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Rory M. Christian, Chair

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## Commission Approves Off-Shore Wind Implementation Plan

### Decision Helps Reduce Ratepayer Costs Related to Offshore Wind Development

**ALBANY —** The New York State Public Service Commission (Commission) today approved the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority's (NYSERDA) Offshore Wind (OSW) Implementation Plan proposal.

"The Commission acted to ensure the orderly management of the OSW program and corresponding sale of OSW Renewable Energy Certificates (ORECs) by NYSERDA when the program becomes operational," **said Commission Chair Rory M. Christian.** "Our decision today will benefit residential and commercial customers by ensuring that ratepayer costs related to offshore wind development are reduced."

The OSW program is a critical component of the Clean Energy Standard and the Proposal put forth by NYSERDA contains the necessary processes and timelines to effectively manage the OSW program. The OSW Standard obligates each LSE to serve its retail customers by procuring new OSW resources, evidenced by the procurement of ORECs from NYSERDA.

NYSERDA is responsible for management, sale, and distribution of ORECs within the New York Generation Attribute Tracking System (NYGATS) once OSW generation assets are interconnected to the grid and begin generating into the New York Control Area. New York has several offshore wind projects under development with the 816 MW Empire Wind project scheduled to come online in 2027.

Today's decision provides for several avenues for the sale of ORECs, including the long-term contracting of ORECs, and the pre-sale and re-sale of ORECs to interested parties. These sales reduce the obligation upon load serving entities and utilities which are charged based on their share of the statewide load. This in turn reduces the costs incurred by ratepayers related to the OSW program.

Today's decision may be obtained by going to the Commission Documents section of the Commission's Web site at [www.dps.ny.gov](http://www.dps.ny.gov) and entering Case Number 15-E-0302 in the input box labeled "Search for Case/Matter Number". Many libraries offer free Internet access. Commission documents may also be obtained from the Commission's Files Office, 14th floor, Three Empire State Plaza, Albany, NY 12223 (518-474-2500). If you have difficulty understanding English, please call us at 1-800-342-3377 for free language assistance services regarding this press release.