

Dear Governor Baker, Secretary Theoharides, Secretary Kennealy, Secretary Acosta, Undersecretary Chang and Commissioner Woodcock,

We represent a diverse cross-section of civic leaders writing to comment on the forthcoming solicitation for 1600 MW of offshore wind. We appreciate that Massachusetts is taking this step to procure clean energy from off our shores. The winning contract will represent a massive capital investment that will generate local economic opportunity and employment for the next 20+ years. With that in mind, **we urge you to significantly weight minority economic participation in the RFP.**

We appreciated your Administration's national leadership in offshore wind with the 2016 *Act to Promote Energy Diversity*. Massachusetts' prior two offshore wind contracts with Vineyard Wind and Mayflower Wind will deliver thousands of jobs and a range of benefits to our economy, our environment and ratepayers. We think Massachusetts has a chance to lead the nation again by centering racial equity in the evaluation criteria for offshore wind project proposals.

When policymakers are creative and determined – and have the support of civic leaders and the private sector – they can co-create the conditions for more equitable outcomes. The so-called “Massport Model” piloted at the Seaport’s Omni Hotel was a striking example of prioritizing minority economic participation in a procurement process. The RFP enabled developers to marshal their resources and creativity to address racial disparities. Diversity was a core element on which they competed and the resulting bids were stronger for this emphasis. We encourage you to use this forthcoming RFP to create a similar competitive dynamic for the offshore wind industry.

Sincerely,

Affiliation for identification purposes only

Zamawa Arenas - CEO, Flowetik

George Bachrach - Co-founder, The Civic Action Project

Alicia Barton- CEO, FirstLight Power

Eugene Benson - Board, Chelsea Green Roots

Dominic Blue - New Commonwealth Fund

Alexander T. Bok, Esq. - Corporate Counsel, Cadenza Innovation

Jeff Bussgang - Co-founder, Flybridge Capital Partners

Vanessa Calderón-Rosado - CEO, IBA - Inquilinos Boricuas en Accion

Bradley Campbell - President, Conservation Law Foundation

Yolanda Coentro - President & CEO, Institute for Nonprofit Practice

William Constable - Partner, A.W. Perry, Inc.

Steve Crosby - Former Chair, MA Gaming Commission

Sean Curran - Owner, Waterville Consulting/GK Execu-Search

Chris Dempsey - Director, Transportation for Massachusetts

Benjamin Downing - Former VP, Nexamp

Robert Fishman - Retired Partner, Nutter
Betty Francisco - Co-Founder, Amplify Latinx
Isabel Grantham Rappoport - Trustee, Grantham Foundation; Board, Environmental League of MA
Ira Jackson - Co-Founder, The Civic Action Project
Namrita Kapur - Lecturer, Yale School of Management
Anne Kelly - VP Ceres
Ginger Lawrence - Board, Environmental League of MA
Glynn Lloyd - Executive Director, The Foundation for Business Equity
Patricia Lorsch - Board of ELM, Cambridge Dem. City Committee, Ward 10
Eileen McAnneny - President, Massachusetts Taxpayers Foundation
Kevin McGovern - Managing Partner, Deloitte
Dave McLaughlin - VP, WeWork
Mary Jo Meisner - Founder, MJM Advisory Services
Grace Moreno - Exec. Director, Massachusetts LGBT Chamber of Commerce
Elaine Ng - CEO, Third Sector New England
Matthew Patsky - CEO, Trillium Asset Management, LLC
Bethany Patten - Sr. Assoc. Director, MIT Sloan School of Management
Asheen Phansey - CEO, Eleven Radius
Pamela Reeve- Board Chairwoman, The Commonwealth Insititute
Bob Rivers - Chairman & CEO, Eastern Bank
Ann Roosevelt - Board, Environmental League of MA
Tedd Saunders - Owner, Saunders Hotel Group
Daryl Settles - President, Catalyst Ventures Dev.
Vikki Spruill - President & CEO, New England Aquarium
Heather Takle - CEO, PowerOptions
Michael Tamasi - CEO, AccuRounds
Robert Taylor - Retired Partner, Advent
Philip Warburg - Sr. Fellow, BU Institute for Sustainable Energy; former President CLF
Pratt Wiley - CEO, The Partnership, Inc.
Fred Wang - Trustee, Wang Foundation
Michelle Wu - Boston City Councilor