



Janet T. Mills
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MAINE
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AUGUSTA, MAINE
04333-0001

June 13, 2024

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Secretary of Transportation
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

I am pleased to express my support for the application recently submitted by the Maine Department of Transportation (MaineDOT) to USDOT's FY24 Port Infrastructure Development Program (PIDP). Through their application, MaineDOT is requesting discretionary funding to support the *Dirigo Atlantic Floating Offshore Wind Port Planning Project*. These PIDP grant funds would support the pre-construction activities through final design accelerating the development of the project.

MaineDOT is requesting nearly \$16 million in funding to assist with a roughly \$20 million project that will support pre-construction activities through final design, accelerating the development of an offshore wind port on the coast of Maine. The construction of the port at Sears Island will unlock the immense energy potential in the Gulf of Maine with the development and deployment of Floating Offshore Wind (FOSW). Consistent with the goals of the Biden Administration to deploy 15 Gigawatts (GW) of FOSW by 2035. Construction of the port will also meet Maine's goal outlined in the *Maine Energy Plan: Pathway to 2040*, which identifies the need for at least 3 GW of offshore wind with the goal of 100 percent clean energy by 2040. As offshore wind advances in the Gulf of Maine, Maine can leverage its existing deepwater port infrastructure to create additional economic opportunities for the state.

I fully support MaineDOT's efforts to move forward with this important project for the State of Maine. I support their request for funding from USDOT and believe that their project is the next step toward achieving FOSW and renewable clean energy off the Coast of Maine. I hope you will review their application favorably and grant them the funding they are seeking.

Sincerely,

Janet T. Mills
Governor



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