



State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations
GUBERNATORIAL PROCLAMATION
Rhode Island Clean Energy Week

WHEREAS, across Rhode Island, clean and affordable forms of energy are powering more homes and businesses than ever before, reducing carbon footprints and creating new jobs and investment opportunities; and

WHEREAS, Rhode Island is on the front-lines of global climate change, and is taking bold actions to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and prepare for climate change impacts, while unlocking new economic opportunities and improving the environmental and public health of our citizens and communities; and

WHEREAS, in March 2017, I announced a goal to increase Rhode Island's clean energy portfolio tenfold by the end of 2020 for a total of 1,000 megawatts (MW); and

WHEREAS, as of June 2019, Rhode Island's clean energy portfolio totals nearly 800 MW, with hundreds of additional renewable energy projects in process; and

WHEREAS, Rhode Island is home to the nation's first offshore wind farm and recently announced the procurement of a separate 400 MW offshore wind farm that will help establish a new industry in Southern New England; and

WHEREAS, Rhode Island is a national energy efficiency leader and innovator, investing in cost-effective, carbon-free measures that reduce energy burdens, save consumers money, spur economic growth opportunities and provide other environmental and health benefits; and

WHEREAS, in Executive Order 15-17, I committed State government to "Lead by Example" by reducing energy consumption by at least 10 percent; procuring 100 percent of its electricity from renewable sources by 2025; and establishing a voluntary building Stretch Code; and

WHEREAS, the clean energy sector is a significant part of the state's economy and has been a key driver of economic growth in recent years. Since 2014, clean energy employment in the Ocean State has grown by an impressive 74 percent and now totals nearly 16,000 jobs; and

WHEREAS, these jobs cannot be outsourced due to the on-site nature of construction, installation and maintenance. Clean energy jobs are inherently local and contribute to the growth of local economies; and

WHEREAS, clean energy is a critical part of our economic, energy and environmental future;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Gina M. Raimondo, Governor of the State of Rhode Island, do hereby proclaim September 23– 27, 2019 as: *Rhode Island Clean Energy Week* and encourage all citizens, businesses, organizations and public-sector entities to support commonsense clean energy solutions that address America's economic, energy and environmental needs in the 21st Century.



Given under my hand and the great seal
of the State of Rhode Island
and Providence Plantations,
this 30 day of August, 2019

Gina M. Raimondo
Governor

Nellie M. Gorbea
Secretary of State