



Andrew M. Cuomo
Governor
The Capitol
Albany, NY 12224

Audrey Zibelman
Chair
New York State Public Service Commission
Empire State Plaza
Agency Building 3
Albany, NY 12223

RE: PSC Case No. 15-E-0302 – Proceeding on Motion of the Commission to Implement a Large-Scale Renewable Program and a Clean Energy Standard.

Dear Governor Cuomo and Chair Zibelman:

Thank you for moving forward with your bold new Clean Energy Standard (CES), mandating that New York source 50% of its electric energy from renewable sources by 2030. An enforceable CES—requiring utilities to purchase increasing amounts of power from renewable energy sources each year—represents a critical step forward in tackling climate change and building a 21st century clean energy economy in the Empire State. To ensure the CES lives up to its fullest potential, **we request the inclusion of a separate offshore wind tier in the CES.**

Developing a long-term, large-scale, megawatt-certain offshore wind program is essential to meeting New York’s targets of cutting carbon 40% by 2030 and sourcing half of the state’s electric energy from renewables by the same year. Offshore wind has tremendous potential to deliver utility-scale, locally-sourced renewable power to New York families and businesses. The U.S. Department of Energy estimates that the wind energy off of New York’s coastline alone could generate 40,000 MW—enough to power more than 11 million homes—and NYSERDA has projected that offshore wind could meet 13% of New York’s total energy demand by 2030. Because offshore wind generation peaks during times of peak demand, it provides clean, safe and reliable energy when it’s needed most and helps avoid the price volatility of fossil fuels.

A large-scale offshore wind program would also be a boon for New York’s economy, jumpstarting an industry that is poised to create tens of thousands of new, family-wage jobs across the state and across a variety of sectors. In Europe, the offshore wind industry already employs more than 75,000 people and generates over 11,000 MW of electricity. A long-term, large-scale program with specific targets would provide the certainty and longevity necessary to get offshore wind to scale.

Harnessing the immense potential of offshore wind power is necessary to achieve New York's ambitious renewable energy and carbon reduction targets, and requires the leadership of both the Governor and the Public Service Commission. Please add an offshore wind tier to the CES, and help make 2016 the breakout year for offshore wind in New York. For the sake of our climate, our economy, and New York's working families, it's time to move forward this year with a comprehensive offshore wind program.

Sincerely,



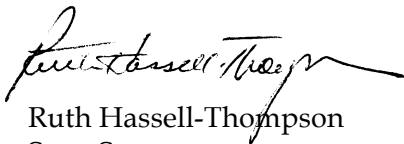
Liz Krueger
State Senator
28th District



Brad Hoylman
State Senator
27th District



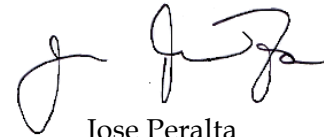
Todd Kaminsky
State Senator
9th District



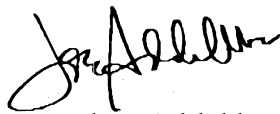
Ruth Hassell-Thompson
State Senator
36th District



Martin Malavé Dilan
State Senator
18th District



Jose Peralta
State Senator
13th District



Joseph P. Addabbo, Jr.
State Senator
15th District



José M. Serrano
State Senator
29th District



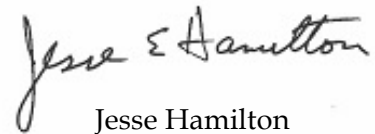
Bill Perkins
State Senator
30th District



Velmanette Montgomery
State Senator
25th District



Gustavo Rivera
State Senator
33rd District



Jesse Hamilton
State Senator
20th District



Toby Ann Stavisky
State Senator
16th District



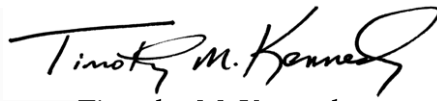
Daniel Squadron
State Senator
26th District



Kevin S. Parker
State Senator
21st District



George Latimer
State Senator
37th District



Timothy M. Kennedy
State Senator
63rd District



Roxanne J. Persaud
State Senator
19th District



James Sanders, Jr.
State Senator
10th District



Adriano Espaillat
State Senator
31st Senate District