

The Honorable Jeffrey N. Roy  
House Chair, Joint Committee on  
Telecommunications, Utilities, and Energy  
Massachusetts State House, Room 42

The Honorable Michael J. Barrett  
Senate Chair, Joint Committee on  
Telecommunications, Utilities, and Energy  
Massachusetts State House, Room 109D

The Honorable Tackey Chan  
House Chair, Joint Committee on Consumer  
Protection and Professional Licensure  
Massachusetts State House, Room 43

The Honorable Cynthia S. Creem  
Senate Majority Leader  
Massachusetts State House Room, 312A

The Honorable Bradley H. Jones, Jr.  
House Minority Leader  
Massachusetts State House, Room 124

The Honorable Bruce E. Tarr  
Senate Minority Leader  
Massachusetts State House, Room 308

July 5, 2022

Dear Senators Barrett, Creem, and Tarr, and Representatives Roy, Chan, and Jones:

On behalf of the undersigned organizations and our thousands of members and supporters across the Commonwealth, we applaud your work to keep Massachusetts at the forefront of the nation's response to the climate crisis and development of offshore wind.

We are writing to encourage that the committee of conference on energy and climate legislation include a provision allowing Massachusetts communities to participate in offshore wind projects in a way that leads to the deployment of more renewable power.

Many Massachusetts residents, and the communities they live in, want to support, and participate in the Commonwealth's clean energy transition. But there are obstacles to buying this power in a way that supports the addition of new renewable generation. Current policies only support short-term contracts for power through community aggregation, but such contracts are unable to support the financing necessary to drive the addition of new renewable capacity. Additional language is needed to facilitate this goal by enabling Massachusetts communities (those that so choose) to contract for ten years or more for power in a way that supports financing of additional renewable generation.

A provision from the recently passed House bill would provide these aggregation programs the ability to enter long term contracts with offshore wind developers. Through this proposed language, the Massachusetts Clean Energy Center (Mass CEC) could work with aggregators to provide the necessary long-term financial backstop offshore wind developers would need to secure financing and develop additional wind turbines. An example of this would be Mass CEC supporting a Letter of Credit or similar financial mechanism to backstop a long-term contract.

We support the following language from Section 11 of H. 4524, with the deletion of a reference to possible resale (per the suggestion of Mass CEC). The language is as follows:

*(10) authorize, by a vote of the board, and operate a program to secure, leverage, or otherwise guarantee long-term purchases of energy and renewable energy certificates from offshore wind developers for direct sale, ~~or resale by the center,~~ to a municipality or group of municipalities with an approved municipal load aggregation plan pursuant to section 134 of chapter 164,*

*aggregations pursuant to section 137 of said chapter 164 and other private aggregations with plans approved by the center*

For further information about this language, please feel free to contact Richard Andre, President of Vineyard Power ([richard@vineyardpower.com](mailto:richard@vineyardpower.com)), or Larry Chretien, Executive Director of Green Energy Consumers Alliance ([larry@greenenergyconsumers.org](mailto:larry@greenenergyconsumers.org)).

We appreciate your strong leadership and attention to offshore wind power to date, and we look forward to working with you in the months and years ahead to ensure the Commonwealth maintains momentum toward the clean and just energy future that is within reach.

Thank you for your consideration.



VINEYARD WIND



Acadia  
Center



**RENEW**  
Northeast



Union of  
[ **Concerned  
Scientists** ]



Attachment A

**169 Approved Municipal Aggregation Programs in Massachusetts**

Abington	Eastham	Mendon
Acton	Easton	Methuen
Acushnet	Edgartown	Millbury
Adams	Egremont	Millis
Aquinnah	Fairhaven	Millville
Arlington	Fall River	Milton
Ashby	Falmouth	Monterey
Ashland	Florida	Nantucket
Attleboro	Foxborough	Natick
Auburn	Franklin	New Ashford
Avon	Freetown	New Bedford
Barnstable	Gardner	New Salem
Becket	Gill	New Marlborough
Bedford	Gloucester	Newburyport
Bellingham	Grafton	Newton
Berlin	Great Barrington	North Adams
Bernardston	Greenfield	North Andover
Billerica	Hadley	Northbridge
Boston	Halifax	Northfield
Bourne	Hamilton	Norton
Brewster	Harvard	Oak Bluffs
Brookline	Harwich	Orange
Buckland	Hatfield	Orleans
Burlington	Haverhill	Oxford
Cambridge	Heath	Pelham
Carlisle	Holliston	Pembroke
Carver	Huntington	Pittsfield
Charlemont	Kingston	Plainville
Charlton	Lancaster	Plymouth
Chatham	Lanesborough	Plympton
Chelmsford	Leicester	Provincetown
Cheshire	Lenox	Rehoboth
Chilmark	Leverett	Rockland
Clarksburg	Lexington	Salem
Colrain	Lincoln	Salisbury
Conway	Lowell	Sandisfield
Dalton	Lunenburg	Sandwich
Dartmouth	Marion	Seekonk
Dedham	Marlborough	Sharon
Deerfield	Mashpee	Sheffield
Dennis	Mattapoisett	Shelburne
Dighton	Medford	Shirley
Douglas	Medway	Somerset
Dracut	Melrose	Somerville

Southborough  
Stoneham  
Stoughton  
Sudbury  
Sunderland  
Sutton  
Swampscott  
Swansea  
Tewksbury  
Tisbury  
Truro  
Tyngsborough  
Tyringham

Upton  
Walpole  
Waltham  
Wareham  
Warwick  
Watertown  
Webster  
Wellfleet  
Wendell  
West Bridgewater  
West Brookfield  
West Springfield  
West Stockbridge

West Tisbury  
Westborough  
Westford  
Westport  
Whately  
Williamsburg  
Williamstown  
Winchendon  
Winchester  
Worcester  
Yarmouth