

(Washington, D.C.) – U.S. Rep. Rush Holt (NJ-12) the Senior Democrat on the Natural Resources Committee's Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources, today issued the following statement about the Department of Interior's announcement that it would initiate the leasing process for commercial wind development in offshore New Jersey:

"There is enough recoverable wind energy off of New Jersey's coast to power nearly 5 million homes. The Administration's action today is the first critical step in taking advantage of that enormous source of clean, sustainable energy and creating thousands of new jobs. I applaud this announcement and look forward to working with federal and state officials to make New Jersey the nation's leader in the development of offshore wind energy."

Additional information on this announcement can be found on the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Regulation, and Enforcement website at:

[http://www.boemre.gov/offshore/RenewableEnergy/StateActivities.htm#New\\_Jersey](http://www.boemre.gov/offshore/RenewableEnergy/StateActivities.htm#New_Jersey)

###