

# WIND ENERGY WINNING BIDS COMING SOON

Project to produce 9G megawatts

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New York State in the coming days is expected to announce the winning bid or bids for the state's closely watched offshore wind-energy procurement, the first in what Gov. Andrew M. Cuomo said will be 9,000 megawatts of power from ocean winds.

The New York State Energy Research and Development Authority since February has been reviewing some 18 bids by four large wind-energy companies to determine which will get the first contract, for an expected 800 megawatts. Bids of up to 1,200 megawatts are among the proposals. A megawatt of offshore wind can power more than 360 homes.

State officials declined to comment Tuesday on when the announcement would come, but people familiar with the plan said it's scheduled for Manhattan on Wednesday or Thursday.

The state announcement will mark New York's second offshore wind procurement, after LIPA trustees in 2017 voted to approve the purchase of 90 megawatts of offshore wind from the former Deepwater Wind in a \$1.62 billion procurement. The project has since been expanded to 130 megawatts by Deepwater's new owner, Orsted, but a federal review of the project has been "temporarily paused," said Orsted, while the company amends its site plan. A LIPA official said the planned service date of late 2022 is on track.

Among the proposals being reviewed by NYSERDA is a project called Liberty Wind by Vineyard Wind and Anbaric Development Partners which would be located about 85 miles from the nearest New York shore, producing between 400 and 1,200 megawatts. Compo-

nents for the project would be made in the Albany area and shipped down the Hudson River to a work site off the Massachusetts coast in the Atlantic Ocean.

The one project that would be directly off Long Island in waters known as the New York Bight is being proposed by Equinor Wind US, a Norwegian energy conglomerate. The project, called Empire Wind, would be 14 to 35 miles off Long Island.

Orsted, which last year acquired Deepwater Wind, is teaming up with Connecticut-based energy giant Eversource to offer a project called Sunrise Wind, which would be in the waters off Massachusetts and Rhode Island, more than 30 miles from Montauk Point. Another project called the Atlantic Shores Offshore Wind Project is a joint venture of EDF Renewables North America and Shell New Energies US in a federal wind-energy area off New Jersey.

Fishing interests are urging state and federal governments to pause new procurements, until extensive studies of impacts on fishing can be completed. "Until regulators go through their entire inventory of wind areas and take out grounds important to fisheries, they risk the very destruction of our food source in the ocean and the loss of thousands of fishing businesses from Maine to South Carolina," said Bonnie Brady, executive director of the Long Island Commercial Fishing Association.

NYSERDA, overseeing the procurement, in February said the "historic" procurement and the "record" response it received will provide "the robust competition needed to responsibly develop offshore wind for New Yorkers while spurring billions in private sector investment in New York, creating thousands of jobs and putting the state on a path to a carbon-neutral future."



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## Once around the blocks

People play in sponge letter blocks while watching the second round of the 2019 Scripps National Spelling Bee at National Harbor in Oxon Hill, Md., on Tuesday.

## Cuomo: I'll seek 4th term in '22

BY MICHAEL GORMLEY  
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ALBANY — Gov. Andrew M. Cuomo says he's planning to run for a fourth term in 2022, which could make him among the longest-tenured chief executives in New York history, eclipsing his father, Gov. Mario M. Cuomo.

"I plan to run for a fourth term," Cuomo told public radio WAMC on Monday. "I would like to do it for as long as the people of the State of New York believe I am a positive."

Andrew Cuomo's plan for a fourth term and possibly more has been expected in Albany, if not announced. Even Cuomo, 61, who began in Albany politics in the 1980s advising his father, seemed surprised by the

question: "If I wasn't running for office, why would I be raising money?"

An April poll by the Siena Research Institute found Cuomo was still mired in some of the lowest popularity of his tenure. His favorability rating was a statistical dead heat, with 48 percent of voters finding him unfavorable to 47 percent who had a favorable view. His job performance was also negative for most voters, with 37 percent supporting his performance to 62 percent who were opposed.

The Republican Party said it welcomed the news. "Cuomo is trying to go where his father couldn't and he will be met with the same fate," said state Republican chairman Ed Cox.

Cuomo, however, said he will

take on what some have called the fourth-term curse.

"I'm making a difference in the State of New York, I believe that in my heart," Cuomo said Monday. "I know this job, I work seven days a week at it, and I think we have accomplishments. And the older you get, the simpler it gets. I think I'm doing good things."

Gov. Mario M. Cuomo was elected to three terms before he was defeated by Republican George Pataki in 1994. Pataki served three terms.

Gov. Nelson Rockefeller was the only New Yorker to be elected to four, four-year terms.

The longest-serving governor was New York's first, George Clinton, who served seven three-year terms, or 21 years, from 1777 to 1795 and again from 1801 to 1804.