### DOCKET No. 4111

# Deepwater Wind Block Island, LLC Response To the Conservation Law Foundation's Data Re

The Conservation Law Foundation's Data Requests SET 1

**CLF 1-1**: Please identify every Federal loan guarantee for which Deepwater Wind has applied in connection with the Block Island Wind Farm demonstration scale project that is the subject of this Docket?

**Response**: Deepwater Wind Rhode Island, LLC has applied to the U.S. Department of Energy ("DOE") for a loan guarantee under DE-FOA-0000140.

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**CLF 1-2**: For each loan guarantee identified in response to Data Request # 1, please state the cost-savings benefit that would result if that loan guarantee were approved. State the answer in terms of reduced cost per kilowatt hour of power.

#### **Response**:

There is no publicly available information regarding the terms on which the DOE has provided loan guarantees for renewable energy projects. Accordingly, it is not possible to accurately estimate the value of a loan guarantee or its potential impact on the power price.

Comparisons of the loan guarantee program to conventional project financing arrangements may also be unfair as it does not appear that the DOE is structuring loan guarantees on a true non-recourse basis as is typical in traditional project finance structures. In other words, while certain financial terms may be better under the federal loan guarantee program, risks are allocated to the borrower by other means that are not so readily quantifiable. Factoring in those risks, the value of the loan guarantee could be dramatically lower.

Finally, a significant assumption has been made as to the timing for the project, which could impact the value of the loan guarantee by tens of millions of dollars due to an expiration date on the availability of federal renewable energy incentives to offset certain costs associated with the loan guarantee. If, for example, there are permitting delays, the value of the loan guarantee is diminished further because the cost of obtaining the loan guarantee would increase significantly.

Deepwater has assumed (and therefore taken the risk) that a loan guarantee would be available to the project on favorable terms and has factored this into the price already offered to National Grid. Said another way, Deepwater has already given the benefit of the loan guarantee to ratepayers and bears all the downside risk associated with the factors described above, including whether or not it receives the loan guarantee. The current global project financing market is very challenging. In the current financing markets, a loan guarantee is practically required in order to attract the requisite investment for the project to move forward.

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**CLF 1-3**: With respect to the "Escalation of Price" provision set forth in Section 5.1(b) (at page 18) of the unsigned draft Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) filed with the PUC on November 18, 2009, is Deepwater Wind aware of any PPA in the United States for any type of renewable energy that contains an escalation of price provision of 1% per annum or greater?

**Response**: The PPA between Bluewater Wind Delaware LLC and Delmarva Power & Light Company for the proposed offshore wind facility in Delaware provides for an escalator of 2.5%. The PPA can be viewed at the following internet address:

http://www.ceoe.udel.edu/Windpower/DE-Qs/Delmarva-Bluewater-PPA-10-December-07.pdf

The escalator can be found in Section 4.2(a)(iv) of the PPA.

In addition, Deepwater is anecdotally aware of several PPAs for onshore wind that have escalation rates of greater than 1%. However, Deepwater does not have access to such PPAs and is not in a position to provide copies of such agreements, since it is not a party to them.

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### Deepwater Wind Block Island, LLC Response To The Conservation Law Foundation's Data Requests

SET 1

**CLF 1-4**: If the answer to Data Request # 3 is yes, please identify each such PPA and provide a copy.

**Response**: As identified in the response to CLF 1-3, a copy of the PPA between Bluewater Wind Delaware LLC and Delmarva Power & Light Company can be found at the following location:

http://www.ceoe.udel.edu/Windpower/DE-Qs/Delmarva-Bluewater-PPA-10-December-07.pdf

Deepwater does not have access to PPAs for other projects for which it has only anecdotal information.

# STATE OF RHODE ISLAND PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION DOCKET No. 4111

### Deepwater Wind Block Island, LLC Response To

# The Conservation Law Foundation's Data Requests SET 1

# **CERTIFICATION**

I hereby certify that on November 30, 2009, I sent a copy of the within to all parties set forth on the attached Service List by electronic mail and copies to Luly Massaro, Commission Clerk, by electronic mail and regular mail.

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# Deepwater Wind Block Island, LLC Response To

# The Conservation Law Foundation's Data Requests SET 1

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