$174 million.²²

²² Ibid.

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¹⁹ <u>I/M/O the Board of Public Utilities Offshore Wind Solicitation for 1,100 MW – Evaluation of the Offshore Wind Applications</u>, BPU Docket No. QO18121289, Order dated June 21, 2019, at p. 18.

²⁰ The Company notes that the B.L. England site had a capacity of 450 MW and the Oyster Creek site had a capacity of 636 MW.

²¹ Ocean Wind, *Construction and Operations Plan: Ocean Wind Offshore Wind Farm.* Volume 1, March 2021. page 23.

1 IV. RELATIONSHIP TO BPU DOCKET NO. QO22020041

- 2 Q. How does this proceeding relate to the offshore-wind matter pending in BPU
- 3 **Docket No. QO22020041?**
- 4 A. This proceeding is linked to the BPU Docket No. QO22020041 which is currently
- 5 before the Board since the instant Ocean Wind petition is predicated on the
- approval of its petition in BPU Docket No. QO22020041 for the 35th Street
- 7 landing and route through Ocean City. Both petitions concern Ocean Wind's same
- 8 Preferred Route that follows 35th Street to Roosevelt Boulevard. Should the Board
- 9 reject Ocean Wind's petition in BPU Docket No. OO22020041, Ocean Wind
- indicates that it would utilize either the 5th Street or 13th Street landing that would
- both end at Roosevelt Boulevard.²³
- 12 Q. Are there other components of the Preferred Route that could be part of
- 13 **another proceeding?**
- 14 A. It seems likely that Ocean Wind could seek additional approvals for easements
- along N. Shore Drive in Upper Township, which appears to be the route to the
- B.L. England substation. It is not known what easements Ocean Wind will need
- for other sections of the Preferred Route.
- 18 Q. Do you have concerns about this process of filing separate petitions?
- 19 A. Yes, I am concerned that the piecemeal process of filing separate petitions for
- approvals of property rights along the Preferred Route makes it more difficult to
- 21 track and analyze Ocean Wind's overall approvals required to connect Ocean

²³ Response to RCR-INF-8.

1		Wind I to the B.L. England substation location. I am also concerned that the
2		piecemeal process also does not allow stakeholders the opportunity to look at the
3		totality of the proposed scope of work.
4 5	V.	THE BOARD'S DETERMINATION OF WHAT IS REASONABLY NECESSARY
6	Q.	How should the Board determine if the easement and the Preferred Route
7		are reasonably necessary if Ocean Wind does not provide cost information?
8	A.	In light of the lack of cost information from Ocean Wind and its commitment to
9		bear 100 percent of the connection cost to the onshore substation, I recommend
10		that the Board find that Ocean Wind has not demonstrated that its Preferred Route
11		is reasonably necessary at this time. Ocean Wind should demonstrate that its
12		Preferred Route will be the most cost efficient.
13	Q.	Has Ocean Wind provided parameters how it evaluated the impacts
14		associated with its route selection?
15	A.	Yes, Ocean Wind has listed its evaluation elements. In response to RCR-INF-1,
16		Ocean Wind provided a Table that identified its qualitative considerations for the
17		evaluation of onshore pathways. ²⁴ These elements are summarized below.

²⁴ Response to RCR-INF-1.

1 Table 1 Ocean Wind Onshore Export Cable Route Criteria

Minimize extreme changes in slope

Prioritize property availability, including State- and county-owned roadways, and existing utility ROW.

Avoid known Superfund Sites or sites designated as hazardous

Avoid known locations of historic or archaeological resources.

Avoid or minimize number of infrastructure (e.g., roads, bridges, culverts) crossings to reduce impacts to existing onshore infrastructure

Minimize impacts to wetlands and floodplains

Minimize the overall length of the route to minimize impacts to terrestrial communities, wildlife species, and sensitive habitats

Minimize impacts to aesthetic resources

Minimize impacts to sensitive receptors such as hospitals, schools, and churches.

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4 Q. Does the proposed path meet the evaluation criteria?

A. According to Ocean Wind it does, but the Preferred Route and the alternate routes that are the subject of this petition all follow Roosevelt Avenue under Peck Bay, as I noted earlier in my testimony. In the absence of additional information from Ocean Wind, I cannot determine if the Preferred Route in this petition is the most

10 VI. ALTENATIVE ROUTES

cost efficient route.

11 Q. Please summarize your findings regarding the Company's proposed

12 alternative routes.

