

## HearingComments, DNREC (MailBox Resources)

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**From:** DoNotReply@delaware.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 7, 2024 1:52 PM  
**To:** HearingComments, DNREC (MailBox Resources)  
**Subject:** Public Hearing Comments

Comments on Docket #2024-P-MULTI-0007 -- US Wind Project

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Comments:

JULY 9, 2024 Docket #2024-P-MULTI-0007 TESTIMONY BEFORE THE DELAWARE DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL on the Landing Agreement with U.S. Wind Delivered by Mary Douglas, registered lobbyist for the Delaware League of Women Voters My name is Mary Douglas. I live in Lewes. I'm a retired environmental attorney and former employee of EPA. I'm here representing the League of Women Voters, which strongly supports expeditious finalization of all necessary permits for US Wind. At the end of June, Delaware's elected representatives enacted an offshore wind procurement law for our state. Our legislature reflected the will of most Delawareans to proceed with offshore wind energy. It is therefore logical that we applaud our neighbor Maryland for its collaboration with US Wind and fully embrace Delaware's role in making it possible by finalizing DNREC's landing permit. When US Wind's projects are operational, they will provide enough power for about 350,000 area homes on the Delmarva Peninsula and will displace over 2.5 million tons of carbon dioxide each year. This will constitute a significant regional step in reducing greenhouse gas emissions that cause climate change. In addition to mitigation of global warming, benefits to Delaware residents that DNREC and US Wind have worked out as a part of the landfall approval include US Wind's transfer of 150,000 renewable energy credits (RECS) each year associated with the wind generation to Delaware utilities to help them lower customer bills and meet clean energy requirements. These RECS have a value of \$76 million over the life of the Projects. US Wind has also agreed to spend \$200 million to upgrade the area's PJM electric grid, which, as Tom Brett said, is enormously beneficial to all of us in Delaware. The Company has also agreed to provide \$40 million in funding for: • Dredging projects in Delaware's coastal areas • Clean energy workforce development training at Delaware colleges and schools • An environmental education scholarship fund • A resiliency Fund for climate change projects at State Parks; and • Replenishment of the 21st Century Fund, which funds environmental, facility, stewardship, interpretation, environmental justice and youth and veteran conservation corps projects in State Parks. In sum, Delaware is being amply compensated for allowing the US Wind project to land at 3Rs Beach in our state. Of course, the most dramatic and beneficial impact will be the climate change mitigation caused by the deployment of clean wind energy, as well as health benefits discussed by others. The League of Women Voters urges DNREC to expeditiously finalize all necessary permits for the US Wind project to make its cable landing at the 3Rs Beach.