



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF OCEAN ENERGY MANAGEMENT
WASHINGTON, DC 20240-0001

APR 17 2019

The Honorable Christopher T. Sununu
Governor of New Hampshire
Concord, New Hampshire 03301

Dear Governor Sununu:

Thank you for your letter dated January 2, 2019, requesting that the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) establish a New Hampshire Intergovernmental Renewable Energy Task Force.

Given that renewable energy development in federal waters offshore New Hampshire could affect natural, socioeconomic, and cultural resources shared by neighboring states, BOEM recommends the establishment of a Gulf of Maine regional task force that includes New Hampshire, along with relevant Maine and Massachusetts governmental entities (both state and local), in addition to interested federal agencies and tribes. BOEM has recently transitioned to a regional task force model to collaborate on offshore wind planning and development issues on the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) offshore three different regions: Rhode Island and Massachusetts, the New York Bight, and the Carolinas.

To facilitate the establishment of a Gulf of Maine Intergovernmental Renewable Energy Task Force, BOEM has solicited the participation of Maine and Massachusetts. BOEM will prepare a draft charter outlining the purpose of the task force, proposed membership, and planned tasks to share with Mr. Matthew Mailloux and the designated points of contact in Maine and Massachusetts, should those states choose to participate as well. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Ms. Meredith Lilley in BOEM's Office of Renewable Energy Programs at meredith.lilley@boem.gov or at (703) 787-1037.

BOEM looks forward to New Hampshire's input, advice, and participation as we plan for commercial renewable energy leasing and development on the OCS offshore the State, and within the Gulf of Maine generally.

Sincerely,

Walter D. Cruickshank
Acting Director