

# Rhode Island's Strategic Plan for Offshore Wind Jobs & Investment

The fast-growing, national offshore wind market represents a generational opportunity for economic growth, and Rhode Island is ready to continue its well-earned leadership in this industry. Home to America's first operational offshore wind farm, Rhode Island proudly serves as a pioneer in offshore wind, and we are well-positioned to significantly contribute, innovate and deliver on projects up and down the East Coast.

Working alongside stakeholders in every corner of the state's Blue Economy, we have completed an extensive review of our offshore wind supply chain, physical assets, workforce development programs and more. This analysis has shown that we have the physical assets and workforce capabilities to support the entire life cycle of a wind farm, from permitting through decommissioning. We have two deepwater ports with offshore wind experience, as well as a diverse supply chain consisting of many companies that have worked on multiple projects including South Fork, Revolution, and Vineyard Wind.

As we look toward the future of this industry, Rhode Island is taking proactive measures to ensure we are well-positioned to fully realize the vast potential of the offshore wind sector. Our "Strategic Plan for Offshore Wind Jobs & Investment" aims to provide a comprehensive, statewide roadmap to further develop Rhode Island's offshore wind supply chain and create opportunities for locally based companies and workers to make significant contributions to the growth of the industry.

As part of this strategic plan, we are focused on the six core priorities outlined below. Our goal is to implement a series of offshore wind-focused programs designed to quickly and efficiently connect developers, OEMs, and Tier 1 & 2 suppliers with Rhode Island companies and our highly skilled workforce. We will continue to work with state stakeholders, educational institutions, government institutions, and industry partners to deliver the products and services the industry requires when they are needed.

# Core Priorities: Growing Rhode Island's Offshore Wind Leadership

## Cluster Focus and Development (Stakeholder and Industry)

- **Goal:** Aim to amplify the state's industry strengths and create connections between locally based businesses, specifically targeting companies specializing in Permitting and Ocean Science, Logistics, Operations & Maintenance, and Precision Manufacturing.
- **Industry Clusters identified as:** Logistics, Operations and Maintenance, Precision Manufacturing, Scientific, and Ports.
- **Success Metric:** (1) Increase in the contract volume between local companies and offshore wind developers, Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEMs), and Tier 1 companies; (2) Attract new companies to enter Rhode Island's offshore wind supply chain.

## Education and Opportunity Awareness (RI and the Industry)

- **Goal:** Take proactive steps to engage local companies that have the capability and capacity to contribute to the offshore wind supply chain and connect them with opportunities up and down the east coast.
- **Success Metric:** (1) Completion of sessions to target audiences, (2) Coordinate meetings between stakeholders and developers/contractors.

## Developer, OEM, and Tier 1 Coordination (Bridge between Industry and Opportunity)

- **Goal:** Ensure that all developers, manufacturers and top-tier offshore wind companies are aware of and can easily access Rhode Island's assets, resources and talent as they embark on new projects and look for best in class solutions and partnerships.
- **Success Metric:** (1) meetings with all major developers and contractors, (2) Consistent communication to stakeholders

## Create an Opportunity Awareness System (Look for RI Solutions First)

- **Goal:** Invest in a new, web-based portal through which contractors can easily find, evaluate and engage with Rhode Island companies to support project workflows at all phases of a wind farm life cycle.
- **Success Metric:** (1) System created and in use, (2) Increase in business inquires between contractors and supply chain

## Regional Leadership (Resource, Supply Chain, Ports, and Solicitation Sharing)

- **Goal:** Work with neighboring states to share resources and best practices to create efficiency and cost savings as new projects are approved and constructed.
- **Success Metrics:** Meaningful collaboration developed between RI and at least one other state as defined by developer or contractor

## Communications (Internal, External, and Consistent)

- **Goal:** Clearly communicate Rhode Island's offshore wind strengths both internally and externally to build the state's ecosystem and respond to the changing demands of the industry.
- **Success Metric:** (1) Increase in inquiries from companies regarding doing OSW in Rhode Island, (2) Increase in the frequency of RI mentions in articles and publications.

### Let's Connect

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