



Gubernatorial Offshore Wind Campaign Pledge

Massachusetts could become the nation's offshore wind leader. We are on the verge of creating a new industry with remarkable economic and environmental benefits for the Commonwealth, the region, and the nation. Contracts are in place for the first 800 megawatts (MW) of offshore wind to be built off our coast. This is a good start, but we must keep moving forward to ensure that we maximize both the environmental and economic benefits of responsibly developed offshore wind power. Some of these benefits include:

- Reduced greenhouse gas emissions
- Lower wholesale electricity costs
- Improved air quality and human health
- Highly skilled and well-paying jobs
- A path to help meet legally mandated renewable energy requirements
- An economically competitive alternative to our existing fossil fuel power generation fleet that is facing major retirements in coming years

We are not alone in recognizing these benefits. Neighboring states have established, and are actively pursuing, their own ambitious offshore wind goals.

Therefore, if elected the next Governor of the Commonwealth, I pledge to take all necessary steps to ensure that Massachusetts remains a leader in the effort to launch the nation's offshore wind industry. Specifically, after taking office I will direct the relevant state agencies to:

1. Ensure that the existing offshore wind requirements pursuant to Section 83(c) of the Energy Diversity Act of 2016 are fulfilled, including the timely solicitation and selection of responsibly developed project(s) to fulfill the remaining 800 MW offshore wind commitment on or before June 2019.
2. Complete the study of an additional 1,600 MW of offshore wind as required by the 2018 Clean Energy Future Act by May 2019. If this study shows that additional offshore wind power is economically advantageous, direct the Department of Energy Resources to instruct the state's utilities to begin the solicitation and contracting process for this additional 1,600 MW of offshore wind no later than 2025.
3. Explore the possibility of developing a joint offshore wind power procurement with other New England states.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Charles D. Baker". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Charles Baker