

US Wind Offshore Project Comments

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To:HearingComments, DNREC (MailBox Resources) <DNRECHearingComments@delaware.gov>

To Whom it may concern:

I am a resident of Fenwick Island, DE, and have been for many years. While I have monitored the actions and comments about developing offshore wind power at the Delaware coast, I have not objected until now. I don't object to the visibility of the towers out in the ocean, but I have to question the advisability of constructing a power grid on which we will be dependent in such a vulnerable location.

I can only imagine the difficulty constructing the towers, foundations, substations, etc. in the environment of the ocean. Transporting concrete, tower parts, blades, substation equipment, cabling, etc., has to be a nightmare! To say nothing of the corrosive atmosphere there and the accelerated deterioration of metal components. But, more importantly, I question the advisability of placing this energy source in such a vulnerable location offshore. It seems to me that an adversary could disable the entire network with a single torpedo to the onshore power cable route or a missile to the offshore substation. Then what do we do? No power, no way to quickly repair. East coast blackout!

Seems to me it would make much more sense to locate the wind farm on land along the Maryland and Virginia eastern coast. There's plenty of land there, very sparsely developed, and it would provide a much more easy access for construction, maintenance, and repair by placing on dry land with convenient road access. Replacement hardware for repairs could easily be staged in the area. The ability to defend from foreign or even domestic adversaries would be considerably heightened and it would not interfere with military radar at sea.

Please consider the defensibility and practicality of the location and investigate onshore locations.

Thank you.

David Reifschneider