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United States Senate  
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August 16, 2024

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg  
Secretary of Transportation  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

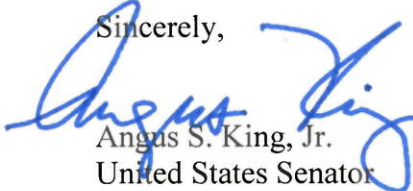
Thank you for your recent visit to Maine. I am writing to express my enthusiastic support for the recent application submitted by the Maine Department of Transportation (MaineDOT) to the USDOT's Port Infrastructure Development Program (PIDP). MaineDOT's application seeks discretionary funding to bolster the *Dirigo Atlantic Floating Offshore Wind Port Planning Project*. These funds would be instrumental in expediting pre-construction activities through final design phases, thereby catalyzing the project's development.

MaineDOT is seeking approximately \$16 million in funding, a critical component of the roughly \$20 million initiative aimed at supporting preconstruction activities and final design phases. This investment is poised to significantly accelerate the establishment of an offshore wind port on Maine's coastline, particularly at Sears Island. The construction of this port holds the key to unlocking the vast energy potential inherent in the Gulf of Maine, chiefly through the development and deployment of Floating Offshore Wind (FOSW) technology.

Maine's efforts align closely with the Biden Administration's goals to deploy 15 Gigawatts (GW) of FOSW by 2035. This project stands as a pivotal stride towards reaching that goal. Furthermore, this project aligns with Maine's own strategic energy objectives as outlined in the *Maine Energy Path: Pathway to 2024*.

I am strongly supportive of MaineDOT's project, its potential transformational impact for bringing economic development and clean energy to the region, and this request for funding through USDOT. I urge DOT's careful review of their application and consideration of the impact this funding will have on the future of our state and country, in accordance with all rules and regulations. Please let Adam Lachman (202-224-5344) in my office know if you have any questions and when a decision is made. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Angus S. King, Jr.  
United States Senator

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