



STATE OF NEW YORK
EXECUTIVE CHAMBER
ALBANY 12224

DAVID A. PATERSON
GOVERNOR

December 4, 2009

Ms. Maureen A. Bornholdt
Program Manager, Office of Alternative Energy Programs
Minerals Management Service
381 Elden Street
Mail Stop 4090
Herndon, VA 20170

Dear Ms. Bornholdt:

I request that the Minerals Management Service (MMS) sponsor a New York Task Force to facilitate coordination and consultation among Federal, state, local, and tribal governments on renewable energy commercial leasing proposals on the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) offshore of New York.

With his '45 by 15' initiative, Governor David A. Paterson has committed New York to meet 45 percent of its energy needs through energy efficiency and renewable energy by 2015. Through the development of our State Energy Plan and interstate efforts such as the Mid-Atlantic Regional Council on the Ocean, we have identified the development of renewable energy resources located in OCS waters offshore of New York as a key component in meeting this ambitious goal and transitioning the State to a more sustainable economy. Two of the State's public power authorities and a private utility already are developing a plan to site a utility scale wind farm offshore of New York. The creation of a Task Force will be critical to providing a coordinated approach to commercial leasing activities associated with that project, as well as other future projects that may be advanced.

Officials at the New York State Department of State, New York's lead coastal agency, have begun a dialogue with MMS officials regarding a New York Task Force. George Stafford, Deputy Secretary of State, has agreed to serve as the primary point of contact for New York and will work with MMS to establish the Task Force and coordinate involvement of state agencies. He can be contacted at (518) 474-6000 or at George.Stafford@dos.state.ny.us.

New York looks forward to working with MMS on this important effort and appreciates MMS' leadership in advancing offshore renewable energy development.

Sincerely,

Thomas C.C. Congdon
Deputy Secretary for Energy

Cc: George Stafford, New York Department of State
Kevin Law, Long Island Power Authority
Richard Kessel, New York Power Authority