

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC 20515-3302**

June 27, 2023

The Honorable Joseph R. Biden  
President of the United States  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Biden:

We write to urge your administration to assist the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) in convening federal agencies to facilitate a robust offshore wind lease sale in the Central Atlantic next year. We commend your administration's commitment to deploy 30 gigawatts (GW) of offshore wind energy by 2030 and 15 GW of floating offshore wind by 2035, and we appreciate the opportunities created by the Carolina Long Bay lease sale in May 2022. However, without a pipeline of new leases, it could become increasingly difficult to make needed onshore supply chain investments and attain these goals.

The Central Atlantic region is already attracting billions of dollars in investments towards the offshore wind industry supply chain, which is still in its nascent stage. To meet our offshore wind commitments and domestic content goals, however, we'll need a strong project pipeline in place, including for workforce training, manufacturing, and construction. Unfortunately, this pipeline could be stunted if there is not sufficient acreage for development in the region necessary for this budding industry to grow.

Additionally, the demand for offshore wind in the region is high and growing. North Carolina has announced a goal of building 8 GW of offshore wind energy by 2040; Maryland recently more than quadrupled its offshore wind target from 2 GW to 8.5 GW of offshore wind energy by 2031; Virginia is targeting 5.2 GW of offshore wind by 2034; New Jersey has set a goal of 11 GW of offshore wind by 2040; and Delaware could soon have a target of its own. Unfortunately, these state targets will be out of reach without a concerted effort to ensure key federal agencies are aligned on the need for sufficient offshore wind lease acreage in the Central Atlantic.

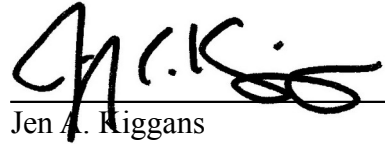
We also appreciate that energy and economic development needs of the region must be balanced with the imperatives of national security, navigational safety, environmental protection, and other ocean users such as commercial fishing and space flight. We therefore urge your administration to convene BOEM and key federal agencies, including the Department of Defense, U.S. Coast Guard, and NASA, with the objective of identifying sufficient acreage within the Central Atlantic Call Areas to meet our states' energy goals and supply chain needs.

Sincerely,



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Deborah K. Ross  
Member of Congress



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Jen A. Higgans  
Member of Congress



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Gerald E. Connolly  
Member of Congress



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Valerie P. Foushee  
Member of Congress



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David Rouzer  
Member of Congress



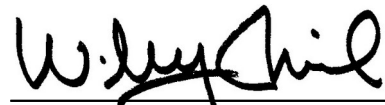
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Donald M. Payne, Jr.  
Member of Congress



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Jamie Raskin  
Member of Congress



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Wiley Nickel  
Member of Congress



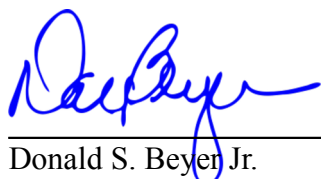
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Kweisi Mfume  
Member of Congress



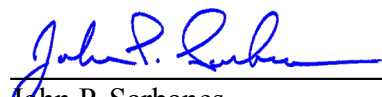
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Glenn Ivey  
Member of Congress



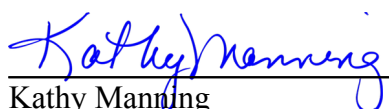
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Donald S. Beyer Jr.  
Member of Congress



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John P. Sarbanes  
Member of Congress



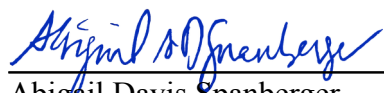
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Kathy Manning  
Member of Congress



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C. A. Dutch Ruppertsberger  
Member of Congress



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Abigail Davis Spanberger  
Member of Congress



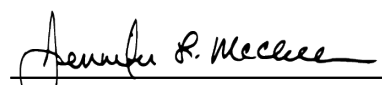
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David J. Trone  
Member of Congress



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Jeff Jackson  
Member of Congress



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Jennifer L. McClellan  
Member of Congress



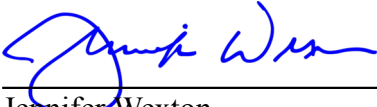
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Donald G. Davis  
Member of Congress



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Robert C. "Bobby" Scott  
Member of Congress



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Jennifer Wexton  
Member of Congress