

## Public comment re: proposed offshore wind farm

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

Upon review of the available plans and information, I have the following comments:

1. The lease area is frequently referred to as being located to the East of Maryland, and as the Maryland lease area. But the documents clearly show that the northern portion of the lease area is not east of Maryland but is in fact east of Delaware, and that it extends as far North as South Bethany. Therefore, the current description of the lease area is incorrect and misleading, possibly with the intent for deception. Please stop using deception when describing the location of the lease area, and for all future descriptions of the location of the lease area, include the fact that it is also to the East of Delaware.
2. The plans call for installation of permanent structures on the 3 R's beach. Given that this location is a barrier island which is prone to migration and erosion (as evidenced by the current erosion fiasco occurring on the North side of the Indian River Inlet) I oppose building of permanent structures in the planned location.
3. I was not able to locate an environmental impact statement, listing the numbers of dolphins, whales, seals, sea turtles, and other ocean-going wildlife that will be killed and disrupted during the construction and operation of the wind farm?
4. I was not able to locate any description of how the lessee of the area plans to mitigate bird strikes during operation of the wind turbines, especially given that the area is located in a bird migration route.
5. Why are the transmission cables from the lease area that is described as to the East of Maryland not being directed to the Maryland shoreline? Given that there is a second lease area to the East of Delaware that is not part of this discussion, and Delaware will undoubtedly be shouldering the burden of the transmission lines from that second area, it seems unfair for Delaware to also have to shoulder the burden for the area off the coast of Maryland. The Maryland shoreline should be disrupted for the Maryland area, not Delaware shoreline.
6. I think the lifetime of the wind farm is 20 years. Please ensure that the lessee puts sufficient funds into escrow to pay for the complete decommissioning of the turbines and for removal of all of the structures and cables, etc. 20 years in the future. The worst situation will be for our children to have to deal with a mess of abandoned wind turbine foundations that make the lease area unusable.
7. I oppose the location of the lease area and its intended use in that it will create an eyesore when I am visiting a Delaware beach anywhere from Bethany and south.
8. As the cables are placed into the Indian River, it will disrupt breeding grounds for many types of fish and aquatic creatures. This part of the local ecosystem plays an important part in the viability of the sport fishing in and around the Indian River Inlet. Please quantify, in terms of most likely scenario and also in terms of worst case scenario, what the impact will be on the sport fishing in that area, including ability for fishermen to be able to navigate into the Indian River area to catch bait fish, how the baitfish populations will be affected, and then how their fishing experience will be impacted when they attempt to use that bait fish to catch larger fish in the Indian River Inlet and nearby area.
9. Also please describe how the installation of the cables in the Indian River is going to be done in a way that does not stir-up any sedimented pollutants, such that the project does not (even temporarily) cause an increase is suspended or dissolved pollutants in the waters of the Indian River.

Thank you.

Robert Lackey, MD

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