



**NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF STATE TRUST LANDS
RESOLUTION NO. 2024-0003**

SUPPORTING RENEWABLE ENERGY INVESTMENTS

WHEREAS the National Association of State Trust Lands (“NASTL”) and its member states manage over 500 million acres of trust lands, minerals, and waterways that are interspersed with federal lands, with over 5.5 million acres being forested trust lands; and

WHEREAS members of NASTL have congressional and state constitutional mandates to manage millions of acres of lands for the multi-generational benefit of trust beneficiaries, including public education, through economic development, conservation, recreation, and other trust and public purposes as provided by their respective mandates; and

WHEREAS NASTL member states fulfill their mandates to support multi-generational trust beneficiaries through an ongoing commitment to the long-term economic viability of trust assets under their management through the sustainable management of those trust assets – forestlands, real property, and mineral interests; and

WHEREAS NASTL and its members proactively research, identify and develop innovative economic opportunities that would advance sustainable asset management practices on state trust lands, including renewable energy infrastructure projects such as project siting on state trust lands, easements and licenses for transmission and distribution rights-of-way, and power purchase agreements; and

WHEREAS NASTL member states’ renewable energy programs have resulted in over \$14 million in revenue for state trust beneficiaries from 114 wind energy leases with 475 turbines, 90 solar leases, and 33 geothermal leases; and

WHEREAS NASTL member states appropriated funding for the federal matching grant option, and have developed climate action plans that identify the natural climate solutions from natural and working state trust lands; and

WHEREAS utilizing state trust lands for renewable energy project development offers opportunities to transition to more clean energy sources while providing revenue for the respective beneficiaries in each NASTL member state; and

WHEREAS in both the Infrastructure Investments & Jobs Act (2021) and the Inflation Reduction Act (2022) that included Section 45Q tax credits for carbon oxide sequestration, the United States Congress authorized \$1.2 trillion in investments, as well as matching grant programs for States, that aim to contribute to addressing the clean energy transition; and

WHEREAS the Infrastructure Investments and Jobs Act (2021) contains provisions that incentivize new transmission line construction to link renewable energy resources and projects; and

WHEREAS the Infrastructure Investments and Jobs Act (2021) revises the National Electric Transmission Corridor designation process that allows for new transmission lines for renewable energy to connect to the electric grid.

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS:

1. NASTL respectfully requests the United States Department of Energy to coordinate transmission line modernization and expansion projects with State trust agencies to promote efficiencies in development and deployment of necessary transmission upgrades while improving electric grid reliability and resilience.
2. NASTL respectfully requests the United States Department of Energy to promote renewable energy site development through carbon oxide sequestration projects on state trust lands that promote the 45Q tax credits.
3. NASTL respectfully requests the United States Department of Energy and United States Department of Interior to promote development of renewable energy projects on state trust lands, as opposed to development on previously undisturbed federal lands.
4. NASTL respectfully requests the United States Department of Energy and United States Department of Interior to prioritize grant funding for renewable energy project proposals on state trust lands that will offer climate resiliency solutions and, in turn, generate revenue to support trust beneficiaries.
5. NASTL respectfully requests United States Department of Energy and United States Department of Interior to work with NASTL to help the states with federal siting of transmission lines, especially when those lines cross state trust lands as well.

Adopted the 25th day of August, 2024.



President, NASTL



Secretary, NASTL

*This Resolution will remain in effect through July 31, 2026
unless otherwise terminated, amended, or replaced by the Association.*