

In The Matter Of:

*Department of Natural Resources & Environmental Control
Offshore Wind Working Group*

*Public Comment Workshop
May 29, 2018*

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STATE OF DELAWARE
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
& ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL

OFFSHORE WIND WORKING)
)
GROUP PUBLIC COMMENT WORKSHOP)

William Penn High School
713 E. Basin Road
New Castle, Delaware

Tuesday, May 29, 2018
6:08 p.m.

-- TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS --

PRESENTATION:

THOMAS NOYES, DNREC
DIVISION OF COASTAL CLIMATE & ENERGY

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1 MR. NOYES: Good evening.
2 Welcome to the Offshore Wind Working Group's
3 third comment public workshop. My name is
4 Tom Noyes. I work for the DNREC Division of
5 Coastal Climate & Energy and serve as staff
6 lead to the Offshore Wind Working Group. I
7 will outline tonight's agenda, offer a brief
8 overview on the progress of the working
9 group, and then invite anyone here to offer
10 public comments.

11 The purpose of tonight's meeting
12 is to review the progress of the Offshore
13 Wind Working Group and give the public an
14 opportunity to comment on the working
15 group's draft recommendations. This is not
16 the only opportunity to comment on the
17 recommendations. DNREC has set up a web
18 page, de.gov/offshorewind, one word, to
19 compile and make public the agendas,
20 minutes, reports, analysis, reference
21 materials and public comments relating to
22 the working group's deliberations. All of
23 the documents I will refer to in my brief
24 comments are posted on this web page.



1 Last year, Governor Carney
2 signed Executive Order 13 creating the
3 Offshore Wind Working Group. The executive
4 order reads in part: It's established, and
5 I quote, "to study how Delaware can
6 participate in developing offshore wind, to
7 identify ways to leverage related economic
8 opportunities and make specific
9 recommendations for engaging in the
10 development of offshore wind for Delaware."

11 The Offshore Wind Working Group
12 was established after Maryland's Public
13 Service Commission approved two offshore
14 wind projects. U.S. Wind won approval to
15 build 248 megawatts -- and one megawatt
16 equals a thousand kilowatts -- 248 megawatts
17 off of Ocean City, Maryland. Deepwater Wind
18 won approval to build 120 megawatts off of
19 Rehoboth Beach and the other Delaware
20 beaches. These projects are being built to
21 serve Maryland's electric customers and spur
22 economic development in the state of
23 Maryland. Maryland's electric customers
24 will pay for the projects. And Maryland's



1 Public Service Commission included
2 specifications for economic development in
3 approving the projects. They are being
4 built in federal offshore wind energy areas
5 established by the Bureau of Ocean Energy
6 Management, which is part of the U.S.
7 Department of the Interior. The companies
8 are considering bringing the power onshore
9 in Delaware probably through undersea and
10 underground cables. The final proposals for
11 the cable locations have not been submitted
12 to DNREC.

13 I would add that Massachusetts,
14 Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York and New
15 Jersey are also preparing or implementing
16 plans to solicit proposals to build offshore
17 wind.

18 The working group has met seven
19 times and considered materials submitted by
20 a variety of sources, all of which are found
21 on DNREC's offshore wind web page.

22 Tonight's meeting is the third
23 of four scheduled public comment workshops.
24 The working group has one more scheduled



1 meeting for next month when it will consider
2 a final report to the governor based on the
3 material we are sharing with you this
4 evening.

5 Tonight's workshop is focused on
6 the draft recommendations of the working
7 group, which, again, are posted. And I have
8 circulated some copies. If anyone else
9 needs copies of these, I have these
10 available right here.

11 The recommendations are found in
12 two documents, a memorandum to the governor
13 dated December 15, 2017 and draft
14 recommendations dated April 23, 2018.
15 Again, both are found on the web page. I'm
16 going to summarize these briefly.

17 The December 15th memo. First,
18 the working group recommended no immediate
19 procurement of offshore wind energy from a
20 project already approved by another state --
21 practically speaking, Maryland.

22 Second, the working group said
23 that several options deserve further
24 consideration, including a large scale



1 purchase; incremental commitments to future
2 projects; waiting until more developers
3 propose projects in the Mid-Atlantic Region;
4 evaluating other renewable resources in lieu
5 of offshore wind.

6 The working group posed a series
7 of questions for further review and analysis
8 in order to consider these options. These
9 questions, again, detailed in the December
10 15th memo, cover subjects like project cost,
11 rate impacts, cost allocation, environmental
12 impacts and economic costs and benefits.

