



October 11, 2024

New Jersey Board of Public Utilities  
44 South Clinton Ave  
Trenton, New Jersey 08625

**RE: In the Matter of the Opening of a Solicitation for the Transmission Infrastructure Project to Support New Jersey's Offshore Wind Public Policy - Docket #QO23100719**

Bluepoint Wind fully supports the BPU's Prebuild Infrastructure (PBI) initiative, which would advance critical infrastructure upgrades necessary for the State to reach its ambitious offshore wind and decarbonization goals. The need for PBI has rightfully been identified by the BPU and industry stakeholders during the New Jersey solicitation for BPU's third round of offshore wind OREC proposals that mandated the use of the new purpose-built Larrabee Collector Station which can collectively accommodate up to four offshore wind projects totaling 5.4GW.

Bluepoint Wind is an offshore wind project with an office in Newark, NJ, which will build a wind farm in its lease area located 38 nautical miles (nm) off the coast of New York and 53 nm off the coast of New Jersey. At full capacity, this wind farm will be able to generate 2.4 gigawatts (GW) of clean wind energy – powering over 1,000,000 homes and helping NJ meet its ambitious carbon emissions reduction goals. Bluepoint Wind strongly believes that New Jersey is well-positioned to be a leader in shared transmission through PBI and urges the State to advance this much-needed effort.

Seamless interconnection between offshore wind facilities to the existing grid has been one of the challenges which has delayed offshore wind development in the Northeast. Recognizing this major challenge, New Jersey has implemented the State Agreement Approach (SAA) to enable transmission projects which, when fully implemented, will significantly derisk the development of new offshore wind projects and the injection of carbon-free electricity on the grid.

The value of shared transmission projects like the PBI can only be maximized through economies of scale, and therefore requires multiple projects to coordinate their near-shore and onshore approach to their respective points of interconnection within the onshore grid. If left uncoordinated, each developer would be required to build their own transmission solution, which will increase costs to ratepayers and environmental disruption at the shore. Therefore, having New Jersey coordinate cable landing positions and the onshore cable routes, as envisioned in the PBI, is essential.

The specific benefits of the PBI include, but are not limited to:

1. Reduced stakeholder fatigue, as the number of touch points with localities and residents by multiple developers advancing their projects with potentially conflicting cable routes in existing infrastructure will be minimized,
2. Mitigation of overall construction inconvenience of cable trenches in localities, as the coordinated approach would require a trench to be dug only once along a limited number



of streets, rather than four projects digging trenches four times in the local vicinity across many streets over multiple years,

3. Economies of scale for the collective four projects, as these projects no longer need to allocate large funds for duplicative onshore construction costs, as well as onshore permitting activities individually. These savings are passed onto ratepayers using a competitive OREC procurement process, and
4. Environmental benefits realized through consolidated routes, which reduces the potential for disturbing biodiversity and wildlife along much-limited square footage of greenfield and brownfield sites, as well as reduced construction related carbon emissions.

Again, Bluepoint Wind fully supports the BPU's Prebuild Infrastructure initiative and applaud the State of New Jersey's continued leadership in the advancement of offshore wind in the northeast.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Dempsey", written in a cursive style.

John Dempsey  
Chief Executive Officer  
Bluepoint Wind