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**STATEMENT BY LONG ISLAND-NEW YORK CITY OFFSHORE WIND COLLABORATIVE  
ON FEDERAL REQUEST FOR PUBLIC INPUT ON LEASE APPLICATION OFF THE  
COAST OF ROCKAWAYS**

January 4, 2013

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**BACKGROUND:**

On Thursday, January 3, the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM), part of the U.S. Department of Interior, issued a request to determine whether there is competitive interest in wind power development in federal waters off the coast of the Rockaway Peninsula and Long Island. BOEM's request is an important step forward for the Long Island-New York City Offshore Wind Collaborative (Collaborative) in seeking a lease for its proposal to construct an offshore wind project at that location.

The Collaborative consists of the Consolidated Edison Company of New York, the Long Island Power Authority and the New York Power Authority.

**STATEMENT BY THE COLLABORATIVE:**

**“Offshore wind power offers clean energy benefits to help reduce greenhouse gas emissions responsible for global warming and climate change, issues identified by Governor Andrew M. Cuomo as important concerns when planning future energy projects. Information gathered from the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management lease application review process and the efforts to be undertaken through the Energy Highway Blueprint, will help advance the potential of offshore wind as a clean energy source, while seeking to address its economic and environmental challenges.**

**“The Collaborative looks forward to the input the Bureau is expected to receive from interested parties to its Request for Information. This includes the possibility of submissions from others who might have a competitive interest in obtaining a commercial lease for wind development at the proposed site.”**

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The BOEM Request for Information is available for download at:

<https://www.federalregister.gov/public-inspection#regular-filing-ocean-energy-management-bureau> (“Commercial Leasing for Wind Power on the Outer Continental Shelf Offshore New York”). It was published in the Federal Register on Jan. 4. There is a 60-day public comment period for the RFI.

When BOEM’s review is completed, the agency will determine whether competitive interest in the lease area exists. If there is such interest, BOEM will use an auction(s) to award lease(s) under its competitive lease process.

If BOEM decides there is no competitive interest, it will publish that in the Federal Register. Then BOEM may decide to proceed with the noncompetitive lease issuance process and if so, the Collaborative must submit any required plan(s) within 60 days of the aforementioned notice in the Federal Register.

The Long Island-New York City Offshore Wind Collaborative submitted its application to BOEM in September 2011 for a location 13 to 17 miles off the coast of the Rockaway Peninsula and Long Island. In June 2012, following BOEM’s recommendation to increase the size of the lease site’s shipping lane buffer to one nautical mile, the lease was amended to add additional lease blocks for those lost to the increased buffer.

BOEM has since established that legal, technical and financial lease-holder qualifications have been met by the Collaborative. The full lease application and amendment can be found at <http://www.boem.gov/Renewable-Energy-Program/State-Activities/New-York.aspx>.

The Long Island-New York City Offshore Wind Project is noted in Governor Cuomo’s Energy Highway Blueprint as one of the opportunities to strengthen New York’s position in developing offshore wind. The Blueprint is available at [www.nyenergyhighway.com](http://www.nyenergyhighway.com).