New York State Offshore Wind

Overview

Offshore wind is key to achieving New York State's nation-leading clean energy goals of 70% renewable energy by 2030 and 100% clean electricity by 2040.

New York will help responsibly develop 9,000 megawatts of offshore wind power by 2035, enough to power up to 6 million homes.

Offshore wind is ready to power New York

NYSERDA is leading the responsible and cost-effective advancement of 9,000 megawatts (MW) of offshore wind energy in New York State by 2035. In close collaboration with state and federal agencies and engaging critical stakeholders, NYSERDA is working diligently to anchor New York as the U.S. hub for this important global industry. Offshore wind presents significant opportunities statewide including infrastructure development, workforce development, economic benefits, and a just transition to a clean energy economy.

Offshore wind represents a cornerstone of New York’s ambitious and comprehensive climate and clean energy legislation, the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act, which requires that at least 70% of New York’s electricity come from renewable sources by 2030 and that all of the state’s electricity come from zero-carbon emission sources by 2040.

Offshore wind will bring:

- Clean, locally produced power where demand is highest
- Significant investments in infrastructure and communities along New York’s Atlantic Coast and up to the Capital Region
- The opportunity for thousands of short- and long-term skilled construction, manufacturing, and operations jobs
- Diversified electricity supply
- Avoided greenhouse gas emissions

Offshore Wind Master Plan

NYSERDA developed the New York State Offshore Wind Master Plan as a comprehensive roadmap that encourages responsible and cost-effective development of offshore wind in a manner that is sensitive to environmental, maritime, social, and economic issues. The Master Plan helps to minimize project risks and encourages competition among project developers, resulting in reduced costs.

Visit nyservda.ny.gov/offshorewind for more information on the Master Plan.
Achieving New York’s offshore wind goals

National leader in offshore wind procurements

In 2019, NYSERDA selected two offshore wind projects for contract negotiations from its first competitive offshore wind solicitation. The combined capacity of these two projects is nearly 1,700 MW, the single largest renewable energy procurement by a state in U.S. history, with enough power for more than one million New York homes. Once contracted, the two selected projects—Sunrise Wind (880 MW) and Empire Wind (816 MW)—will begin development and are expected to be operational by the mid-2020s. Together, the projects will bring a combined economic impact of $3.2 billion in private investment to upstate, downstate, and Long Island, and will support more than 1,600 high-quality, well-paying careers backed by a prevailing wage and project labor agreements. This first phase of procurement represents a major milestone toward realizing New York State’s ambitious statewide mandate of 9,000 MW of offshore wind by 2035 and 100% carbon-free electricity by 2040.

Investing in jobs and infrastructure

New York State is investing up to $200 million in New York port facilities, paired with private investments. To attract private investment in port infrastructure and manufacturing, the State is also working with industry to determine the most promising infrastructure investments, helping jumpstart project development, and drive job growth. Combining State and private funds, the projects will also spur strategic investments in a $20 million Offshore Wind Training Institute (OWTI) and a $3 million Community and Workforce Benefits Fund (CWB Fund) to establish the institutional infrastructure to educate, train and employ New Yorkers.

Fostering stakeholder outreach and public engagement

NYSERDA continues to create opportunities for facilitating dialogue with interested stakeholders, developers, and the public. In addition to hosting public meetings, open houses and webinars, New York’s four Technical Working Groups—Environmental, Fishing, Maritime, and Jobs and Supply Chain—ensure the continued collaboration among entities with the subject-matter expertise, practical experience, and professional interest to responsibly advance offshore wind in the State.

Conducting research

NYSERDA is continuing its analysis of various elements of offshore wind development, including the collection of metocean data, wildlife surveying, air quality assessment, and supply chain analysis. Additionally, NYSERDA has been selected by the U.S. Department of Energy to lead the National Offshore Wind Research and Development Consortium—a nationally focused, independent organization dedicated to reducing the cost of offshore wind development by managing industry-focused research and development activities.

Coordinating Between State and Federal Agencies

NYSERDA has been working closely with the U.S. Department of the Interior’s Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) to identify new wind energy areas off New York’s Atlantic Coast. In 2017, after rigorous fieldwork, analysis, and stakeholder outreach regarding appropriate locations for wind installations off New York’s Atlantic Coast, the State released its “Area for Consideration” which presents an area with the lowest overall conflict and greatest opportunity for the development of offshore wind energy. In November 2018, BOEM released “draft Wind Energy Areas” that cite NYSERDA’s analysis and considers the State’s guidance. New York State continues to collaborate with BOEM and other federal agencies as this process advances.

Learn more about offshore wind in New York State.

nyserda.ny.gov/offshorewind