

## The Offshore Energy Modernization Act

119th Congress

Sponsor: Rep. Paul Tonko (NY-20)

"Offshore wind holds tremendous promise for our nation's clean energy economy of the future."

Paul Tonko

## Offshore wind propels economic opportunity

- Since 2021, the U.S. has approved 11 offshore wind projects, putting us halfway to a target of 30 gigawatts by 2030. Hitting that target would:
  - Support 77,000 quality, domestic jobs
  - o Generate sustainable and reliable electricity to **power more than 10 million homes**
  - Cut **78 million metric tons** of carbon dioxide emissions
- In 2022, the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management's auction for six lease areas in the New York Bight set records, raising **\$4.37 billion in Federal revenue** and illustrating the promise of this industry
- All parts of the U.S. will benefit from this emerging industry from component manufacturers in Upstate New York to steel plants in West Virginia and shipbuilders in Texas.

## Attacks on wind energy are sabotaging progress

- On day one, President Trump issued an executive order blocking all new approvals, permits, and funding for wind energy, both on and offshore. Since then:
  - Wind energy production projections through 2029 have been slashed by almost 60%.
  - o \$16 billion of industry investments are at risk.
  - o Projects in Maine, New Jersey, Massachusetts, and New York have been **delayed or cancelled.**
- There are currently over **40 gigawatts of offshore wind projects in the pipeline**, but without strong federal leadership, transparent permitting and leasing, and infrastructure investment these projects face uncertainty, putting the future of this emerging industry in jeopardy.

## Congress can provide certainty for stakeholders!

**The Offshore Energy Modernization Act of 2025** is the first comprehensive federal legislation to support long-term and responsible offshore wind development in the United States. This bill:

- Reforms the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act to better reflect the realities of offshore wind development and provide long-term certainty for this emerging industry.
- ❖ Facilitates **timely and efficient permitting** of offshore renewable energy projects by providing funding for early, frequent, and robust community engagement, including Tribal consultation.
- Ensures that offshore renewable energy projects support good-paying, union jobs and a reliable, domestic supply chain.
- ❖ Invests in **marine and coastal habitat protection and compensates fishing interests** that have been impacted by offshore wind development.
- **Solution** Establishes the Offshore Power Administration to provide Federal assistance to advance shared offshore transmission infrastructure.
- Creates new Department of Energy grant and loan guarantee opportunities to support U.S. shipbuilding needed to construct offshore wind projects.