

## Ørsted and Eversource Establishing Regional Offshore Wind Foundation Component Manufacturing Facility at ProvPort in Rhode Island

Project Labor Agreement Reached Between Ørsted, Eversource and Rhode Island Building and Construction Trades Council Will Create New Offshore Wind Jobs for Local Union Workers

**PROVIDENCE, R.I.** – April 14, 2021 – Joint-venture partners Ørsted and Eversource are taking the first steps toward transforming ProvPort into a regional offshore wind hub. The two companies announced a new advanced foundation component facility to support the assembly of the developers' portfolio of Northeast offshore wind farms.

The new 228-foot long facility will be used for advanced fabrication and assembly of foundation platforms for Ørsted and Eversource's joint-venture offshore wind projects serving Rhode Island, Connecticut, and New York. This facility will further develop Rhode Island's offshore wind industry and contribute to the state's growing blue economy.

In another major milestone, Ørsted and Eversource have also reached a Project Labor Agreement (PLA) with the Rhode Island Building and Construction Trades Council and Dimeo Construction, ensuring that the site upgrades and facility construction required to turn ProvPort into a regional offshore wind hub will be completed by local, union labor.

The PLA, covering the ProvPort facility construction and site work, represents the continued close cooperation between Ørsted and Eversource and the Rhode Island Building Trades. It also builds on the earlier collaboration between the Building Trades and Ørsted on the Block Island Wind Farm, America's first offshore wind farm, which has been in operations since 2016.

"Rhode Island is proud to be home to not only the country's first offshore wind farm, but also one of the most thriving offshore wind industries in the nation," said Rhode Island Governor Daniel J. McKee. "Ørsted and Eversource are keeping their commitment to making significant investments in Rhode Island to create new, good-paying union jobs and position our port facilities to become central hubs in this growing industry. Rhode Islanders are ready to get to work building the next great U.S. offshore wind farms."

"We're reaffirming our commitment to Rhode Island with the advancement of a regional fabrication and assembly hub at ProvPort," said David Hardy, Chief Executive Officer of Ørsted Offshore North America. "Our partnership with local labor is critical to the success of our offshore wind farms and we're ready to put more local tradesmen and women to work in the state where we launched America's offshore wind industry."

"Offshore wind will play a key role in helping Rhode Island recover from the grips of the Covid-19 pandemic, delivering good-paying, local jobs and providing significant economic investment to position the state's infrastructure for the industries of the future," said Joe Nolan, Executive Vice President for Strategy, Customer, and Corporate

Relations, and incoming Chief Executive Officer and President as of May 5 at Eversource Energy. "We are proud to partner with the Rhode Island Building Trades on this critical project that will help transform ProvPort into a regional hub for offshore wind, while ensuring that union labor plays a central role in the state's quest to reduce emissions and deliver on the promise of clean energy."

"Rhode Island tradesmen and women built America's first offshore wind farm and are ready to get back to work, this time on the country's next-generation offshore wind farms," said Michael F. Sabitoni, President of the Rhode Island Building and Construction Trades Council. "These jobs represent tremendous opportunities for union workers to contribute their skills and enthusiasm to a growing industry that will help our state's economic recovery and power our future."

In total, Ørsted and Eversource are investing a combined \$40 million at ProvPort and Quonset Point, in North Kingstown, R.I., to support the development of the Revolution Wind project serving Rhode and Connecticut, as well as the South Fork Wind project serving New York.

The site upgrades and facility construction at ProvPort will create approximately 40 union jobs.

Dimeo Construction, the project's general contractor and a leading construction company in New England, has also engaged a number of local Rhode Island construction firms to support the facility construction, all of whom will work under this PLA.

"We're grateful to be the lead contractor on this important work to upgrade ProvPort and construct a new facility that will be crucial to the development of the region's offshore wind farms," said Dimeo Construction CEO Bradford S. Dimeo. "We thank Ørsted and Eversource for giving us this opportunity to put more local union workers to work alongside us as we contribute to this exciting new industry."

"Investment in this type of port infrastructure will be critical to advance offshore wind projects up and down the East Coast," said Chris Waterson, general manager of Waterson Terminal Services (WTS), ProvPort's manager. "We are proud that Ørsted and Eversource chose to build this facility here at ProvPort. It will support renewable energy projects and create jobs for years to come."

The new partnership between labor and industry will create pathways to apprenticeships and career opportunities for lower-income, minority, women and economically-disadvantaged Rhode Islanders through the Building Futures Rhode Island program. Apprentices from Building Futures were part of the labor workforce that built Ørsted's Block Island Wind Farm, Rhode Island's – and America's – first offshore wind farm.

In November of 2020, Ørsted and Eversource signed a landmark agreement with North America's Building Trades Unions, an alliance of 14 national and international unions representing over three million construction workers, for the build out of their U.S.

portfolio of projects with union labor. The NABTU agreement is based on the successful model developed by the Rhode Island Building Trades for the Block Island Wind Farm, under the leadership of President Michael Sabitoni.

Together, Ørsted and Eversource will deliver clean, reliable energy to the Northeast through offshore wind, providing enough electricity for nearly 1 million homes. In December 2016, Ørsted and Eversource teamed up to launch a new clean energy industry right here in the U.S. Northeast. That partnership has now grown to include at least 1,700 MW of offshore wind under development, including the 704-megawatt Revolution Wind project serving Rhode Island and Connecticut; the 132-megawatt South Fork Wind serving Long Island, and the 924-megawatt Sunrise Wind project serving New York.

## About Ørsted Offshore North America

The Ørsted vision is a world that runs entirely on green energy. Ørsted ranks as the world's most sustainable energy company in Corporate Knights' 2021 Global 100 index of the most sustainable corporations and is recognized on the CDP Climate Change A List as a global leader on climate action.

In the United States, Ørsted operates the Block Island Wind Farm, America's first offshore wind farm, and constructed the two-turbine Coastal Virginia Offshore Wind pilot project – the first turbines to be installed in federal waters. Ørsted has secured over 2,900 megawatts of additional capacity through five projects in the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic. Ørsted Offshore's North American business is jointly headquartered in Boston, Massachusetts and Providence, Rhode Island and employs more than 150 people. To learn more visit us.orsted.com or follow us on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter (@OrstedUS).

## **About Eversource**

Eversource transmits and delivers electricity and natural gas and supplies water to approximately 4 million customers in Connecticut, Massachusetts and New Hampshire. Celebrated as a national leader for its corporate citizenship, Eversource is the #1 energy company in Newsweek's list of America's Most Responsible Companies for 2020 and recognized as one of America's Most JUST Companies and the #1 utility by Forbes and JUST Capital. The #1 energy efficiency provider in the nation, Eversource harnesses the commitment of approximately 8,300 employees across three states to build a single, united company around the mission of safely delivering reliable energy and water with superior customer service. The company is empowering a clean energy future in the Northeast, with nationally-recognized energy efficiency solutions and successful programs to integrate new clean energy resources like solar, offshore wind, electric vehicles and battery storage, into the electric system. For more information, please visit eversource.com, and follow us on Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, and LinkedIn. For more information on our water services, visit aquarionwater.com.

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