



**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**  
**Board of Public Utilities**  
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[www.nj.gov/bpu/](http://www.nj.gov/bpu/)

CLEAN ENERGY

IN THE MATTER OF A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE BOARD AND THE NEW JERSEY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY REGARDING FUNDING FOR THE WIND INNOVATION AND NEW DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE	)	ORDER AUTHORIZING ENTERING INTO A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH THE NEW JERSEY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY FOR THE WIND INNOVATION AND NEW DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE
	)	
	)	DOCKET NO. QO20080561

**Party of Record:**

**Kelli Brown**, New Jersey Economic Development Authority

BY THE BOARD:

By this Order, the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (“Board” or “BPU”) approves the terms and conditions of the Memorandum of Understanding (“MOU”) between the Board and the New Jersey Economic Development Authority (“NJEDA”) (collectively, “Parties”) regarding funding for the Wind Innovation and New Development Institute; and authorizes the execution of the MOU by the Board President.

**I. BACKGROUND AND PROCEDURAL HISTORY**

On August 16, 2019, Governor Phil Murphy signed Executive Order No. 79 and established a Council for the Wind Innovation and New Development (“WIND”) Institute, charged with developing and implementing a plan to create a regional hub for New Jersey’s burgeoning offshore wind industry and build upon the Murphy Administration’s commitment to making New Jersey a national leader in offshore wind. The Council included representatives from the Office of the Secretary of Higher Education, the NJEDA, the Board of Public Utilities, the Department of Education, the Department of Environmental Protection, and the Department of Labor and Workforce Development.

On April 22, 2020, the Wind Council released a report detailing plans for creating the WIND Institute, which will serve as a center for education, research, innovation, and workforce training related to the development of offshore wind in New Jersey and the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic region. The WIND Institute will coordinate and galvanize cross-organizational workforce and innovation efforts to position New Jersey as a leader in offshore wind. A primary function of the WIND Institute will be to act as a centralized hub for offshore wind workforce development by coordinating across stakeholder groups and State agencies.

The BPU has agreed to provide NJEDA with \$4.5 million to support NJEDA efforts to develop and deliver programs that will empower New Jerseyans to participate in the offshore wind industry. While the process to establish the WIND Institute through legislation is ongoing, immediate action is needed to lay a cohesive groundwork for workforce development. To that end, the BPU and the EDA have agreed to a MOU, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:14-1 et seq.

## II. MOU

To achieve the goals of this MOU, the Parties hereby agree as follows:

- a. NJEDA will dedicate the funds to support the following proposed offshore wind sector initiatives that it will undertake (“Proposed Programs”), as a precursor to any potential WIND Institute established by the Legislature:
  - i. Execution of a competitive grant solicitation to develop a Global Wind Organization (“GWO”) safety training program and facility in New Jersey;
  - ii. Development of a best-in-class wind turbine technician training program;
  - iii. Creation of a plan to establish pathways into the offshore wind industry for New Jersey students and workers, driven by a cross-governmental working group to be coordinated by NJEDA; and
  - iv. Design and deliver a workforce development seminar that will provide local stakeholder groups with insight into the industry’s workforce development needs to empower these stakeholder groups to build relevant workforce solutions.
- b. NJEDA has not proposed detailed parameters or specifications for any of the Proposed Programs. Accordingly, if NJEDA chooses to not undertake the Proposed Programs, NJEDA shall notify the NJBPU and may propose amendments to this MOU. The NJBPU may also propose amendments to the Proposed Programs.
- c. NJEDA may, in its discretion, undertake the Proposed Programs with the assistance of consultants or contractors retained by NJEDA.
- d. NJEDA staff will, at least quarterly, update and seek input from NJBPU staff on the work plan, development progress, and the drafting of program documents, including, but not limited to, solicitations, request for qualifications/proposals, guidelines/specifications, working group scope, and seminar materials, around the Proposed Programs. These updates shall be timely provided by NJEDA separate from the quarterly updates described in Section 1.f. The first update shall be provided within 90 days of this MOU’s effective date and shall include financial estimates for uses of the dedicated funds.
- e. NJEDA will provide to NJBPU quarterly updates on the use of funds, including listing all funds used for administration and overhead under Section 3 below along with the specific administration and overhead use.

The term of the MOU shall be for five years from the date it is fully executed by both BPU and EDA. The MOU may be extended only by prior written agreement by BPU and EDA. At the expiration of the MOU, NJEDA will return any unused NJBPU funds remaining after all costs incurred by NJEDA have been paid. The funding that NJBPU will provide under this MOU is subject to appropriations and the availability of funds.

**III. DISCUSSION AND FINDINGS**

In response to Governor Murphy's clear directives to develop the WIND Institute, the Board now considers entering into the MOU. This MOU will allow activities essential to positioning New Jersey as a hub for offshore wind workforce development, and to support the development and delivery of programs and facilities that empower New Jerseyans to participate in the offshore wind industry.

Having thoroughly reviewed the MOU, the Board **HEREBY FINDS** that the MOU sets the proper terms and conditions for EDA's use of BPU funding.

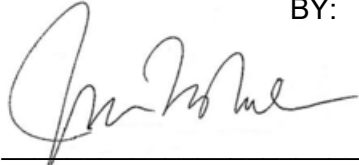
**IV. CONCLUSION**

The Board, **HEREBY APPROVES** the terms and conditions of the MOU and **HEREBY AUTHORIZES** the execution of the MOU by the President.


The effective date of this Order is September 19, 2020.

DATED: September 9, 2020

BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES  
BY:



JOSEPH L. FIORDALISO  
PRESIDENT



MARY-ANNA HOLDEN  
COMMISSIONER



DIANNE SOLOMON  
COMMISSIONER



UPENDRA J. CHIVUKULA  
COMMISSIONER



ROBERT M. GORDON  
COMMISSIONER

ATTEST:



AIDA CAMACHO-WELCH  
SECRETARY

IN THE MATTER OF IMPLEMENTATION OF EXECUTIVE ORDER 8 AND  
EXECUTIVE ORDER 92 OFFSHORE WIND

DOCKET NO. QW18030284

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