



June 30, 2022

Senator Michael Barrett, Chairman, Joint Committee on Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy
Senator Cynthia Creem
Senator Bruce Tarr

Representative Jeff Roy, Chairman, Joint Committee on Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy
Representative Tackey Chan
Representative Brad Jones

Dear Conference Committee members:

On behalf of Orsted, I am writing to respectfully submit comments on the Energy and Climate legislation before you, H.4524 and S.2842, and state our strong support for removal of the price cap. We also support measures to modernize the Commonwealth's grid, which will improve system operability and reliability.

Orsted is the world's most sustainable energy company and the global leader in offshore wind. We have 5 GW of offshore wind energy development in the United States, and Massachusetts is home to our largest US office, here in Boston. We chose Massachusetts because of the Commonwealth's leadership in advancing offshore wind, its abundance of high-skilled professionals, world-class academic institutions, and its commitment to finding innovative solutions to combat climate change.

Nationally, Orsted is investing in a U.S. supply chain to build the offshore wind industry, training a new workforce, revitalizing port infrastructure, and establishing agreements with labor with the goal of building a sustainable and generational industry that can provide good paying jobs and clean energy to the Commonwealth.

Much progress has been made to this point, but this Conference Committee can do even more to pass key provisions that can advance Massachusetts's growth in an ever-competitive clean energy sector. The physical installation of wind turbines on the sea floor and the laying of miles of underwater cables to deliver clean energy to the grid may seem challenging, but all too often we see that the most difficult obstacles for wind energy projects stem from regulatory delays, contractual constraints, and uncertainty.

While we maintain the utmost respect for the Senate's efforts in S. 2842 for a comprehensive plan to fight climate change, we remain in favor of much of the House's legislation. We believe that the removal of the price cap (as made in H. 4524) will allow Massachusetts to ensure high-quality bids through a more transparent and independent review process as this industry continues to grow.

Robust investment in clean energy research and business development offers Massachusetts the opportunity to maintain its enviable position at the forefront of America's innovation economy for years to come.

Thank you for this opportunity to state our position as the Conference Committee continues to work through these two important pieces of legislation. We look forward to building our partnership with the Commonwealth and am available to provide additional information or answer any questions per your request.

Sincerely,

Nicole Verdi
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