Offshore wind is key to achieving New York State’s clean energy goals of 70% renewable energy by 2030 and zero emissions electricity by 2040.

AWARD RESULTS:

New York awards two projects — the largest competitive renewable energy procurement in the U.S.

In the State’s second comprehensive solicitation for offshore wind, the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) has finalized contracts for two projects selected in its 2020 Offshore Wind Solicitation: Empire Wind 2 and Beacon Wind, both with Equinor Wind US LLC (Equinor). Combined, the projects will deliver 2,490 megawatts (MW) of renewable energy, enough to power more than 1.3 million New York homes.

As part of the nation’s largest competitive procurement of renewable energy, these awards build on four consecutive years of annual renewable energy obtainments that are expected to deliver dozens of large-scale renewable energy projects over the coming decade.

The projects, available on nyserda.ny.gov/offshore-wind-solicitations, unlock unprecedented public and private funding commitments. The average bill impact for customers will be approximately 0.8 percent, or about $0.95 per month. Total project costs, including a cost-effective average all-in development cost of $80.40 per megawatt hour, are approximately seven percent lower than those of the 2018 awards, signaling offshore wind is a competitively priced renewable energy resource with tremendous benefits.

Empire Wind 2 and Beacon Wind Deliver Unparalled Benefits

- The creation of more than 5,200 direct jobs with a combined economic activity of $8.9 billion in labor, supplies, development, and manufacturing statewide.
- Leveraging $3 of private funds for every $1 of public funds to unlock investments of $644 million for resilient port facilities, bringing long-term economic benefits to the Capital Region and Brooklyn.
- Establishing the nation’s first tower manufacturing facility at the Port of Albany, ready to service offshore wind farms in the region, and a cutting-edge staging facility and operations and maintenance hub at the South Brooklyn Marine Terminal.
- Committing significant economic benefits to disadvantaged communities and supporting the responsible retirement of aging fossil fuel plants in Queens and Nassau Counties. As well as bringing $47 million in workforce development training, innovation, and community benefits funding and approximately $1 billion in avoided health impact benefits.
- Brining nearly $25 million to support regional monitoring of wildlife and key commercial fish stocks to better understand the potential impacts of responsibly transitioning to this clean energy source.
- Delivering an industry-leading commitment to carbon efficiency that will reduce carbon emissions associated with the development, construction, and operation of the projects through technology innovation, operational best practices, and responsible sourcing of materials.
Second Round Anchors New York as the Nation’s Hub for Offshore Wind

With these awards, New York now has five offshore wind projects in active development — the largest offshore wind pipeline in the nation — totaling more than 4,300 megawatts and representing nearly 50% of the capacity needed to meet New York’s nation-leading offshore wind goal of 9,000 MW by 2035. Together, New York’s offshore wind projects will deliver more than 6,800 jobs and more than $12.1 billion of combined economic activity, demonstrating unparalleled momentum toward the State’s climate goals. This will also send a clear market signal that will help further economic development, deliver savings for consumers, and increase infrastructure and clean energy benefits for New Yorkers across the State.

2020 Project: Empire Wind 2
Developer: Equinor Wind

Project at a Glance
- 1,260 MW entering commercial operation in late 2027.
- Locally produced renewable energy from the New York Bight with planned delivery to Nassau County at the Barrett Substation in Oceanside, building out the back half of Equinor’s New York Bight lease area, to the Gowanus substation in Brooklyn.
- Equinor plans to locate America’s first offshore wind tower manufacturing facility at the Port of Albany, in upstate New York. Developed jointly with leading wind industry manufacturers Marmen and Welcon, Equinor stands ready to transform the port for manufacturing offshore wind towers and transition pieces, creating up to 350 direct jobs in the region.

2020 Project: Beacon Wind
Developer: Equinor Wind

Project at a Glance
- 1,230 MW entering commercial operation in 2028.
- Proposed interconnection into New York City through the Astoria Substation in Queens, supporting the responsible retirement of aging fossil fuel plants as part of a just transition to clean energy.
- Located over 60 miles east of Montauk Point, Beacon Wind plans to utilize High Voltage Direct Current (HVDC) transmission technology, providing reliable and fully controlled power supply in either direction to and from the shore and reducing the number of cables to shore.

Learn more about offshore wind in New York State.

nyserda.ny.gov/offshorewind