

A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE OFFSHORE WIND PROCESS

WHEREAS, the State of Maine is fully engaged in advancing the development of Floating Offshore Wind for the Gulf of Maine in Searsport; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Energy's Bureau of Ocean Energy Management is looking to issue a commercial lease in the Gulf of Maine for the establishment of a Floating Offshore Wind development and has now developed a call area outside of Lobster Management Area One and in avoidance of whale migration zones; and

WHEREAS, the State of Maine and Federal Entities are currently studying all aspects of the development of Floating Offshore Wind including economic and environmental impacts supported by data and science; and

WHEREAS, the State of Maine and Federal Entities are committed to analyzing the data and science in preparing a plan that minimizes the impacts of Floating Offshore Wind; and

WHEREAS, the State of Maine through its Department of Transportation is evaluating what port infrastructure is necessary to support Floating Offshore Wind development including the potential of a substantial facility in the Port of Searsport; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Searsport, its various boards and committees and Selectboard have always supported new industries and development without prejudging them before formal applications and permits are sought; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Searsport, is dedicated to ensuring that, in as much as possible, impacts are minimized to local and existing business; and

WHEREAS, the Searsport Selectboard is committed to ensuring that any and all proposed projects be given a fair and impartial process of evaluation before acted upon; and

WHEREAS, the Searsport Selectboard is not in a position to choose which location in the Port of Searsport will best fit the needs of the Offshore Wind Port. We understand that the Federal Permitting process will likely determine the most appropriate and permissible location. We are committed to supporting its development: and

WHEREAS, the Searsport Selectboard, after extensive community engagement, is committed to engaging with future investors/developers/operators to develop a comprehensive Community Benefits Agreement that will provide funding to adequately compensate the Town of Searsport for the inevitable impacts that this industry will have on the community and its municipal services. Such funding will be necessary to address the additional demands that such a large-scale project will have on our limited local resources and infrastructure ensuring that the residents of Searsport do not have to pay for such needs.

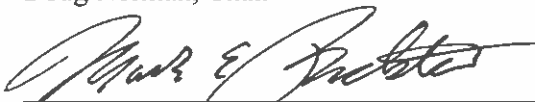
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Chair and Selectboard of the Town of Searsport, Waldo County, Maine, and herein on behalf of the residents of said town do hereby continue to affirm their full support of the State of Maine's commitment to a robust and open public process for the development of Floating Offshore Wind for the aforementioned facts set forth herein.

This Resolution shall be effective immediately upon its adoption as provided by law.

Given under our hands at Searsport, Maine, the 19th day of December, 2023.



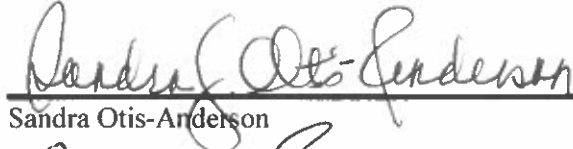
Doug Norman, Chair



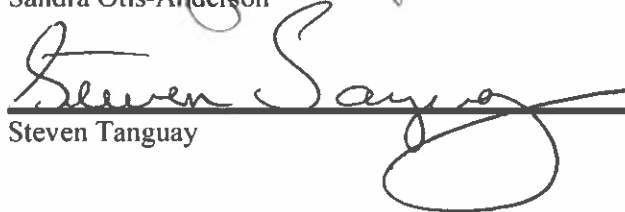
Mark Bradstreet, Vice Chair



Linda Payson



Sandra Otis-Anderson



Steven Tanguay