

July 14, 2022

Representative Jeffrey Roy, Chair  
Joint Committee on Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy  
State House, Room 43  
Boston, MA 02133

Senator Cynthia Creem  
Majority Leader  
State House, Room 312-A  
Boston, MA 02133

Senator Michael Barrett, Chair  
Joint Committee on Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy  
State House, Room 109-D  
Boston, MA 02133

Senator Bruce Tarr  
Minority Leader  
State House, Room 308  
Boston, MA 02133

Representative Tackey Chan, Chair  
Joint Committee on Consumer Protection & Professional Licensure  
State House, Room 42  
Boston, MA 02133

Representative Brad Jones  
Minority Leader  
State House, Room 124  
Boston, MA 02133

Re: H.4524/S.2842 Conference Committee

Dear Conferees,

I want to thank you all for your service to the Commonwealth and your hard work on developing a transformative clean energy and climate change bill to be enacted in this legislative session. As you continue the difficult task of negotiating legislation vital to the future of Massachusetts, I would like to express my encouragement for your continued collaboration, as it is imperative that you are able to reach a compromise and file a conference report this month as the citizens of the Commonwealth, and the clean energy industry in Massachusetts, are counting on you to continue building on the legislature's record of national climate leadership. As you continue deliberations on this legislation, I'm writing to highlight a few exceptionally important provisions that we hope will be preserved in a conference report.

First, as a brief summary:

- AVANGRID is a 50% owner of the Vineyard Wind 1 project, an 800 megawatt project that is under construction in Barnstable, MA and offshore that will begin producing clean, renewable power for Massachusetts next year as the first operational commercial scale wind farm in the United States.
- We are the 100% owner of the Park City Wind project, which is in the midst of the permitting process and will provide 804 megawatts of power to Connecticut ratepayers, while connecting the power to the electric grid in Barnstable, MA, with plans to marshall the project from a new offshore wind staging port in Salem, MA.
- We are the 100% owner of Commonwealth Wind, a 1,232 megawatt project that was selected by Massachusetts in December, 2021 that will soon begin the permitting process, and will also connect to the electric grid in Barnstable, MA. With this project, AVANGRID is leveraging its supply chain and global partnerships to catalyze Massachusetts' first offshore factory by bringing the Prysmian cable manufacturing facility to Brayton Point in

Somerset, MA. And through the Commonwealth Wind project, AVANGRID intends to invest \$35 million dollars in workforce, supply chain, innovation, and diversity, equity and inclusion initiatives in Massachusetts. We also plan to marshal the project from a new offshore wind staging port in Salem, MA.

- In total between these three projects, AVANGRID will provide approximately 2.8 gigawatts of power to the New England region, enough to power more than 1.5 million homes in Massachusetts and Connecticut, reducing greenhouse gas emissions by about four million tons per year.

As the leading offshore wind developer in New England, we have reviewed these bills carefully, and it is clear that both the House and Senate bills would substantially advance a clean energy future in Massachusetts and realize the statutory emissions reduction targets set by the Legislature in the 2021 Climate Roadmap law. Each bill would deliver substantial benefits to Massachusetts residents, and meaningfully advance the development of offshore wind in the Commonwealth as well as the clean energy industry overall, by enabling critical and timely upgrades to the electrical grid; creating new career pathways and workforce training programs; increasing Massachusetts' competitiveness for offshore wind manufacturing and supply chain investments; investing in innovative clean energy companies and solutions; supporting electrification in key economic sectors; and increasing the Commonwealth's offshore wind target to ensure the state can benefit from upcoming BOEM auctions, including in the Gulf of Maine. These key provisions, and many others, would position the Commonwealth to meet the emissions targets established in the Climate Roadmap law, create thousands of jobs, and build the clean energy economy of the future. AVANGRID offers its full support to the conferees as they continue to negotiate this complex but vital legislation.

I greatly appreciate your consideration of these comments, and have the utmost confidence that you will reach an agreement that will support the continued development of the offshore wind industry in Massachusetts while advancing the Commonwealth's ambitious climate goals. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact my office.

Respectfully,



Bill White  
President & CEO Offshore  
Avangrid Renewables

Cc:

Speaker Ronald Mariano

Senate President Karen Spilka