

May 31, 2012

Mark D. Marini
Secretary
Massachusetts Department of Public Utilities
One South Station, 5th Floor
Boston, MA 02110

**Re: DPU 12-30: Petition of NSTAR Electric for approval of
long-term contact with Cape Wind**

Dear Secretary Marini:

We are writing on behalf of Environmental Entrepreneurs (E2) (www.e2.org), a national group of over 850 prominent business leaders -- 80 of them with businesses in Massachusetts -- to urge you to approve NSTAR Electric's long-term contract for the purchase of 129 megawatts (MW) of energy, capacity, renewable energy certificates and related products from the Cape Wind offshore wind energy project.

E2 and its members, who come from a wide range of business backgrounds, are widely recognized as a resource for understanding the business perspective on environmental issues. As a group of entrepreneurs, investors and professionals who have started well over 1,400 businesses, which in turn have created over 500,000 jobs and manage over \$90 billion of venture capital and private equity, we believe that Cape Wind is a vital project in creating jobs, propelling this region's economy and environmental well being.

Seize the Opportunity Now

As you know, the Cape Wind project has been under review for over ten years. The longer we delay building the project, the higher the risk that we will lose the opportunity to become a globally recognized leader in clean offshore wind power and the associated economic benefits of that leadership.

As business leaders, we recognize the huge potential of offshore wind farms to boost local, regional and national economies while providing a clean, renewable, domestic source of energy. The 21st century will ultimately be powered by sustainable clean energy. The question is: will our state and country become a leader or a laggard?

In addition to the many direct as well as indirect jobs that the project will create, Cape Wind can be the anchor for leadership in a wide range of offshore wind related activities. These include a multimillion-dollar port facility in New Bedford to support the installation of offshore wind projects; the Wind Technology Test Center in Charlestown; and the [UMASS Wind Energy Center](#) in Amherst and other, yet unknown projects, that will be attracted to the region as the stature of the Cape Wind project grows.

Since there are no fuel charges associated with the use of wind as an energy resource, Cape Wind's energy output will displace power that otherwise would be produced from high-priced

fuels, most likely from the region's dirtiest coal fired power plants, and as a result will lower the price of energy throughout the region.

Cape Wind, the first offshore wind park in the United States, is expected to create jobs and increase revenues in cities and towns located on the Cape, in Massachusetts and in nearby areas of Rhode Island. Cape Wind's indirect economic benefits would include an anticipated boost to Cape Cod's tourism industry and millions of dollars in reduced health care costs as a result of reduced use of (and subsequent pollution from) existing power plants.

Moreover, the environmental benefits of Cape Wind are extremely important to the Commonwealth, which is counting on the project to help fulfill its mandate to reduce greenhouse gas emissions 25% below 1990 levels by 2020.

Climate change and the need for renewable energy present an opportunity for Massachusetts and the region. Clean energy has the potential to be the 21st century's engine of economic growth, job creation and innovation. Countries like Japan, Germany and Denmark have made investments in this new frontier and are beginning to reap the rewards. The United States will be at a severe competitive disadvantage unless we act immediately and decisively.

Cape Wind will provide a huge and cost-effective source of clean, renewable energy, while reducing greenhouse gas pollution. Moreover, it enhances our security by reducing our dependence on imported fossil fuels and serving as an example to the rest of America that what's good for the environment is also good for business and the economy.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit comments on the Cape Wind energy project and the long-term power purchase agreement signed between Cape Wind and NSTAR Electric. For further information please contact Berl Hartman at 617 497-0393 or via email at berl@berlhartman.com.

Sincerely,

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