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Virtual Public Hearing October 16 for Revised Offshore Wind Solicitation

For Immediate Release: October 2, 2024

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(BALTIMORE, MD) – Members of the public and other interested parties are invited to comment on a proposal by US Wind, Inc. to revise and expand its offshore wind project to be built in federal waters off Maryland's coast. On May 9, 2024, House Bill 1296 was signed into law by Governor Wes Moore and requires the Maryland Public Service Commission to open an offshore wind proceeding limited to evaluating revised project schedules, sizes, or pricing for a previously approved Round 2 offshore wind project.

A virtual hearing will be held on Wednesday, October 16, 2024 at 6:30 p.m. Those wishing to speak at the hearing should send an email to kimberly.schock@maryland.gov by 12 noon on Friday, October 11. Participants will receive an email with a link to the online platform. Organizations or other entities are strongly encouraged to coordinate and consolidate their comments in order to avoid repetition (they may indicate that they are representing other individuals in their remarks). Anyone wishing to observe the live stream of the hearing may do so at the Commission's YouTube channel (MD PSC): www.youtube.com/c/MarylandPSC

In its review of US Wind's application, the Commission will evaluate the project's environmental, health, and economic benefits, as well as the bill impacts to Maryland utility ratepayers.

In the first two offshore wind rounds (2017 and 2021), US Wind was awarded offshore wind renewable energy credits (ORECs) to support projects of more than 1,056 MW. In what is known as a Revised Round 2 proceeding, US Wind's application seeks the authority for a 1,710 MW build-out of its entire federal lease area. 840 MW is proposed for OREC Round 1 and 870 MW is proposed for OREC Round 2. This new combined project increases the total capacity of US Wind's Maryland offshore wind portfolio by more than 600 MW, and absorbs the capacity left over when, in January of this year, Skipjack Offshore Energy, LLC relinquished the ORECs it had been awarded in the first two rounds.

In addition to the hearing, written comments can be sent (**by November 1, 2024**) electronically through the Commission's online portal at https://www.psc.state.md.us/make-a-public-comment/, or by mail. Comments sent by mail should be addressed to: Andrew Johnston, Executive Secretary, Maryland Public Service Commission, William Donald Schaefer Tower, 6 St. Paul Street, 16th Floor, Baltimore, MD 21202 (only one copy is required). So that they are noted in the proper case file, all comments should reference Case No. 9666.

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About the Public Service Commission:

The Maryland Public Service Commission regulates electric and gas utilities and suppliers, telephone companies (land lines), certain water and sewer companies, passenger motor vehicle carriers for hire (sedans, limousines, buses, Uber, Lyft), taxicab companies (in Baltimore City and County, Charles County, Cumberland and Hagerstown) and bay pilot rates.

MDRS: 1-800-735-2258 (TTY/Voice) · Website: www.psc.state.md.us