WHEREAS, the purpose and mission of the Virginia Offshore Wind Development Authority (the Authority) is to promote responsible development of Virginia’s offshore wind resources;

WHEREAS, the Commonwealth has invested significant resources in research to lower the costs and reduce the risks of developing offshore wind power;

WHEREAS, offshore wind power development could bring economic and social benefits to the Commonwealth of Virginia and its citizens, including a more diverse portfolio of power generation assets, renewable and clean energy, jobs and other economic benefits by attracting new manufacturing and supply chain businesses, enhancing development and expansion of existing manufacturers and businesses, and by maximizing use of Hampton Roads port facilities;

WHEREAS, investing in research and development of offshore wind power is in accord with several key goals of the Commonwealth’s Energy Policy and Objectives, including:

- Minimizing the Commonwealth's long-term exposure to volatility and increases in energy prices through greater energy independence;
- Increasing Virginia’s reliance on sources of energy that, compared to traditional energy resources, are less polluting of the Commonwealth's air and waters;
- Fostering economically developable alternative sources of energy that can be provided at market prices as vital components of a diversified portfolio of energy resources;
- Supporting research and development of, and promoting the use of, renewable energy sources;
- Ensuring that the combination of energy supplies and energy-saving systems are sufficient to support the demands of economic growth;
- Promoting the generation of electricity through technologies that do not contribute to greenhouse gases and global warming;

WHEREAS, Virginia House Joint Resolution No. 605 (2011):

- Expressed the support of the General Assembly for the development of offshore wind energy resources adjacent to the shores of the Commonwealth of Virginia and the establishment of a National Offshore Wind Technology Center¹ in Hampton Roads, Virginia;

¹ A federal funding opportunity for a National Offshore Wind Technology Center (NOWTC) that was anticipated at the time of passage of House Joint Resolution No. 605 in 2011 was not issued. Instead, the U.S. Department of Energy issued a funding opportunity for Advanced Technology Demonstration Projects and made seven awards, including an award to the Virginia Offshore Wind Technology Advancement Project (VOWTAP).
• Pledged to continue to advocate for the National Offshore Wind Technology Center\(^2\) and support the Commonwealth's role as a leader in the offshore wind energy industry in the United States; and,
• Supported a goal of the development of 3,000 megawatts of offshore wind power by 2025;

WHEREAS, the Virginia State Corporation Commission shall consider the effect of proposed utility facilities on economic development within the Commonwealth, including but not limited to furtherance of the economic and job creation objectives of the Commonwealth Energy Policy;

WHEREAS, the purpose of the Virginia Offshore Wind Technology Advancement Project (VOWTAP) is to demonstrate technological innovations to lower the cost of future wind power generation in Virginia’s Wind Energy Area, thereby providing social, environmental and economic benefits to electric ratepayers and all citizens; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Authority supports state and federal legislation that advances the responsible development of Virginia’s offshore wind power industry and associated supply chain; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, that the Authority believes the VOWTAP is in the public interest and supports expedited approval by the Virginia State Corporation Commission of an expected future petition by Dominion Virginia Power to recover from ratepayers, eligible costs of the VOWTAP turbine technology demonstration project.

\(^2\) Refer to Footnote 1.