



Acadia
Center

Advancing the Clean Energy Future

207.236.6470 • info@acadiacenter.org

March 17, 2026

304 Dirksen Senate building
Washington, DC 20510

Acadia Center Electricity Costs Roundtable Testimony

Dear Ranking Member Heinrich, and Ranking Member Whitehouse:

Hello everyone, my name is Anya Poplavska. Thank you for having me—I'm honored to be here.

I'm a Senior Policy Advocate at Acadia Center, a Maine-based nonprofit working across the Northeast on climate and clean energy policy.

Today I want to talk about offshore wind as a solution to energy affordability challenges. In the northeast, dependence on natural gas is driving high energy costs, and, unlike gas, offshore wind is an abundant, local, and reliable resource for our region. Offshore wind promises to save hundreds of millions of dollars in energy costs per year.

Imagine you're a marathon runner just a mile from the finish line and suddenly, you're pulled out of the race with no explanation. That's what's been happening to offshore wind, where policies are disrupting the progress of the clean energy resources we know can provide reliable power quickly and cost-effectively.

Revolution Wind, [a 704-megawatt project off the Northeast coast, and four other offshore wind projects nationwide—totaling about 6 to 7 gigawatts](#)—were hit with federal stop-work orders that disrupted the projects.

The good news is that the courts allowed these projects to move forward again. [And as of last Friday at 9 p.m.](#), Revolution Wind, [which is expected to serve 350,000+ households](#) in Connecticut and Rhode Island, began delivering power.

Offshore wind is a critical energy source for reliability and cost, particularly for the New England, New York, and Mid-Atlantic grid operators. Those operators have said publicly that offshore wind is a necessity for their future grid obligations, with “irreparable harm” to come if this supply is hindered.

During Winter Storm Fern, New England had its most [expensive month for electricity in ten years](#) because the grid was under a lot of stress—cold weather drove up demand, and fuel like gas and oil became very expensive. At the same time, wind projects like Vineyard Wind 1 and Block Island Wind Farm were generating a lot of power, [with two big spikes in output](#). That shows wind energy can deliver strong power right when it's needed most—during cold, high-cost periods when fuel is scarce.

Additionally, offshore wind being a zero-to-low marginal cost resource helps lower all regional energy prices by displacing other costlier resources in the bid stack. The Revolution Wind project [has a 20-year contract, with pricing under 10 cents / kWh](#) -- a stable price that protects ratepayers from fossil fuel volatility.

The data proves this: Daymark Energy Advisors found that Revolution Wind would have saved New England ratepayers at least [\\$400 million](#) in utility bill costs last year, lowering energy market prices by 11%. And, on a broader scale, American Clean Power found that if the five offshore wind projects don't go into operation, it could cost [ratepayers \\$45 billion over](#) the next 10 years.

In sum, the argument for offshore wind is clear – we can continue to tie ourselves to international markets and volatility through fossil fuels, or we can prioritize domestic energy sources that are reliable, abundant, and will deliver savings. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Anastasiya Poplavska
Senior Policy Advocate
apoplavska@acadiacenter.org
1-408-759-2087

