

**BEFORE THE
STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

IN RE: THE NARRAGANSETT)	
ELECTRIC COMPANY d/b/a NATIONAL)	
GRID REVIEW OF POWER PURCHASE)	Docket No. 4929
AGREEMENT PURSUANT TO)	
R.I. GENERAL LAWS §39-31-1 TO 9)	

**DIRECT TESTIMONY OF
AILEEN KENNEY
ON BEHALF OF
DWW REV I, LLC**

April 5, 2019

1 **I. INTRODUCTION**

2 **Q. Please state your name, employer, business address and current position.**

3 A. My name is Aileen Kenney, I am the Head of Project Development and Permitting for
4 Ørsted U.S. Offshore Wind (Ørsted US) and former Senior Vice President of
5 Development of Deepwater Wind, LLC (Deepwater Wind). My business address is 56
6 Exchange Terrace Suite 300, Providence RI, 02903.

7

8 **Q. Please describe your professional and educational background.**

9 A. I am the Head of Project Development and Permitting at Ørsted US. I previously served
10 in the following positions at Deepwater Wind: Senior Vice President of Development
11 from 2017 – 2018, Vice President of Permitting and Environmental Affairs from 2012 –
12 2017, Director of Permitting and Environmental Affairs from 2010 – 2012. Prior to
13 joining Deepwater Wind, I worked on the permitting of wind and other energy projects in
14 the United States and abroad for over 12 years.

15

16 During my time at Deepwater Wind, I led the company’s permitting efforts, including
17 successfully permitting the Block Island Wind Farm and Block Island Transmission
18 System. I was instrumental in developing measures to protect the endangered North
19 Atlantic Right Whale. My environmental stewardship and commitment to the
20 stakeholder engagement process helped make the company a leader in responsible
21 offshore wind development. In 2015, I was appointed to the Massachusetts Ocean
22 Advisory Commission by Governor Baker. I am a member of the New York State
23 Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) Environmental Technical
24 Work Group. I am a founding member of the Responsible Offshore Science Alliance. I
25 received a BA and MA in Environmental Science and Policy from Clark University.

26

27

28

1 **Q. What are your responsibilities as Head of Project Development and Permitting?**

2 A: In my role as Head of Project Development and Permitting I manage the Project
3 Development, Permitting, Marine Affairs and Real Estate teams within Ørsted US. I am
4 responsible for defining strategy, ensuring continuity across projects, stakeholder
5 outreach, staffing, and personnel development.

6

7 **Q. Have you previously submitted testimony in any other Rhode Island Public Utilities
8 Commission (“Commission”) proceedings?**

9 A. No, I have not.

10

11 **Q: Have you previously testified before other regulatory bodies?**

12 A: Yes. I have testified before the Maryland Public Service Commission and before the
13 Connecticut State Siting Board in connection with projects that Deepwater Wind (now
14 Ørsted US) has developed.

15

16 **Q. What is the purpose of your testimony?**

17 A. I am testifying in support of approval of the proposed twenty-year Power Purchase
18 Agreement (PPA) between the Narragansett Electric Company d/b/a National Grid
19 (National Grid) and DWW Rev I, LLC (DWW) for the Revolution Wind offshore wind
20 energy facility (Revolution Wind Project).

21

22 **II. PROJECT SCHEDULE AND PERMITTING**

23 **Q. What is the Revolution Wind Project’s scheduled commercial operations date?**

24 A. The Project is scheduled to go into commercial operations in the fourth quarter of 2023.

25

26 **Q. In your opinion, is that operation date credible?**

27 A. Yes. Achieving the scheduled commercial operations date is largely a function of two
28 things: (1) Obtaining permits in a timely fashion: and, (2) installation of the wind farm.
29 Chris van Beek addressed the installation schedule in his testimony. With respect to
30 permitting, based on our experience developing and permitting the Block Island Wind
31 Farm, in my opinion, the schedule is credible.

1 **Q. Have the Revolution Wind Farm Project’s construction plans been informed by the**
2 **experience with the Block Island Wind Farm?**

3 A. Certainly. Our experience with the Block Island Wind Farm informs not only our
4 construction plans, but also our development strategy. And, now that Deepwater Wind
5 has merged with Ørsted, we also have their extensive experience in installing and
6 operating offshore wind farms in Europe.

7
8 **Q: Can you briefly describe the permitting regime for the Revolution Wind Project?**

9 A: Yes. The portions of the Revolution Wind Project in federal waters on the Outer
10 Continental Shelf will require approvals from, or trigger consultation with, a number of
11 federal agencies including the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM), the United
12 States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), the United States Coast Guard, the National
13 Marine Fisheries Service, and the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, amongst
14 others. BOEM will be Lead Agency for review of the Project under the National
15 Environmental Policy Act. Project components in the State of Rhode Island waters will
16 require approvals from, or trigger consultation with, the Rhode Island Coastal Resources
17 Management Council, Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management, the
18 Rhode Island Energy Facility Siting Board, and the Rhode Island Historical Preservation
19 & Heritage Commission among others. The Project has developed a comprehensive plan
20 to obtain all of the necessary approvals and complete the necessary consultations to
21 support a fourth quarter 2023 target for the commencement of operations.

22
23 **III. ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS**

24 **Q: Will the State of Rhode Island see any environment benefits from this project?**

25 A. Yes. As a renewable resource, the Revolution Wind Project will displace the need for fossil
26 fueled generation and will reduce greenhouse gases. The Project will also help Rhode
27 Island meet the goals of the Resilient Rhode Island Act. These environmental benefits are
28 addressed more fully in Navigant Consulting Inc.’s Advisory Opinion on the
29 Environmental and Public Health Benefits of the Revolution Wind Project, dated October
30 5, 2018 (See Direct Testimony of Ralph Luciani on behalf of DWW). In addition, The
31 Advisory Opinions submitted to the Commission by the Rhode Island Officer of Energy

1 Resources and the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management also provide
2 detailed examinations of the environmental benefits of the Revolution Wind Project.

3

4 **IV. CONCLUSION**

5 **Q: Does this conclude your testimony?**

6 **A:** Yes.

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that on April 5, 2019, I sent a copy of the within to all parties set forth on the attached Service List by electronic mail and copies to Luly Massaro, Commission Clerk, by electronic mail and by hand delivery.

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