



COUNTY OF ERIE

OFFICE OF COUNTY EXECUTIVE

Kathy Dahlkemper
COUNTY EXECUTIVE

MEDIA RELEASE

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County Executive Commends LEEDCo for Department of Energy Grant

Erie, PA – Erie County Executive Kathy Dahlkemper commends the Lake Erie Energy Development Corporation (LEEDCo) for securing a \$3.7 million grant from the Department of Energy (DOE) to develop the Icebreaker Offshore Wind Project.

LEEDCo received DOE research and development grants for \$3 million and \$4 million in 2014 and 2012, respectively. “Leadership and innovation spur growth and reinvigorate the economy. This award and the wind initiative present potential opportunities for businesses and the growth of new industries in Erie County. We applaud LEEDCo and the DOE for partnering in the pursuit of renewable energy,” stated Dahlkemper.

The award is slated to be finalized when LEEDCo completes its current DOE engineering and design project in March 2016. LEEDCo plans to utilize a Monobucket foundation technology that can be installed without disturbing the lake bottom and shale rock beneath the lake. The corporation contracted with Donjon Shipbuilding this past summer to begin the geotechnical investigation of Lake Erie soils.

LEEDCo is a non-profit organization leading the first offshore wind project in the Great Lakes. Erie County joined LEEDCo in the spring of this year, becoming the first county outside of Ohio to join the public-private partnership. County Executive Dahlkemper is a proponent of renewable energy and looks forward to the development of wind turbine manufacturing in the Erie region.

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