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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
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July 27, 2021

The Honorable Ken Weyler, Chairman
Fiscal Committee of the General Court
State House
Concord, New Hampshire 03301

His Excellency, Governor Christopher T. Sununu,
and the Honorable Council
State House
Concord, New Hampshire 03301

REQUESTED ACTION

Pursuant to RSA 14:30-a,VI, authorize the N.H. Department of Energy (Energy), to accept and expend $250,000.00 of American Rescue Plan (ARP) State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (FRF), to fund an impacts assessment study on deployment of offshore wind in the Gulf of Maine effective upon Fiscal Committee and Governor and Council approval through June 30, 2023.
100% Federal Funds. This is an allowable use of ARP FRF funds under Section 602 (c)(1)(C) for the provision of necessary government services.

Funds are to be budgeted in FY2022 in the following new account:

02-52-52-520010-24XX0000[1] ARP NH Department of Energy

Class	Description	Account	FY2022 BUDGET REQUEST
REVENUE			
000	Federal Funds	400338	250,000
EXPENSES			
040	Audit Fund Set Aside	500811	250
102	Contracts for Program Services	500731	249,750
	TOTALS		250,000

[1] *All direct program costs will be accounted for using activity 00FRF602GS5201A and all administrative and indirect costs will be accounted for using activity 00FRF602GS5201Z.*

EXPLANATION

This request is to accept American Rescue Plan funds (ARP) to fund an impacts assessment study on deployment of offshore wind in the Gulf of Maine. The assessment would look at the impacts in three areas:

- Economic Impacts
- Energy Impacts
- Environmental Impacts

This would provide elected officials, policymakers, stakeholders, and the public at large with the necessary information to evaluate:

> Economic development opportunities, potential environmental impacts and offshore wind impacts to New Hampshire's future energy needs.

The Department of Energy would be using a transparent process with the opportunity for public input to develop the request for proposals (RFP) for the assessment including the Commission hosting a public hearing on what the scope of the RFP should be in terms of what is studied and for the opportunity for the public to submit written comments for those unable to attend the public hearing.

Respectfully submitted,

Jared Chicoine
Acting Commissioner

JC/JEL

Enclosures