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Buoy Launch a Historic First Step for Off-Shore Wind in New Jersey *Fishermen's Energy Project and 2 Others Will Produce 3,000 MW over next decade*

Atlantic City – Environment New Jersey applauded Fishermen's Energy today as they launched an environmental monitoring buoy off Barney's Dock in Atlantic City. This marks one of the first steps in New Jersey's effort to build 3,000 MW of offshore wind by 2020.

"This buoy launch marks a historic first step toward realizing the promise of clean, renewable offshore wind energy off the coast of New Jersey," said **Dena Mottola Jaborska, Executive Director of Environment New Jersey**. "The oil spill threatening the Gulf Coast is a sad reminder that wind energy—not more oil drilling—is the way to use our coasts to power our future."

The buoy launched will collect data about wind conditions and environmental resources at the site of Fishermen Energy's planned 8 turbine wind farm in state waters 2.8 miles off the coast of Atlantic City. The eight turbines will be visible from the Boardwalk and shoreline in Atlantic City and have the ability to power an estimated 6,000 homes in South Jersey.

"The answer really is blowing in the wind. There's no reason why New Jersey can't harness the power of wind to power our state," said **Mottola Jaborksa**. "Off-shore wind is the real deal for New Jersey's clean energy economy, and we can be a national leader."

A second phase of Fishermen's Energy's proposed project includes 66 turbines 7 miles off the coast of Atlantic City in federal waters. That phase, which has the capacity to power 50,000 more New Jersey homes, can not proceed until the federal government's regulations governing off shore wind are in place.

The first phase of the wind farm could be built as early as 2011, competing directly with the Cape Wind off shore wind farm approved by the federal government yesterday to be the nation's first off shore wind farm.

There is significant wind potential along the Atlantic Coast. According to the U.S. Department of Interior the greatest offshore wind energy potential in the U.S. lies off the Atlantic Coast which holds 1,000 gigawatts of electricity, or one quarter of national

demand. Wind potential off the coasts of all the lower 48 states exceeds the entire U.S. electricity demand.

At the federal level, Environment New Jersey is calling for improving and streamlining current siting regulations for offshore wind projects in federal waters, to ensure that future projects can come online as quickly as possible to help break America's dependence on oil and grow the nation's clean energy economy.

“Harnessing the true power of ocean winds has been dream for generations. Today brings us one step closer to powering New Jersey with 21st century American power that won't pollute our skies, but will create clean energy jobs,” said **Mottola Jaborksa**.

Environment New Jersey is a state-based, citizen supported advocacy organization with over 20,000 citizen members.