

Steltzer, Eric (ENE)

From: Megan Amsler <megan@reliance.org>
Sent: Friday, March 1, 2019 4:44 PM
To: Steltzer, Eric (ENE)
Subject: OSW additional procurement feedback

Hi Eric,

Respondent Information:

My name is Megan Amsler and I am the executive director of Self-Reliance Corporation based in North Falmouth, MA. I have been working in the offshore wind space since 2003. For the last 10 years I have been working on establishing internationally accepted environmental health and safety training and technical training for the offshore wind sector here in the US. I have been working with Mass Maritime for almost eight years to get their program set up. Since I am very committed to keeping as many of the local benefits of offshore wind in the local economy, I have been working in the supply chain to assist local companies in exploring the intersectionality of their niche markets with the offshore wind supply chain.

My comments to you are based on my desire to see a strong procurement policy at the state level to send a strong message to the developers and large industry players in the marketplace that the Commonwealth of Massachusetts is serious about offshore wind and sees it as a viable tool to transitioning to a low carbon economy.

Necessity:

I feel only qualified to respond a small selection of the questions posed.

#3a: I believe there are advantages to offering longer term PPAs that impact our ability to grow and industry in the US as well as offer price stability over a long term that rate payers have never had given the small percentage of renewables in our portfolio. With some of the highest costs for electricity in the nation, we need to appeal to businesses that rates will be stable and the energy will be clean, which are compelling things to businesses.

I support having the OSW procurement stand alone. I believe that as we grow this energy sector along the eastern seaboard, we need to realize that the further we go from shore the more expensive every aspect of the project gets. We need to be mindful of the fact that the international industry is waiting for clarity from the US states and at the federal level to move full steam ahead.

#6: My comment relating to this question is linked to energy storage and the need to have incentives available for integrating larger storage projects that can be used to support the grid as well as provide local communities necessary electricity from a resiliency perspective.

#8: I would like to see community-shared offshore wind made possible from the RECs as a way to provide additional price benefits to the low to moderate income ratepayers.

#10: I would like the Commonwealth to up its ceiling for solicitations. New York just blew us out of the water with their revised targets.

#11C: As a strong proponent of collaboration and sharing of resources, I see there being great value on the transmission plans being addressed from a regional perspective. ~~The transmission is a huge expense and if there are ancillary benefits~~ to communities (Nantucket & MV) that are relying on diesel during times of peak demand and they are right in line for the transmission cable, perhaps the Commonwealth can provide direction in choosing OSW over diesel, regardless of the IOU's wishes to make the community pay the environmental price of burning diesel as well as the huge expense. We need to think outside the box on the way these projects are combined.

#12: I would like to see the ITC extended, but know that the cost of renewables now is competitive with fossil fuels. However, the fossil fuel side of the market does not seem to be losing any of their incentives.

#14: I have heard a lot of chatter about the price Vineyard Wind bid in at is way too low. Again, looking at the cost for going further offshore in terms of construction window constraints, transmission, foundations, etc. these costs will play a role in the price point per MWh which we need to be mindful of. Plus, if other nearby states don't have constraints on the pricing ceiling, then developers may just bid into other markets if they feel it not a viable model in MA.

#16: I feel very strongly that we need to increase the amount of our solicitations so that the supply chain can sustainably develop in the Commonwealth. Without that clear message, it will be more difficult to make the case for businesses locally as well as internationally to move into this sector here in MA.

Thanks and have a great weekend.

~Megan

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