Climate & Environment

- As we know all too well, the climate crisis poses an imminent threat to coastal communities and states across the entire Northeast. We've continued to experience inland flooding, sea level rise, severe rain, historic snowfalls, devastating hurricanes, and other extreme weather events, and as the climate crisis worsens, so will the weather.
- To achieve the necessary carbon emission reductions to protect our communities from the climate crisis, we need a major transition in our energy sector now. The only way to protect and sustain our communities and our environment is the safe and responsible transition to 100 percent clean energy and the development of clean energy sources like offshore wind.
- Wind energy is clean energy. Unlike energy from sources like coal or methane gas, wind energy does not require burning fossil fuels and does not release harmful, climate-destabilizing pollution.
- By cutting our fossil fuel reliance, offshore wind will help alleviate the impacts of climate change statewide. Our communities have already faced the impacts of inland flooding, severe rain and weather events. This can go on no more.

Jobs & Economy

- Transitioning to a clean energy future isn't just a win for the environment it's a win for local businesses, the many union members who will be put to work, and to New Jersey's overall economy.
- The cost of wind energy is stable. Wind is free, so the cost of energy is consistent once wind energy installations are built. In contrast, fossil fuels are subject to volatile price swings and global events that create unwelcome surprises on energy bills.
- Wind energy boosts U.S. economic growth and creates local union jobs. As wind energy grows, so do the positive economic impacts. In 2021, new wind projects added \$20 billion to the country's economy. Wind turbine technician is the fastest growing job in the U.S. and is projected to grow by 44% in the next decade.
- Wind energy supports local communities. Wind can power our homes and our way of life. Wind provides a stable source of tax revenue, delivering <u>an estimated \$1.9 billion</u> in state and local tax payments and land-lease payments every year. This is extra revenue that communities can put towards schools, reducing tax-burdens for homeowners, and boosting local infrastructure projects.

Health

- Production and combustion of fossil fuels releases dangerous pollutants into the air.
 These pollutants result in a wide range of health impacts including early death, heart attacks, respiratory disorders, stroke, and exacerbation of asthma. Communities of color often suffer a disproportionate burden of these health impacts due to systemic racism and historically living closer to power plants.
- Investing in offshore wind won't just fight climate change, it will also help communities and urban residents breathe easier by lessening air pollution.

•	BOEM must act quickly to secure our clean energy future to protect the health of an entire generation of children.