

# Wind, Sea, and Shore

## Summary of Comments - July 25, 2023

On July 25, 2023, OurEnergyPolicy hosted a live discussion about the Promise and Challenges of Offshore Wind Deployment. Find the audio recording [here](#).

## SPEAKERS



**Lyndie Hice-Dunton**  
Executive Director  
National Offshore Wind  
R&D Consortium  
**Moderator**

**David Hardy**  
CEO & Group EVP  
Ørsted Americas

**Andrew Kimball**  
President & CEO  
NYCEDC

**Amanda Lefton**  
Former Director  
US Bureau of Ocean  
Energy Management

Our Energy Policy is a non-partisan organization. The following represents a summary of comments from the panelists.

### Offshore Wind and Meeting Climate Goals

- The US set a goal to increase offshore wind capacity to 30 GW by 2030. This would be enough energy to power over 10 million American homes.
  - The US also set the goal for 15 GW of floating offshore wind by 2035.
- New York state's Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act has the ambitious goal of meeting 70% of its energy needs from renewable energy sources by 2030 and is on track to accomplish its specific target of reaching 9 GW in offshore wind capacity by 2030.

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### Developments in Offshore Wind

- Since the US population is more concentrated on its coasts, offshore wind is a strategic source.
- The US federal government began to lease out federal waters for offshore wind energy projects in 2009.
  - There are currently 27 active leases in play across the coasts of the US.
  - Of those 27 leases, 13 were issued in the last 18 month.
- Offshore wind has half the intermittency compared to solar and is closer to the base load of a traditional power plant.
- Investing in offshore wind will benefit communities that have been historically disadvantaged.
- The Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) is the most impactful federal legislation for the advancement of renewable energy in the US.
  - The IRA provides two new bonus credits for offshore wind, but the industry is still waiting for guidance on that roll-out.
- If the first offshore wind projects are successful, then that will build a strong demand signal for developers.
- New York ran a Public Policy Transmission Need (PPTN) process and anticipates more in the future to ensure the grid is ready for more renewable energy projects to plug in.
  - It is important to invest in transmission lines and grid upgrades so renewable energy projects like Offshore wind reach energy consumers.
- The US is seeing tremendous opportunities in building up the domestic supply chain in communities that were historically dependent on fossil fuels.
- Jobs created by offshore wind projects can be broken into 4 categories: Infrastructure; Manufacturing; Wind farm construction; and Wind farm operation.

### Challenges and Misinformation

- Along with most infrastructure projects, offshore wind is facing issues from both inflation and rising interest rates.
- Disinformation poses a serious obstacle to wider adoption of offshore wind.
  - Clean energy companies should take disinformation problems seriously and address them as soon as they arise.