13 A. While Ocean Wind provided maps for six alternative routes, ²⁵ Ocean Wind did
14 not provide quantitative estimates of the cost of each route. At a high level, Ocean
15 Wind contends that the Preferred Route has the "least impacts to natural

²⁵ Direct Testimony of Pilar Patterson, Appendix C.

resources, including wetlands and water bodies and residential and historic properties."26 However, Ocean Wind has not provided a quantitative assessment of the number of residential houses that would abut the Preferred Route versus alternative routes, nor has it provided supporting documentation of the linear feet of existing roadways and right of ways of the Preferred Route relative to the alternative routes.

7 Q. Did the Company provide a summary of the length of roadway disturbed 8 among the considered onshore cable routes?

A. Yes. Ocean Wind provided a summary of the disturbed length of roadway for the six considered routes, as contained in Appendix C of Ms. Patterson's testimony.²⁷ 10 This table is shown below:

Table 2 Length of Disturbed Roadways of Proposed Cable Routes²⁸

Route Color	Location	Length of Road
		(miles)
Pink	5 th Street	7.7
Blue	13 th Street	6.6
Purple	Railroad	0.6
Green	Strathmere and Route 9	16.2
GSP	Sea Isle City and GSP	12.4
Orange	35 th Street	4.3
(Preferred)		

Table 2 demonstrates that the Company's Preferred Route has the shortest length 15 16 of disturbed roadway in comparison to all of the other alternative routes, with the 17

exception of the purple railroad route ("Railroad Route"). However, the road mile

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Id. at p. 12, lines 13 to 14.
 Id. at Appendix C.
 Response to RCR-INF-13.

1 length does not identify the abutters that would be affected by the Preferred 2 Route. For example, the Railroad Route impacts historic districts, but follows an 3 abandoned railroad right of way. The Great Egg Harbor route impacts shellfish 4 areas, but would have a lesser impact on residential and commercial properties.

Q. Are there other possible routes that have not been presented by Ocean

6 Wind?

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7 A. Yes. Ocean Wind describes six routes, but there may be other alternatives that 8 may be longer than the Preferred Route but may impact fewer stakeholders or 9 may be lower cost, and thus should be considered by the Board.

VII. TRANSMISSION UPGRADE COST CONCERNS 10

11 Q. Please summarize your concerns regarding transmission upgrade costs.

> Ocean Wind's petitions concern rights of way and easements that are required for the export cables from Ocean Wind I through Ocean City. The proposed export cables will connect to the B.L. England substation as the POI with PJM. In this proceeding, as in the other pending proceeding in BPU Docket QO22020041, Ocean Wind has indicated that the B.L. England substation is currently capable of receiving 432 MW. ²⁹ Ocean Wind has also indicated that it has not considered the Higbee and Ontario substations since both substations would need to be converted from 69 kV to 138 kV. 30 While I have no reason to disagree with Ocean Wind's assessment, nonetheless, Ocean Wind has not provided any cost estimates of the

²⁹ Response to RCR-INF-4. Ibid.

transmission upgrades required for any of the options considered, since it has taken the position that the cost of the transmission to the onshore substation is Ocean Wind's responsibility.³¹ While the cost of connecting to the onshore substation is acknowledged by Ocean Wind to be its responsibility, the costs associated with transmission system network upgrades beyond the onshore substation are shared between Ocean Wind and ratepayers. Therefore, the Board should know the range of projected transmission network upgrade costs that may be imposed on ratepayers because of the implementation of Ocean Wind I based on the onshore substation options. Q. Did the Board require a cost sharing mechanism for transmission upgrade costs? A. Yes. The Board's 2019 Order for the approval of ORECs for Ocean Wind I detailed the following transmission upgrade cost sharing mechanism: First \$10 million: 100% Ocean Wind \$10 million to \$130 million: 70% Ocean Wind, 30% Ratepayers \$130 million to \$174 million: 50% Ocean Wind, 50% Ratepayers Over \$174 million: 100% Ratepayers³² I note that it appears the Board chose the \$174 million based on Ocean Wind's Downside Case of \$174 million and Ocean Wind's expected upgrade cost range

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Ocean Wind has indicated that the Oyster Creek substation will be the other POI for the project.

of \$36 to \$130 million at the time of the proceeding.³³

³² <u>I/M/O the Board of Public Utilities Offshore Wind Solicitation for 1,100 MW – Evaluation of the Offshore Wind Applications</u>, BPU Docket No. QO18121289, Order dated June 21, 2019, at p. 18.

