

STATE OF MAINE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR 1STATE HOUSE STATION AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0001

DAN BURGESS
DIRECTOR OF GOVERNOR'S
ENERGY OFFICE

June 13, 2025

Maine Public Utilities Commission cc: Amy Dumeny, Sally Zeh, Sarah Coleman, Robert Creamer 26 Katherine Drive Hallowell. ME 04347

Dear Commissioners,

In 2023, the Maine Legislature passed PL 2023, Ch 481, "An Act Regarding the Procurement of Energy (GEO) from Offshore Wind Resources". The Act directs the GEO to prepare requests for proposals to purchase energy from offshore wind power projects, in collaboration with the Maine Public Utilities Commission, other state agencies and Tribes. The Act states, "The office shall file with the commission the first solicitation by July 1, 2025 unless another date is established by mutual agreement between the office and the commission." Pursuant to 35-A M.R.S. \$3408 sub-\$2 (A) the GEO seeks mutual agreement to delay filing the first solicitation for offshore wind power projects with the Maine Public Utilities Commission. The extension recommendation is due to recent changes in the energy landscape that have caused significant uncertainty in the offshore wind industry. GEO will continue to closely monitor the industry landscape and communicate when industry conditions for the solicitation may improve.

Offshore wind remains an important part of Maine's long-term energy future as outlined in the *Maine Energy Plan*. With this extension, GEO will continue to work with the Commission, other state agencies, Tribes, and stakeholders to draft a robust offshore wind energy solicitation that advances the industry and protects ratepayers. The state will continue investment in responsible offshore wind research and development, such as through the stakeholder-based Maine Offshore Wind Research Consortium. GEO will also advance collaborative work on other enabling activities to advance economic and environmental benefits for Maine.



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GEO appreciates the coordination with the Commission to date and looks forward to working together on future solicitations.

Sincerely,

Dan Burgess

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Director, Maine Governor's Energy Office