



# Town of Concord

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Commonwealth Wind Project Selected - Solidifies First-in-the-nation Offshore Wind Partnership with Municipal Light Plants to Help Massachusetts Achieve Net Zero Goals

*Part of the commonwealth wind proposal, agreement would allow MLPs, including Concord, to acquire locally generated wind power*

(BOSTON, MA) – The Commonwealth Wind project, a joint venture between Avangrid Renewables, a subsidiary of AVANGRID, Inc. (NYSE: AGR), and Copenhagen Infrastructure Partners (CIP), was selected for their “Commonwealth Wind” proposal on Friday, December 17<sup>th</sup> at the MA CEC’s Wind Testing Facility in Charlestown, MA. The 1232 MW selected includes a first of its kind partnership with Energy New England (ENE) which will allow its Municipal Light Plants (MLPs) to purchase offshore wind power, an opportunity that will green the portfolios of MLPs across the state.

Under the agreement, MLPs will be able to purchase up to 146,000 MWh per year in addition to Renewable Energy Credits (RECs), reducing carbon pollution by 300,000-400,000 tons over the lifetime of the contract. This agreement will enable the MLPs, which currently provide 15% of the state’s energy baseload, to make meaningful progress toward meeting renewable energy targets, as required under Massachusetts’ new climate law.

“Massachusetts MLPs have set targets to increase the share of clean energy in their portfolio, and with this partnership in place we can help them take meaningful steps toward this goal” said Vineyard Wind CEO Lars Pedersen. “We are proud to partner with ENE to ensure that communities across the state can buy power from the Commonwealth Wind Project and we hope to be able to expand on creative solutions for communities utilizing offshore wind going forward.”

“This agreement demonstrates that offshore wind can and will deliver the benefits of clean electricity to all of Massachusetts,” said Bill White, President and CEO of Offshore, Avangrid Renewables. “This partnership is an important step forward in our work to green the Commonwealth’s energy mix and to make clean energy accessible to all.”

“This is a tremendous partnership between Avangrid Renewables/Vineyard Wind and ENE with our MLP clients, one that signifies the commitment that all the relevant parties have to the Commonwealth’s clean energy goals,” said John G. Tzimoragas, President and CEO of Energy New England. “The willingness of the MLPs to participate in this proposal and to continue their commitment to reducing emissions adds to their non-emitting and renewable portfolios.

“This proposal aligns very well with our strategic power supply plan and the communities desire for a carbon free power supply. This will further diversify our power supply with another renewable resource,” said David Wood, Director of the Concord Municipal Light Plant.

Commonwealth Wind is a newly proposed offshore wind project submitted to Massachusetts’ third competitive offshore wind solicitation. This project will be developed in an area 22 miles south of Martha’s Vineyard that was designated by the federal government in 2015 following a multi-year stakeholder process. Commonwealth Wind can deliver up to 1,232 MW of clean and affordable energy to Massachusetts, power 750,000 homes in Massachusetts, create over 11,000 jobs (FTE), catalyze hundreds of millions of investments in offshore wind infrastructure, and deliver substantial commitments to environmental justice communities.

The 20 Massachusetts Municipal Light Plants able to participate in the Commonwealth Wind project, if successful include: Belmont Municipal Light Department, Braintree Electric Light Department, Chester Municipal Electric Light Department, Concord Municipal Light Plant, Danvers Electric Division, Georgetown Municipal Light Department, Groveland Municipal Light Department, Hingham Municipal Lighting Plant, Littleton Electric Light & Water Departments, Mass Development/Devens Utility, Merrimac Municipal Light Department, Middleborough Gas & Electric Department, Middleton Municipal Electric Department, North Attleborough Electric Department, Norwood Municipal Light Department, Reading Municipal Light Department, Rowley Municipal Lighting Plant, Taunton Municipal Lighting Plant, Wellesley Municipal Light Plant, Westfield Gas & Electric Light Department.

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#### **ABOUT ENERGY NEW ENGLAND (ENE)**

ENE is the largest wholesale risk management and energy trading organization serving the needs of municipal utilities in the northeast. ENE works with numerous businesses, residents and utilities to help promote the principles of conservation, efficiency, and environmental

stewardship, and advances the many benefits available through integrated sustainability planning. [www.ene.org](http://www.ene.org)

### **Concord Municipal Light Plant**

Concord Municipal Light Plant (CMLP) is a municipal-owned, public power utility offering electric and broadband Internet service under the direction of the Town Manager. With approximately 110 miles of streets in the service territory, CMLP serves approximately 8,200 meters providing 170,000 Megawatt Hours (MWh) to 6898 residential, 1244 commercial, and 69 municipal customers.

#### **Contact:**

*Concord Municipal Light Plant*

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