Q. How does the transmission upgrade impact Ocean Wind?

I believe the cost sharing mechanism does not create an incentive for Ocean Wind to find the least-cost transmission upgrade solution since any transmission upgrade cost above \$174 million will be borne by ratepayers. Effectively, the transmission upgrade cost sharing mechanism caps Ocean Wind's transmission upgrade costs at \$116 million. For illustrative purposes, I have created a table below that demonstrates how the cost sharing mechanism flows to Ocean Wind and ratepayers at various amounts given the formula that was established by the Board in 2019:

Table 3 Illustrative Transmission Upgrade Costs and Cost Sharing Allocations based on Board-Approved Transmission Upgrade Cost Sharing³⁴

Illustrative Transmission Upgrade Costs (\$M)	Ocean Wind Obligation (\$M)	Ratepayer Obligation (\$M)
\$10.00	\$10.00	\$0.00
\$75.00	\$55.50	\$19.50
\$125.00	\$90.50	\$34.50
\$175.00	\$116.00	\$59.00
\$200.00	\$116.00	\$84.00
\$250.00	\$116.00	\$134.00
\$300.00	\$116.00	\$184.00
\$350.00	\$116.00	\$234.00

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As shown in Table 3, any transmission upgrade cost that is above \$174 million will fall mostly to ratepayers as a result of the cost-sharing formula established by the Board. For example, transmission upgrade costs of \$175 million will require a

^{33 &}lt;u>Ibid.</u> 34 <u>Ibid.</u>

cost share of \$116 million for Ocean Wind and \$59 million for ratepayers.³⁵ If the required transmission upgrade costs are \$350 million, then Ocean Wind's cost share still remains at \$116 million whereas ratepayers' cost share increases to \$234 million. I have concerns that this cost sharing mechanism may incent Ocean Wind to preference transmission upgrades that are not the least-cost or most cost efficient solution since Ocean Wind's investment in transmission upgrades are capped at \$116 million.

Q. Do you have any recommendations for the Board?

A.

Yes. I recommend that the Board require Ocean Wind to provide an estimate of the network transmission upgrade costs associated with each of the POI alternatives under different build-out scenarios considered by the Company. This estimate should be required prior to the Board making a determination that the easement is needed and which route is reasonably necessary for the Project. Although Ocean Wind may only be able to provide initial cost estimates, timely and updated estimates will provide more clarity to ensure that Ocean Wind is pursuing a transmission solution for Ocean Wind I and other phases that will be supported by engineering data at a reasonable cost to ratepayers.

VIII. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

19 Q. What are your findings and recommendations?

20 A. My findings and recommendations are summarized as follows:

³⁵ In this example, Ocean Wind's portion would be: (\$174 million-\$130 million) *0.5 + (\$130 million -\$10 million) *0.7+\$10 million. The ratepayer portion would be: \$1 million + (\$174 million-\$130 million) *0.5 + (\$130 million -\$10 million) *0.3.

- Ocean Wind's Preferred Route requires a temporary easement over Block 3350.01, Lot 17.01, in Ocean City New Jersey. 36
 - Ocean Wind's Preferred Route would impact 0.257 acres.³⁷
 - While Ocean Wind indicated that it did quantify the cost of its Preferred Route, Ocean Wind did not provide the projected costs of the Preferred Route and the Company indicated that it had not quantified the costs of the alternative routes.³⁸ Further, Ocean Wind contends that the costs associated with the transmission from the offshore wind turbines to the onshore substation are solely borne by Ocean Wind. Ocean Wind also contends that the preferred route will not impact the Transmission System Upgrade Sharing Mechanism costs that are shared by ratepayers and Ocean Wind.
 - Since Ocean Wind is unwilling to provide cost information of its Preferred Route and claims that it bears the sole responsibility of the costs to the onshore substation, I recommend that the Board find that Ocean Wind has not demonstrated that its Preferred Route is reasonably necessary.
 - Should the Board grant Ocean Wind its requested easement, I recommend that the Board require Ocean Wind to provide an estimate of the network transmission upgrade costs associated with each of the point of interconnection ("POI") options under different build out scenarios for Ocean Wind I and future phases. This is due to the fact that ratepayers are obligated

