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STATEMENT OF FRED ZALCMAN
DIRECTOR OF THE NEW YORK OFFSHORE WIND ALLIANCE
IN SUPPORT OF THE BEACON WIND I ARTICLE VII APPLICATION
January 23, 2023

Thank you for allowing me to speak today in support of the Beacon Wind project, and to urge the Public Service Commission's issuance of the project's Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need.

My name is Fred Zalcman, and I am the Director of the New York Offshore Wind Alliance ("NYOWA"). We are a diverse coalition of the world's leading OSW project developers, environmental NGO's, labor, and other supporters joined together to support the development of a robust and responsible offshore wind ecosystem in New York State. Equinor, one of the principles behind the Beacon Wind project, is a member of NYOWA.

The Beacon Wind project is a critical component in New York's nation-leading effort to power its economy based entirely on clean, renewable, and carbon-free energy sources. As one of the first-generation OSW projects awarded state contracts under New York's landmark Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act, the project will provide enough electricity to serve the equivalent of nearly 1 million New York households and represents a significant down-payment towards decarbonizing New York's grid. The Climate Action Council's recently released Final Scoping Plan, mandated by the New York legislature to document New York's pathway to achieving a zero-carbon economy, demonstrates that New York will need nearly 20 GW of offshore wind by 2050. The Beacon Wind project is one of the first, albeit critically important steps in this journey, instilling the confidence of diverse stakeholders from investors,

workers, local communities, and ocean users that this nascent technology can be deployed responsibly, and at scale, to meet our most pressing energy, environmental and equity challenges.

Indeed, the Beacon Wind project is about much, much more than the carbon-free electrons it will produce beginning mid-decade. The Beacon Wind project is a major impetus for the developer's significant investment in and modernization of New York's port infrastructure, including the transformation of the Brooklyn Marine Terminal in Sunset Park, Brooklyn into a pre-assembly area for the construction of Equinor's Northeast portfolio; and also t serve as a regional operations and maintenance hub, creating hundreds of permanent, high quality, high paying jobs over the 30-plus year operating life of these windfarms. And speaking of jobs, Beacon Wind is investing heavily in workforce development, including a $5M Ecosystem Fund to support training in historically marginalized communities in New York City. The project is also helping to restore upstate New York's proud manufacturing heritage, with investments like the one with Marmen and Welcon, to build the offshore wind industry's first U.S. tower manufacturing facility at the Port of Albany.

The proponents of Beacon Wind have developed the project, including its transmission corridor through state and federal waters, with great care to avoid, minimize and mitigate the potential negative impacts of the project. The project is the result of several years of careful study, stakeholder consultation, negotiation, and design to account for the project area's distinct geotechnical and geophysical characteristics, biology, and maritime uses. For example, the project has secured landfall rights at the Astoria Power station site in Queens, exemplifying how to achieve the priority Governor Hochul has placed on accelerating the innovative re-use

of fossil generation facilities for purposes of New York's clean energy revolution. As the record in this proceeding reveals, the vast majority of impact areas are moderate or negligible, with any remaining residual impacts amenable to mitigation.

Thank you again for this opportunity to touch on some of the many unique benefits of this landmark U.S.-based project. I urge the PSC to find the project as in the public interest, and to grant the project its CECPN to construct the New York jurisdictional portion of it transmission cable and appurtenant infrastructure.