



COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT 2019 NEW JERSEY ENERGY MASTER PLAN

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ON BEHALF OF ANBARIC DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS

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Thank you to the Board of Public Utilities for the release of the 2019 Draft Energy Master Plan (EMP), and for providing the ability for robust public involvement in the EMP's development and comments on this draft. Anbaric Development Partners is an majority employee-owned, American company focused on clean energy electricity transmission infrastructure development. The company helped lead the successful development of two transmission lines here in New Jersey: Neptune originating in Middlesex County and Hudson in Bergen County. Each 660 MW line links PJM to the NYISO and creates long-term value for New Jersey ratepayers and our economy. I joined the Anbaric team earlier this year, and the company looks to be part of the offshore wind economy developing in New Jersey.

Governor Murphy's goal of 100% clean energy by 2050 has placed New Jersey on a responsible and necessary path to move away from fossil fuels and embrace clean and renewable energy sources. We as a State are already feeling the negative impacts of climate change, and the Governor and the Board are to be commended for the bold actions taken to-date to reduce New Jersey's climate impact.

Under Governor Murphy's direction, New Jersey has seized a regional, and national, leadership position in the burgeoning offshore wind industry. Our state's current plan for 3500mw of offshore wind sets a competitive goal, and the first-in-the-region award of 1100mw earlier this year - the largest single project awarded in the nation as of this date -- has set the stage for New Jersey to become home to the jobs and economic development that will be part of the offshore wind industry in the Northeast. As New Jersey moves forward with the planning for future solicitations of offshore wind projects, we respectfully request that timely consideration be given to how the related transmission infrastructure will be developed. We are encouraged to see in the draft EMP a recognition of stakeholder input regarding the separation of transmission and generation in future OSW solicitations, and that a separate study related to transmission will be conducted by the Board in the future. We believe that exploring all options related to the development of offshore wind transmission, including allowing for the



transmission and generation components to be bid and awarded separately, will lead to outcomes that can allow for the lowest cost for ratepayers and minimize impact to the marine environment.

Also, various models of transmission design should be analyzed to determine which would best suit the needs of the state now and be most adaptable to meet various future needs. In particular, now is the time for the State to consider planning for a networked offshore grid that can provide for the transmission infrastructure to bring offshore wind power to shore from multiple projects, to optimal points of interconnection to deliver the power to the onshore grid in a long-term, strategic way. The transmission successes and challenges faced by the more mature offshore wind market in Europe, as well as more recent terrestrial projects in the US, such as CREZ in Texas, can provide useful case studies as the state proceeds with its study.

While the State currently has plans to seek the development of 3500mw, as our state, the region, and our nation take steps to address global warming, it is easy to imagine the potential for a much larger goal in the future. The current lease areas off New Jersey's coast, coupled with those anticipated to be made available in a future BOEM auction, have the capacity to produce upwards of 10 GW of power. Not only would increasing our existing offshore wind goal further the state's objective of moving toward clean and renewable energy, but also would serve to bolster our position as the sensible location for related economic development activities, including supply chain and manufacturing. That possibility, however, underscores the need to consider long-term transmission planning that is able to accommodate increased amounts of generation.

In closing, we again would like to commend the BPU for the work done on the draft Energy Master Plan, as well as the tremendous strides the BPU has made in just the past 19 months. The State has reclaimed its historic place as an environmental leader for our nation, which has taken unfortunate steps backwards in previous years. Thankfully, the wind still blows off of our coast, and carries with it unlimited potential for our state's energy future.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit these comments and we look forward to the Board of Public Utilities' future work on the energy issues critical to New Jersey's future.