13 These questions were further developed in
14 the draft recommendations produced by the
15 working group on April 23rd and, again,
16 available on our web page. The draft
17 recommendations are organized around three
18 key questions:

19 One. What factors need to be
20 considered before Delaware can respond when
21 a company proposes to develop offshore wind
22 to serve Delaware?

23 Two. What factors need to be
24 considered in a decision as to whether the



1 state would solicit or purchase energy
2 capacity or renewable energy credits from an
3 offshore wind project?

4 And three. What would Delaware
5 need to do to position itself to become the
6 location for a part of the supply chain for
7 offshore wind projects in the Mid-Atlantic?

8 These three questions are broken
9 down into more detailed questions for
10 further analysis. Again, all of which is
11 posted on the web page.

12 After tonight's meeting, we will
13 continue to accept public comments and post
14 them on the web page, as we have done since
15 the working group started meeting.

16 In a moment, we will open it up
17 for comments from the public. We have a
18 stenographer making a record of the session.
19 So if you are offering comments, please
20 speak clearly and spell your name. If you
21 have prepared remarks, you are welcome to
22 give them to us here tonight or to me by
23 e-mail. And the e-mail is on the
24 presentation and on our web page. These are



1 my comments. Now we are opening up the
2 floor to public comments. Is there anyone
3 who wishes to offer comments here tonight?

4 Seeing no hands raised, I want
5 to thank you all for being here. Again,
6 this is not the last opportunity to offer
7 public comments. Thank you all for coming.

8 This concludes our meeting.

9 (Concluded at 6:16 p.m.)

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1 State of Delaware)
2 New Castle County)

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4 CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER

5 I, Lucinda M. Reeder, Registered
6 Diplomat Reporter, Certified Real-time
7 Reporter and Notary Public, do hereby
8 certify that the foregoing record is a true
9 and accurate transcript of my stenographic
10 notes taken on May 29, 2018 in the
11 above-captioned matter.

12 IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto
13 set my hand and seal this 31st day of May
14 2018 at Wilmington, Delaware.

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Lucinda M. Reeder, RDR, CRR



A	available (2) 5:10 6:16	cables (1) 4:10	4:14 consider (2) 5:1 6:8
accept (1) 7:13	B	capacity (1) 7:2	consideration (1) 5:24
add (1) 4:13	based (1) 5:2	Carney (1) 3:1	considered (3) 4:19 6:20,24
after (2) 3:12 7:12	Beach (1) 3:19	chain (1) 7:6	considering (1) 4:8
again (6) 5:7,15 6:9,15 7:10 8:5	beaches (1) 3:20	circulated (1) 5:8	continue (1) 7:13
agenda (1) 2:7	become (1) 7:5	City (1) 3:17	copies (2) 5:8,9
agendas (1) 2:19	before (1) 6:20	clearly (1) 7:20	cost (2) 6:10,11
allocation (1) 6:11	being (3) 3:20 4:3 8:5	Climate (1) 2:5	costs (1) 6:12
already (1) 5:20	benefits (1) 6:12	Coastal (1) 2:5	cover (1) 6:10
also (1) 4:15	both (1) 5:15	coming (1) 8:7	creating (1) 3:2
analysis (3) 2:20 6:7 7:10	brief (2) 2:7,23	comment (4) 2:3,14,16 4:23	credits (1) 7:2
another (1) 5:20	briefly (1) 5:16	comments (10) 2:10,21,24 7:13,17, 19 8:1,2,3,7	customers (2) 3:21,23
anyone (3) 2:9 5:8 8:2	bringing (1) 4:8	Commission (2) 3:13 4:1	D
approval (2) 3:14,18	broken (1) 7:8	commitments (1) 6:1	dated (2) 5:13,14
approved (2) 3:13 5:20	build (3) 3:15,18 4:16	companies (1) 4:7	December (3) 5:13,17 6:9
approving (1) 4:3	built (2) 3:20 4:4	company (1) 6:21	decision (1) 6:24
April (2) 5:14 6:15	Bureau (1) 4:5	compile (1) 2:19	Deepwater (1) 3:17
areas (1) 4:4	C	Concluded (1) 8:9	degov/offshorewind (1) 2:18
around (1) 6:17	cable (1) 4:11	concludes (1) 8:8 Connecticut (1)	Delaware (7) 3:5,10,19 4:9 6:20,

