



Department of Energy

Washington, DC 20585

June 28, 2023

Dear Secretary Tepper, Commissioner Dykes, Director Burgess, Commissioner Tierney, President Harris, President Fiordaliso, Acting Commissioner Kearns, and Commissioner Chicoine:

Thank you for your June 16 letter about the proposed Northeast States Collaborative on Interregional Transmission. The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) and the Grid Deployment Office (GDO) welcome increased interest in collaboration between the eight Atlantic Coast states on interregional transmission planning spanning three regional transmission organizations.

The proposed state-led collaboration is a promising initiative to harness multiple efforts on transmission planning across multiple grid regions. The proposed Collaborative shares the spirit of cooperation and partnership established through the series of Atlantic Offshore Wind Transmission Stakeholder Convenings held jointly with DOE and U.S. Department of Interior's Bureau of Ocean Energy Management over the past year. In addition, DOE's draft National Transmission Needs Study as well as the preliminary findings and recommendations on Atlantic Offshore Wind Transmission Planning presented at the last Atlantic Offshore Wind Transmission Stakeholder workshop on March 22 demonstrate the need for concerted action at the state level.

GDO looks forward to working with you to further deepen collaboration on these critical deployment issues. We also welcome a conversation to discuss the development of the Collaborative and its potential scope of work and objectives, including the potential addition of other states and the associated regional transmission organizations.

We appreciate the outreach on this important issue and would like to schedule a follow-up meeting to discuss the next steps for the Collaborative. Please contact me at maria.robinson@hq.doe.gov or (202) 586-1800. GDO looks forward to engaging with you on this important issue.

Sincerely,

Maria D. Robinson
Director
Grid Deployment Office