



October 27, 2017

Members of the Offshore Wind Working Group,

The Chemical Industry Council of Delaware (CICD) urges you not to rush into an offshore wind project simply because it is the latest renewable energy trend. Maryland recently entered into substantial offshore wind contracts that will require capital investment in port and steel mill capacity and will result in the construction of shipping infrastructure to comply with the Jones Act. Delaware should wait and potentially utilize these facilities for a project of our own once the Maryland projects begin to come to completion. Even though Delaware's access to the offshore wind fields is substantially closer than Sparrows Point, Maryland, it does not have an existing steel mill or shipyard to invest in. The CICD believes it is wise to let these assets develop, causing the prices to decline and stabilize. After they are established, Delaware should explore engaging in a contract if the opportunity is right. If our delayed action allows Maryland or New Jersey to claim and develop all the desirable areas off our shoreline, it will be at their cost and risk. If successful, the environment would still benefit.

A rush into this technology simply to be a technology leader is not a prudent decision. Especially if the cost is significant public funds on our families and businesses who have already experienced recent cost increases (Bloom Energy). If job creation is our major goal, the state should be looking at what supporting assets or equipment US Wind or Deepwater Wind may need to install their projects. Our port location and access may be ideal for the manufacturing or staging of other parts or services needed in construction. Sustainable jobs are what we need! The CICD urges the Working Group to contact these companies to see how we can support them rather than spending time, energy, and public funds competing against them.

Thank you for your consideration,
Alan Rogers
President, Chemical Industry Council of Delaware