

**From:** [donotreply@state.de.us](mailto:donotreply@state.de.us) (MailBox Resources)  
**To:** [HearingComments, DNREC \(MailBox Resources\)](#); [friesbob@aol.com](mailto:friesbob@aol.com)  
**Subject:** Public Hearing Comments  
**Date:** Tuesday, September 3, 2024 8:34:54 AM

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

Name: Robert John Fries  
Phone: (703) 457-0475  
Email Address: [friesbob@aol.com](mailto:friesbob@aol.com)  
Organization: No

Comments:

Dear DNREC Officials, As concerned oceanfront homeowners in North Bethany Beach, we are writing to strongly urge the Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control (DNREC) to oppose all permits requested by US Wind for their Maryland Wind Project. Specifically, we object to the issuance of the Subaqueous Lands Permit/Lease, Wetlands Permit, Water Quality Certification for dredging within the Indian River, and the Beach Preservation Coastal Construction Permit. US Wind's proposal involves routing up to four Offshore Export Cables from their lease area to landfall at 3R's Beach or Tower Road in Delaware. These cables, buried 3 to 7 feet below the seafloor using jet plow embedment, would traverse the ocean offshore from our community and enter our private beach area. After making landfall, the cables would be horizontally directional drilled (HDD) under Indian River Bay and then continue with additional submarine cables to Burton Island. Our property, situated on the ocean side of Route 1, would be directly impacted by this project. The presence of high-voltage cables carrying approximately 1,100 megawatts of electricity so close to our dense community raises significant safety and environmental concerns. The fact that US Wind lacks prior experience with offshore wind projects exacerbates our concerns, making this endeavor even more alarming. It is perplexing that Delaware would even consider permitting such a project when Maryland has actively blocked similar undertakings. In 2013, Maryland lawmakers passed House Bill 226, prohibiting the approval of submerged energy lines from offshore wind farms within Assateague National Seashore Park. If Maryland deems such projects unsuitable for its protected land, why would Delaware entertain the possibility of allowing them onshore in our state park? Moreover, both Ocean City and Fenwick Island, Maryland have rejected the cables coming onshore in their jurisdictions and are preparing to litigate against the US Wind project. With Maryland's rejection, the only remaining cost-effective option appears to be 3R's Road due to its proximity to the Indian River Power Plant substation. However, DNREC's primary consideration should not be cost-efficiency but rather the safety and well-being of our community and the potential environmental and structural impacts on our homes. We implore DNREC to consider the adverse effects this project will have on our community, natural beach environment, human safety, endangered species, and private properties. The potential environmental damage and risks to human life far outweigh the benefits of facilitating this project. Thank you for your attention to this critical matter. We trust you will take our concerns into account and act in the best interest of our community and the environment. Respectfully, Robert and Janice Fries 29135 Ocean Rd. Unit #8 Bethany Beach, DE 19930