



## NEW JERSEY ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE ALLIANCE

March 4, 2024

President Christine Guhl-Sadovy  
New Jersey Board of Public Utilities  
44 South Clinton Avenue, 1st Floor  
Trenton, NJ 08625-0350

### **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**

The New Jersey Environmental Justice Alliance respectfully submits comments to the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities regarding the opening of a solicitation for the Pre-Build Transmission Infrastructure Project to support New Jersey's offshore wind public policy.

The New Jersey Environmental Justice Alliance, NJEJA, is a 20+-year-old statewide organization founded by a broad-based group of community, traditional environmentalists, faith, labor, academic, civil rights organizations, and individuals concerned about the increasing siting of toxic and hazardous facilities in communities of color and low-income communities, particularly those already overburdened with large concentrations of pollution. Together, NJEJA works to identify, prevent, reduce, and/or eliminate environmental injustices that exist within vulnerable and overburdened communities by supporting the community's vision of improvement and efforts to remediate and rebuild impacted neighborhoods through education, advocacy, the review and promulgation of public policies, training and organizing, and technical assistance.

Through our deep engagement with front and fenceline communities, we see the impacts and hear the stories of New Jersey's residents affected by climate change, whether in the Ironbound of Newark or the coastal and rural southern counties of the state. With extreme cold and heat becoming our new normal, it is without a doubt that we must understand how our society's overreliance on fossil fuels has led us to this critical moment where we are in desperate need of re-evaluating and changing how we continue to operate; a clean energy transition is inevitable, but it cannot be delivered while perpetuating the same harms we are fighting to rectify and protect front and fenceline communities from locally, nationally, and globally.

The New Jersey Environmental Justice Alliance recognizes the pivotal time we are in to develop new clean energy technologies such as offshore wind and solar. While NJEJA supports offshore wind as a resource in the clean energy transition, it is imperative that we cultivate a just and holistically regenerative energy economy that prioritizes reducing emissions across all communities, particularly those that are disproportionately overburdened.

In closing, the New Jersey Environmental Justice Alliance respectfully submits comments to the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities regarding the opening of a solicitation for the Pre-Build



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Transmission Infrastructure Project to support New Jersey's offshore wind public policy. We encourage the Board to seek the development of a *just*, clean energy transition.

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