

DATE: 10/11/2024

TO: BPU

FROM: Robert Mazzuca

RE: BPU PBI Comment

The New Jersey Manufacturing Extension Program (NJMEP) is proud to play a key role in supporting the Prebuild Infrastructure initiative, designed to accelerate the growth of the offshore wind industry in New Jersey. As offshore wind power expands, it promises to be a transformative force for the state's manufacturing sector, generating tens of thousands of well-paying, high-quality jobs while driving billions of dollars in local supply chain development and capital investment.

This emerging industry represents a unique opportunity to strengthen New Jersey's economy by fostering innovation, modernizing infrastructure, and cultivating a skilled workforce prepared to meet the demands of renewable energy production. Additionally, the growth of offshore wind plays a critical role in advancing energy independence, reducing reliance on fossil fuels, and enhancing environmental sustainability.

New Jersey's commitment to developing its offshore wind capacity underscores not only the potential for substantial economic growth but also the importance of safeguarding national security by investing in domestic energy sources. By supporting the offshore wind industry, the state is positioning itself at the forefront of a clean energy revolution, ensuring a more sustainable future while bolstering the nation's energy resilience. NJMEP is eager to continue collaborating with industry leaders, government agencies, and local stakeholders to make this vision a reality.

About The New Jersey Manufacturing Extension Program

In 1996, the New Jersey Manufacturing Extension Program (NJMEP) was established by the Department of Commerce and The National Institute of Standards & Technology. MEP's work with U.S. manufacturers to help them become more profitable and globally competitive. The MEP network is comprised of more than 60 individual MEP centers, which span across all fifty U.S. states and Puerto Rico. Each MEP center has programs and services geared towards helping manufacturers improve efficiencies, boost productivity, embrace innovation and spur job creation. Since inception NJMEP programs and best practices have expanded to include planning, energy, tech transfer, innovation engineering and a host of other tools to drive the quality levels, productivity levels and profitability of the businesses it has served in New Jersey.

Regards,

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