



Press release

Community Offshore Wind Offers Swim Lessons to Underserved Communities to Build Future Workforce

- In partnership with the YMCA, Community Offshore Wind will make swimming lessons accessible to over 100 children from underserved communities throughout downstate New York.
- Teaching children to swim removes blockers for future careers in offshore wind.
- The partnership coincides with the UN's World Drowning Prevention Day on July 25.

Long Island, NY, June 25, 2022

Swimming is not only a vital life skill, but important for future careers in offshore wind. This summer, Community Offshore Wind is partnering with the YMCA of Long Island and the YMCA of Greater New York to make swimming lessons accessible to children in need of financial assistance. Funding from Community Offshore Wind will help offset the cost of swim lessons for over 100 children across Long Island and New York City with lifesaving water safety skills through the YMCA.

Community Offshore Wind is a joint venture between RWE Renewables and National Grid that will develop offshore wind by 2030 in the New York Bight, the area between Long Island and New Jersey. Building a diverse, equitable workforce of the future is just one of the many ways they are working to benefit communities in the Northeast.

“We need to start building a workforce of the future today,” said **Doug Perkins, President and Project Director of Community Offshore Wind**. “We are helping to equip younger generations with the right skills and education, so they can access careers in offshore wind. The ability to swim, safely and confidently, is a seemingly obvious, but overlooked barrier to entry. Partnering with the YMCAs of Long Island and Greater New York will help provide the necessary building blocks for children to learn water safety. The future workforce rests on preparedness and we will do our part to create a more inclusive, equitable workforce of tomorrow.”

“Every child should have access to high-quality swim instruction,” said **Sharon Greenberger, President & CEO of the YMCA of Greater New York**. “Thanks to the generous support of Community Offshore Wind, the YMCA of Greater New York will be able to provide dozens more families across New York City with financial assistance to make swim lessons more affordable.

RWE

As a result of this partnership, their children will develop life-saving swim safety skills, reducing the risk of drowning and increasing their confidence and comfort in the water.”

Participating in formal swim lessons reduces the drowning risk for young children ages 1-4 by 88 percent. Both the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the American Academy of Pediatrics recommend that children learn water safety and swimming skills to reduce their risk of drowning and water-related injury.

“One of the Y’s most critical priorities is ensuring our youngest Long Islanders are safe in and around the water. We are grateful for the support of Community Offshore Wind in helping to provide swim lessons to our Long Island families in need, so they can enjoy this lifelong sport and recreational activity,” said **Anne N. Brigis, President & CEO, YMCA of Long Island**. “The Y teaches children of all ages and backgrounds that water should be fun, not feared, and this practice not only saves lives, but builds confidence.”

Community Offshore Wind supports swimming safety and awareness, especially on the UN’s World Drowning Prevention Day on July 25. According to the World Health Organization, drowning is among the ten leading causes of death for children and youth aged 1-24 years. More than 90 percent of drowning deaths occur in rivers, lakes, wells and domestic water storage vessels in low- and middle-income countries, with children and adolescents in rural areas disproportionately affected.

Swim Lessons are available through Aug. 11 at the YMCA of Long Island branches located in Bay Shore, Glen Cove, Huntington and Patchogue. For more information, please visit ymcali.org.

In New York City, residents are encouraged to visit the [YMCA of Greater New York website](http://YMCAofGreaterNewYork.org) at ymcanyc.org/swim for details and locations on swim lessons and camps.

For more information visit www.CommunityOffshoreWind.com, [YMCA of Greater New York](http://YMCAofGreaterNewYork.org) or [YMCA of Long Island](http://YMCAofLongIsland.org).

For further inquiries: Anna Russell Murray
RWE Offshore Wind
Communications Manager
M +1 512-701-2251
E anna.russell@rwe.com

About Community Offshore Wind

RWE and National Grid Ventures, will bring clean energy to the Northeastern US in a joint venture called Community Offshore Wind. They will develop offshore wind on the largest parcel in the New York Bight with the potential to host 3 gigawatts (GW) of capacity, which is enough to power more than one million US homes and businesses. The project is expected to be in operation by the end of 2030. Community Offshore Wind is dedicated to investing in communities by bringing clean energy jobs to the region and growing the local economy. They will deliver sustainable energy safely, reliably, and efficiently to the communities they serve.

About the YMCA of Long Island

The YMCA of Long Island is a 501c3 nonprofit community-based service organization dedicated to improving the lives of children, teens, adults, and families through programs and services that nurture youth development, foster healthy living, and inspire social



responsibility. Long Islanders learn to live their healthiest and fullest lives inside the YMCA's located in Bay Shore, East Hampton, Glen Cove, Holtsville, Huntington, and Patchogue. For information and locations, visit www.ymcali.org.

About the YMCA of Greater New York

For 170 years, the YMCA of Greater New York has been helping all New Yorkers reach their full potential. As New York City's leading nonprofit community service and wellness organization, the Y empowers everyone, no matter who they are or where they're from, by providing access and opportunities for all to learn, grow, and thrive. We provide a place to play, to be healthy, and to give back. We give parents childcare, young adults job training, seniors a way to connect, and children a safe place to go. By bringing people together from different backgrounds, perspectives, and generations, the Y improves overall health and well-being, ignites youth empowerment, and connects and supports diverse communities across New York City. Follow us on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram at @ymcanyc.

RWE

RWE is leading the way to a green energy world. With an extensive investment and growth strategy, the company will expand its powerful, green generation capacity to more than 50 gigawatts internationally by 2030. RWE is investing more than €50 billion gross for this purpose in this decade. The portfolio is based on offshore and onshore wind, solar, hydro plants, hydrogen, batteries, biomass, and gas. RWE Supply & Trading provides tailored energy solutions for large customers. RWE has locations in the attractive markets of Europe, North America, and the Asia-Pacific region. The company wants to phase out coal by 2030. RWE employs around 19,000 people worldwide and has a clear target: to get to net zero by 2040. On its way there, the company has set itself ambitious targets for all activities that cause greenhouse gas emissions. The Science Based Targets initiative has confirmed that these emission reduction targets are in line with the Paris Agreement. Very much in the spirit of the company's purpose: Our energy for a sustainable life.

About National Grid Ventures

National Grid is an electricity, natural gas, and clean energy delivery company serving more than 20 million people throughout our networks in New York and Massachusetts. National Grid is focused on building a path to a more affordable, reliable clean energy future through our [fossil-free vision](#). National Grid Ventures (NGV) is the non-regulated division of National Grid plc, one of the largest investor-owned energy companies in the world. NGV operates outside of National Grid's core regulated businesses in the US and UK where it develops, operates and invests in energy projects, technologies and partnerships to accelerate the development of a clean energy future. NGV's diverse portfolio of low carbon and renewable energy businesses across the UK, Europe and US includes subsea electricity interconnectors, wind and solar power, and battery storage. For more information, visit <https://www.nationalgrid.com/national-grid-ventures>.

Forward-looking statements

This press release contains forward-looking statements. These statements reflect the current views, expectations and assumptions of management, and are based on information currently available to management. Forward-looking statements do not guarantee the occurrence of future results and developments and are subject to known and unknown risks and uncertainties. Actual future results and developments may deviate materially from the expectations and assumptions expressed in this document due to various factors. These factors primarily include changes in the general economic and competitive environment. Furthermore, developments on financial markets and changes in currency exchange rates as well as changes in national and international laws, in particular in respect of fiscal regulation, and other factors influence the company's future results and developments. Neither the company nor any of its affiliates undertakes to update the statements contained in this press release.

