

**NEW ENGLAND GOVERNORS' CONFERENCE, INC.**

RESOLUTION NO 204

**A Resolution Endorsing the Continued Investigation into the Potential for Coordinated Regional Renewable Power Procurement**

**WHEREAS** the New England States have a long and successful history of leadership and cooperation on such issues as energy, environmental protection and climate change; and

**WHEREAS** the New England region has vast potential for cost-effective renewable resources, particularly wind power, and a proven ability to site and develop transmission projects within the region; and

**WHEREAS** the New England State Committee on Electricity (NESCOE), at the request of the New England Governors, conducted an extensive analysis of state laws and policies through which the states could facilitate the development of renewable resources located in and proximate to the region, as well as associated transmission, and produced the *New England Governors' Renewable Energy Blueprint* (Blueprint); and

**WHEREAS** the New England Governors' by resolution dated September 15, 2009, adopted the Blueprint and directed their regulatory and policy officials to (1) use the Blueprint as a resource to help support development of New England's renewable resources in their public advocacy, rulemaking, policy development and other initiatives; and (2) to review the availability of renewable resources in the region, including those identified in the Blueprint, and to consider potential mechanisms for joint or separate but coordinated and competitive procurement of renewable resources; and

**WHEREAS** in July, 2010, in response to direction from the New England Governors, NESCOE provided to the New England Governors a *Report to the New England Governors on Coordinated Renewable Procurement* reflecting the New England states' initial assessment of issues associated with joint or separate but coordinated renewable procurement, including identification of some preliminary terms and conditions associated with such procurement as well as some obstacles and potential solutions with regard to coordinating processes and related matters; and

**WHEREAS** in December 2010, NESCOE issued a Request for Information (RFI) to help identify those Renewable Portfolio Standard or goal-eligible resources within New England and neighboring regions that could be operational by 2016 that have the greatest potential for helping New England meet renewable energy goals at the lowest overall - or "all in" - delivered price of electricity; and

**WHEREAS** in response to the RFI, NESCOE received promising results including information on more than 50 renewable generation projects totaling more than 4700 megawatts and seven transmission projects designed to facilitate delivery of renewable energy to New England loads, which confirmed that sufficient resources exist to enable

New England to develop or import renewable energy to meet the states' Renewable Portfolio Standards or goals; and

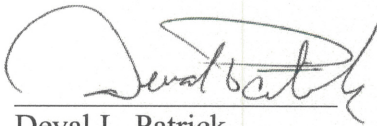
**WHEREAS** the New England Governors continue to be interested in exploring the potential for joint or separate but coordinated competitive procurement of renewable resources as a means to identify those able to serve customers at the lowest over-all delivered cost.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the New England Governors direct NESCOE and their regulatory and policy officials to continue to investigate the potential for the joint or separate but coordinated competitive procurement of renewable resources that satisfy the New England states' Renewable Portfolio Standards or goals; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the New England Governors request that NESCOE and their regulatory and policy officials schedule meetings during the third quarter of 2011 to provide detailed briefings to each of the Governors or their staffs on issues related to the potential for joint or separate but coordinated renewable resource procurement; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the New England Governors direct NESCOE and their regulatory and policy officials to report on the progress of such investigations at or before the next meeting of the New England Governors' Conference.

ADOPTION CERTIFIED BY THE NEW ENGLAND GOVERNORS' CONFERENCE, INC on July 11, 2011 in Halifax, Nova Scotia.



Deval L. Patrick  
Governor of Massachusetts  
Chairman