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August 11, 2014

The Honorable Andrew M. Cuomo
Governor of New York State
New York State Capitol Building
Albany, NY 12224

RE: Offshore Wind for Long Island's East End

Dear Governor Cuomo:

As the Assemblyman representing the 1st District in the New York State Assembly, I write to express my support for Deepwater Wind's proposed offshore wind farm serving Long Island's East End.

Long Island, and particularly the East End, faces unique energy and economic challenges. As one of the few parts of Long Island in which energy demands continue to grow, we facing a steadily increasing need for new sources of power. Our existing electricity grid is operating at its limits and, given our population density and our commitment to conservation, building any new energy infrastructure here is difficult, often controversial, and always time-consuming and costly.

Deepwater Wind's project can be an important part of addressing the East End's energy challenges, both near-term and long-term. By producing most of its energy during the middle of the day, when LIPA needs it most, Deepwater Wind's proposal is likely to help to stabilize rates. And, given that the wind turbines will be located over 30 miles offshore, and that all the upland cable will be buried under existing public roads, Deepwater Wind's proposal is expected to have little aesthetic impact on the local community.

Over the long term, the large size and scalability of Deepwater Wind's project allows it to provide meaningful quantities of new clean power to the East End. As demand for energy grows, Deepwater Wind's project has the unique ability to grow with it.

Deepwater Wind's proposal is, in many ways, more attractive to the East End than many other new sources of energy. Unlike new overhead transmission lines, Deepwater Wind's proposal will not add unsightly clutter to our streets and neighborhoods. And, while solar power certainly has a place on Long Island, its large land requirements make it difficult to be counted

on as significant part of the East End's long-term energy plans.

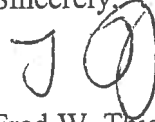
Offshore wind is also important for Long Island as a source of job-creating economic development. Over 58,000 people are currently employed in the global offshore wind industry, with growth projected to reach 191,000 by 2020. Given our location, Long Island is ideally positioned to serve as a hub for the U.S. offshore wind industry, which would be a much-needed boost for our economy. To capture its benefits, we need to take a first step.

Deepwater Wind's proposal can be that first step. As the only offshore wind development near Long Island to have completed the necessary federal leasing process, Deepwater Wind's project has the unique ability to be in service many years before other projects, ensuring that Long Island will be at the forefront of the U.S. offshore wind industry.

Most importantly, by committing to establish a local facility for project logistics and assembly, Deepwater Wind's proposal will not only create hundreds of Long Island-based jobs in the near term, but also will establish the infrastructure and skilled labor force necessary to give Long Island a long-term competitive advantage in the offshore wind industry.

I look forward to working with your administration to bring about a better energy future for the East End by realizing the potential of offshore wind with Deepwater Wind's proposal.

Sincerely,



Fred W. Thiele
Member of Assembly

CC: Assemblymember Amy Paulin, Chair, Assembly Committee on Energy
Assemblymember Steve Englebright
Assemblymember Anthony Palumbo
Senator Ken LaValle
Richard Kauffman, Chairman of Energy and Finance, New York State
John Rhodes, President and Chief Executive Officer, NYSERDA
John McMahon, Chief Operating Officer, Long Island Power Authority
David Daly, President and Chief Operating Officer, PSEG Long Island
Julia Bovey, Director, Department of Public Service, Long Island