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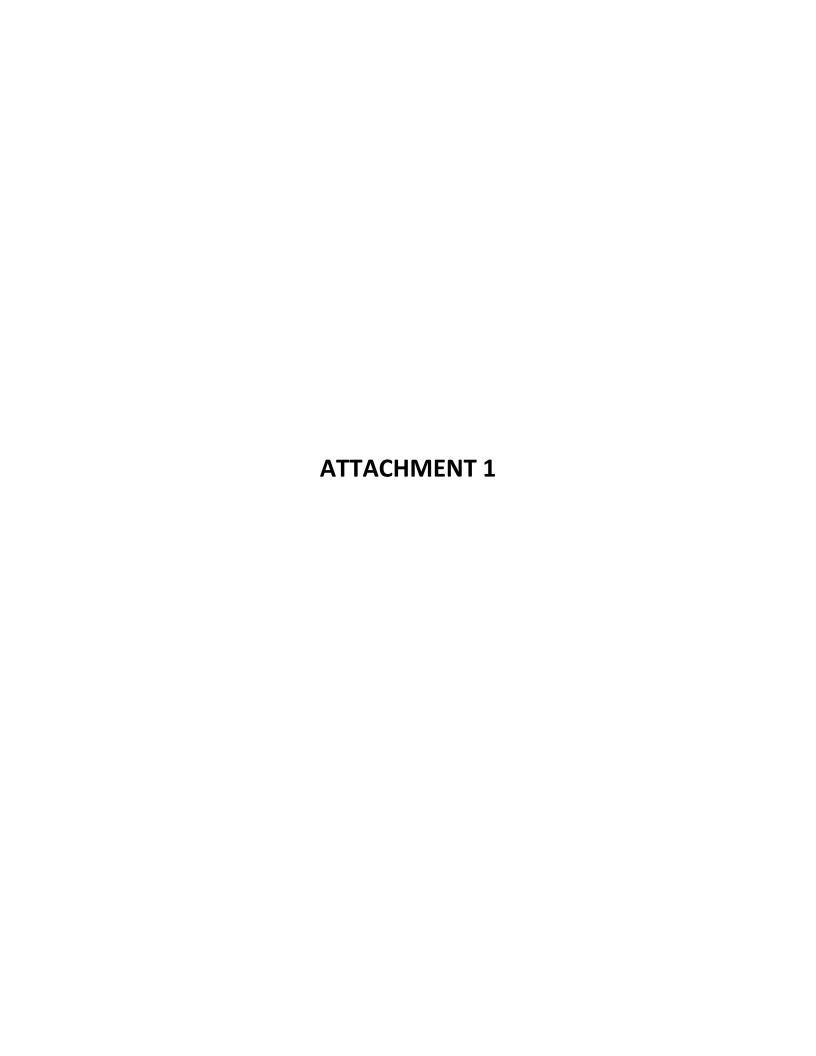
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³⁶ Petition at ¶ 30.

³⁷ <u>Id.</u> at ¶ 30. ³⁸ Response to RCR-INF-14.

- 1 to share transmission network upgrade costs with Ocean Wind, and assume
- 2 100% of the transmission network upgrade costs beyond \$174 million.
- 3 Q. Does this conclude your testimony?
- 4 A. Yes. However, I reserve my right to modify my testimony based on additional
- 5 information provided by the Company or other parties later in this proceeding.





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PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Synapse Energy Economics Inc., Cambridge, MA. *Principal Associate*, 2013 – present, *Associate*, 2008 – 2013.

Consults and provides analysis of technologies and policies, electric policy modeling, evaluation of air emissions of electricity generation, and other topics including energy efficiency, consumer advocacy, environmental compliance, and technology strategy within the energy industry. Conducts analysis in utility rate-cases focusing on reliability metrics and infrastructure issues and analyzes the benefits and costs of electric and natural gas energy efficiency measures and programs.

Environmental Health and Engineering, Newton, MA. Senior Scientist, 2001 – 2008.

Managed complex EPA-mandated abatement projects involving polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) in building-related materials. Provided green building assessment services for new and existing construction projects. Communicated and interpreted environmental data for clients and building occupants. Initiated and implemented web-based health and safety awareness training system used by laboratories and property management companies.

The Penobscot Group, Inc., Boston, MA. Analyst, 1994 – 2000.

Authored investment reports on Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITs) for buy-side research boutique. Advised institutional clients on REIT investment strategies and real estate asset exchanges for public equity transactions. Wrote and edited monthly publications of statistical and graphical comparison of coverage universe.

Harvard University Extension School, Cambridge, MA. Teaching Assistant, 1995 – 2002.

Teaching Assistant for Environmental Management I and Ocean Environments.

Brigham and Women's Hospital, Boston, MA. Cancer Laboratory Technician, 1992 – 1994.

Studied the biological mechanism of tumor eradication in mouse and human models. Organized and performed immunotherapy experiments for experimental cancer therapy. Analyzed and authored results in peer-reviewed scientific journals.

EDUCATION

Harvard University, Cambridge, MA Master of Science in Environmental Science and Engineering, 2000

Cornell University, Ithaca, NY Bachelor of Arts in Biology and Classics, 1992

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Resume updated March 2022