

November 23, 2022

## **RI-NE4OSW Partners:**

Acadia Center Chairman Gerwatowski, Director Gray, Director Brady

BlueGreen Alliance Energy Facility Siting Board
Clean Water Action 89 Jefferson Boulevard
Environment America Warwick, RI 02888

Green Energy Consumers Alliance National Wildlife Federation

NASRCC (Carpenters)

PowerOptions
Second Nature
Sierra Club

## **RI-NE4OSW Endorsers:**

Eastern Bank

Environmental Council of RI

Flashover LLC

Greenwater Marine Sciences

Offshore

Muggventures

Rhode Island Building Trades

## Allies:

Climate and Development Lab, Brown University

RE: Docket No. SB-2022-02 – Mayflower Wind Energy LLC Application for a License to Construct Major Energy Facilities (Portsmouth, RI)

Dear Chairman Gerwatowski, Director Gray, and Director Brady,

As members and allies of the Rhode Island State Committee of New England for Offshored Wind, we respectfully urge you not to suspend the Mayflower Wind cable route application in Docket No. SB-2022-02 – Mayflower Wind Energy LLC Application for a License to Construct Major Energy Facilities (Portsmouth, RI). New England for Offshore Wind is a broad-based coalition of environmental, academic, labor, business, and social justice organizations united by our vision to combat climate change by increasing the supply of clean energy to our regional grid through responsibly developed offshore wind.

We applaud the Commissioners for closely monitoring the situation with Mayflower wind, and for communicating concerns promptly to the applicant. While Mayflower wind originally supported Avangrid's request to the Massachusetts Department of Public Utilities (DPU) for an extension to consider the need for a Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) adjustment due to geopolitical events impacting inflation and supply chain issues, they have since indicated in writing to the Massachusetts DPU that they are

committed to moving forward with the project. We understand that the EFSB issued the cause order prior to this indication. We urge the EFSB to consider this information and to move forward with its review as appropriate. We also hope that Mayflower wind will reconfirm its commitment to moving forward in a letter to the EFSB.

The Mayflower Wind project, while contracted with Massachusetts, will benefit the entire New England region, including Rhode Island. All together, the project will deliver 2.4 gigawatts (GW) of clean energy to the New England electricity grid, while reducing energy costs and pollution, creating high-quality jobs, and enabling our required transition away from fossil fuels. The rapid deployment of offshore wind is one of the least-cost, most straightforward steps to reduce electricity sector emissions in New England and combat the climate crisis while boosting our economy and creating equitable job opportunities for local communities.

We are at a pivotal point in our transition to a clean energy economy and a strong offshore wind industry that could make our region a leader. It is crucial that the RI EFSB process does not result in any more delays in bringing this critical project online.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Amanda Barker Green Energy Consumers Alliance Chair, Rhode Island State Committee New England for Offshore Wind

