

# FOSTER A RESPONSIBLE OFFSHORE WIND INDUSTRY FOR MAINE

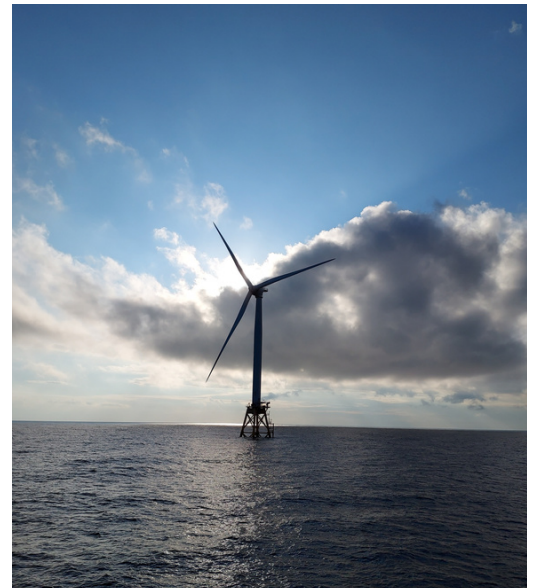
**LD 1895 will generate clean renewable energy, reduce energy price spikes, and create jobs and economic benefits for Maine families and communities.**

## **Maine needs more renewable energy to meet our climate and clean energy targets.**

- Climate change is already impacting Maine. The Gulf of Maine is warming faster than 99% of the world's oceans and our state is experiencing more frequent and severe weather, damaging storms, and the spread of invasive species.
- Maine has taken decisive action to address climate change, with ambitious greenhouse gas reduction and clean energy targets, a comprehensive Climate Action Plan, and a strong Community Resilience Partnership – but our ongoing dependence on fossil fuels is driving up energy prices for Maine families and businesses.
- We need new renewable energy sources to support switching from expensive fossil fuels for powering our homes, cars, and businesses to lower-cost, lower-emissions, more stable clean energy technologies.

## **Responsibly developed offshore wind will deliver clean energy, benefit communities, and launch an innovative new industry.**

- The Gulf of Maine has some of the strongest, most consistent winds in the world, which means each turbine will generate more clean energy for Maine.
- If we act now, Maine can set high environmental, equity, and labor standards for responsible development in this emerging industry.
- Using the best available research and data to inform siting, construction, and operations will help ensure that offshore wind coexists with the Gulf of Maine's unique ecosystem and the people, communities, and wildlife that depend on it.
- Building floating turbines and the ports, onshore infrastructure, and supply chains to support them will create thousands of good-paying union jobs and skilled career pathways.
- As the cost of offshore wind development drops in response to federal goals, climate legislation, and the industry maturing, Maine's investment will yield greater and greater benefits.



## **Maine can set the standard for an offshore wind industry that sustains our climate, communities, and economy.**

- The Governor's Energy Office engaged a wide variety of stakeholders – including representatives from coastal communities, fisheries, business, conservation, clean energy, organized labor, state government, and the University of Maine – in a multiyear process to develop Maine's Offshore Wind Roadmap.
- LD 1895 would enact top recommendations from the Roadmap, including setting a procurement schedule in statute and establishing standards for wildlife, fisheries, and environmental monitoring and mitigation. It builds on the Roadmap's framework of responsible offshore wind development by requiring strong labor protections and fostering inclusive benefits for Maine's most vulnerable communities.
- Lawmakers can accelerate the clean energy transition, reduce our dependence on fossil fuels, create a sustainable new industry using Maine-based technology and talent, and ensure that offshore wind is developed responsibly, with widely shared benefits.

**Support LD 1895. Develop offshore wind responsibly, equitably, and for the benefit of all.**

For more information, please contact

**Jack Shapiro**, Natural Resources Council of Maine, at (503) 975-0882 or [jshapiro@nrcm.org](mailto:jshapiro@nrcm.org);

**Kelt Wilska**, Maine Conservation Voters, at (518) 755-9357 or [kelt@maineconservation.org](mailto:kelt@maineconservation.org);

**Eliza Donoghue**, Maine Audubon, at (207) 712-4359 or [edonoghue@maineaudubon.org](mailto:edonoghue@maineaudubon.org)

# Environmental Priorities Coalition



Maine's **Environmental Priorities Coalition** is a partnership of 37 environmental, conservation, and public health organizations representing over 120,000 members who want to protect the good health, good jobs, and quality of life that our environment provides.

**We are counting on Maine policymakers to take the important steps needed to protect Maine's extraordinary environment so all Maine people and Maine communities can thrive.**

