



**Department  
of Public Service**

Three Empire State Plaza, Albany, NY 12223-1350  
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Commissioners

February 14, 2024

Hon. Michelle Phillips  
Secretary to the Commission  
New York State Public Service Commission  
Three Empire State Plaza  
Albany, NY 12223-1350

Re: Case 22-E-0633 – In the Matter of New York Independent System Operator, Inc.  
Proposed Public Policy Transmission Needs for Consideration for 2022.

Dear Secretary Phillips:

The attached letter was provided to the New York Independent System Operator, Inc. today to address the February 2, 2024 letter filed by the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority regarding the Beacon Wind and Empire Wind Phase 2 projects.

Sincerely,

*Leka P. Gjonaj*

Leka P. Gjonaj, PE  
Chief, Electric Safety and Reliability



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February 14, 2024

**SENT VIA E-MAIL**

Zach Smith

Vice President, System & Resource Planning

10 Krey Boulevard, Rensselaer, NY 12144

E-mail: ZSmith@nyiso.com

Re: NYC PPTN (22-E-0633) baseline case contracted offshore wind generation

Dear Mr. Smith,

I write to bring your attention to a February 2, 2024 NYSERDA letter informing the Secretary to the Commission that two offshore wind projects, Beacon Wind and Empire Wind Phase 2, have terminated their agreements with NYSERDA for the purchase of offshore renewable energy credits. A copy of the letter is attached. The Beacon Wind project had proposed to interconnect to Con Edison's New York City transmission system, Zone J, and the Empire Wind 2 project was to interconnect to Long Island's transmission system, Zone K.

My understanding is that the New York Independent System Operator, Inc. (NYISO) is finalizing the baseline case power flow database that will be used in the Viability & Sufficiency Assessment ("VSA baseline case") and that will be made available to developers responding to NYISO's soon-to-be-released solicitation for transmission solutions to the need identified in the Commission's June, 22, 2023 Order (the "NYC PPTN Order"). Specifically, the NYC PPTN Order, Appendix A, directs that proposed solutions shall "[a]ccommodate the full output of at least 4,770 MW of incremental offshore wind generation injected into New York City (Zone J), under applicable reliability standards, without reducing the overall output of other renewable resources interconnected in Zones J and K." To ensure there is no ambiguity regarding what offshore wind generation is considered part of the "other renewable resources interconnected to Zones J and K" and to reflect the recent information provided in NYSERDA's February 2, 2024 letter, it is

consistent with the NYC PPTN Order for the NYISO to not model either the Beacon Wind or the Empire Wind Phase 2 projects in the VSA baseline case. This does not affect the minimum requirement in the NYC PPTN Order for a proposal to demonstrate the ability to accommodate the full output of at least 4,770 MW of incremental offshore wind to Zone J interconnection points.

For offshore wind generation interconnected to Long Island, Zone K, it is consistent with the NYC PPTN Order and the Question/Answer letter that DPS filed in this docket on September 8, 2023 for the NYISO to include in its VSA baseline case a “proxy unit” to model the total offshore wind generation interconnected to Long Island at 3,000 MW. This would also be in line with the Commission’s minimum Long Island Public Policy Transmission Need requirement of 3,000 MW addressed in its March 19, 2021 order.

In addition, the NYISO should account for changes in offshore wind generation in accordance with the NYISO’s tariff and procedures that may result from NYSERDA’s OREC RFP23-1 should these announcements occur prior to the release of the NYISO’s solicitation for proposed solutions to the NYC PPTN.

I am available if you have any questions or would like to discuss these matters further.

Sincerely,

*Leka P. Gjonaj*

Leka P. Gjonaj, PE  
Chief, Electric Safety and Reliability

Attachment

CC: Tammy Mitchell ([Tammy.Mitchell@dps.ny.gov](mailto:Tammy.Mitchell@dps.ny.gov))  
Liz Grisaru ([Elizabeth.Grisaru@dps.ny.gov](mailto:Elizabeth.Grisaru@dps.ny.gov))  
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President and CEO

February 2, 2024

**ELECTRONIC FILING**

Hon. Michelle L. Phillips  
Secretary to the Commission  
New York State Public Service Commission  
Three Empire State Plaza  
Albany, NY 12223

Re: Case 22-E-0633 – In the Matter of New York Independent System Operator, Inc.  
Proposed Public Policy Transmission Needs for Consideration for 2022; Case 15-E-0302  
– Proceeding on Motion of the Commission to Implement a Large-Scale Renewable  
Program and a Clean Energy Standard; and Case 18-E-0071 In the Matter of Offshore  
Wind Energy.

Dear Secretary Phillips:

Of relevance to the above-mentioned proceedings, the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) hereby provides an update that the Offshore Wind Renewable Energy Certificate Purchase and Sale Agreements (i) between NYSERDA and Empire Offshore Wind LLC for the Empire Wind Phase 2 Project (1,260 MW) and (ii) between NYSERDA and Beacon Wind LLC for the Beacon Wind Project (1,230 MW) have both been terminated.

Please contact me at (212) 971-5342, ext. 3135 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Alexander B. Stein  
Deputy General Counsel  
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New York, NY 10018  
(212) 971-5342, ext. 3135  
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**New York State Energy Research and Development Authority**

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