22 7:4	else (1)	5:23 6:7,13 7:10	incremental (1)
deliberations (1)	5:8	future (1)	6:1
2:22	e-mail (2)	6:1	Interior (1)
Department (1)	7:23,23	G	4:7
4:7	Energy (6)		invite (1)
deserve (1)	2:5 4:4,5 5:19 7:1,2	give (2)	2:9
5:23	engaging (1)	2:13 7:22	Island (1)
detailed (2)	3:9	going (1)	4:14
6:9 7:9	environmental (1)	5:16	itself (1)
develop (1)	6:11	Good (1)	7:5
6:21	equals (1)	2:1	J
developed (1)	3:16	Governor (3)	
6:13	established (3)	3:1 5:2,12	Jersey (1)
developers (1)	3:4,12 4:5	Group (13)	4:15
6:2	evaluating (1)	2:6,9,13 3:3,11	K
developing (1)	6:4	4:18,24 5:7,18,22 6:6,	
3:6	evening (2)	15 7:15	key (1)
development (3)	2:1 5:4	Group's (3)	6:18
3:10,22 4:2	Executive (2)	2:2,15,22	kilowatts (1)
Division (1)	3:2,3	H	3:16
2:4	F		hands (1)
DNREC (3)		2:4,17 4:12	
DNREC's (1)	4:21	I	large (1)
4:21	factors (2)		identify (1)
documents (2)	6:19,23	immediate (1)	
2:23 5:12	federal (1)		3:7
done (1)	4:4	impacts (2)	lead (1)
7:14	final (2)	6:11,12	2:6
down (1)	4:10 5:2	implementing (1)	leverage (1)
7:9	First (1)	4:15	3:7
draft (5)	5:17	included (1)	lieu (1)
2:15 5:6,13 6:14,16	floor (1)	4:1	6:4
E	8:2	including (1)	location (1)
	focused (1)	5:24	7:6
economic (4)	5:5	incorporating (1)	locations (1)
	3:7,22 4:2 6:12		4:11
	electric (2)		4:23
	3:21,23		further (4)

M	more (3) 4:24 6:2 7:9	opening (1) 8:1	post (1) 7:13
make (2) 2:19 3:8	N	opportunities (1) 3:8	posted (3) 2:24 5:7 7:11
making (1) 7:18		opportunity (3) 2:14,16 8:6	power (1) 4:8
Management (1) 4:6	name (2) 2:3 7:20	options (2) 5:23 6:8	practically (1) 5:21
Maryland (3) 3:17,23 5:21	need (3) 6:19,23 7:5	Order (3) 3:2,4 6:8	prepared (1) 7:21
Maryland's (4) 3:12,21,23,24	needs (1) 5:9	organized (1) 6:17	preparing (1) 4:15
Massachusetts (1) 4:13	New (2) 4:14,14	other (2) 3:19 6:4	presentation (1) 7:24
material (1) 5:3	next (1) 5:1	outline (1) 2:7	probably (1) 4:9
materials (2) 2:21 4:19	NOYES (2) 2:1,4	overview (1) 2:8	procurement (1) 5:19
meeting (6) 2:11 4:22 5:1 7:12, 15 8:8	O	P	produced (1) 6:14
megawatt (1) 3:15			page (8) 2:18,24 4:21 5:15 6:16 7:11,14,24
megawatts (3) 3:15,16,18	off (2) 3:17,18	part (3) 3:4 4:6 7:6	project (3) 5:20 6:10 7:3
memo (2) 5:17 6:10	offer (4) 2:7,9 8:3,6	participate (1) 3:6	projects (7) 3:14,20,24 4:3 6:2, 3 7:7
memorandum (1) 5:12	offering (1) 7:19	pay (1) 3:24	proposals (2) 4:10,16
met (1) 4:18	Offshore (16) 2:2,6,12 3:3,6,10, 11,13 4:4,16,21 5:19 6:5,21 7:3,7	plans (1) 4:16	propose (1) 6:3
Mid-Atlantic (2) 6:3 7:7	one (4) 2:18 3:15 4:24 6:19	please (1) 7:19	proposes (1) 6:21
minutes (1) 2:20	only (1) 2:16	pm (1) 8:9	public (12) 2:3,10,13,19,21 3:12 4:1,23 7:13,17 8:2,7
moment (1) 7:16	onshore (1) 4:8	posed (1) 6:6	purchase (2) 6:1 7:1
month (1) 5:1	open (1) 7:16	position (1) 7:5	purpose (1)

2:11	report (1)	5:23	T
Q	5:2	sharing (1)	
questions (6) 6:7,9,13,18 7:8,9	reports (1)	5:3	there (1)
quote (1) 3:5	2:20	signed (1)	8:2
R	resources (1)	3:2	They (1)
raised (1) 8:4	6:4	solicit (2)	4:3
rate (1) 6:11	respond (1)	4:16 7:1	third (2)
reads (1) 3:4	6:20	sources (1)	2:3 4:22
recommendations (8) 2:15,17 3:9 5:6,11, 14 6:14,17	review (2)	4:20	thousand (1)
recommended (1) 5:18	2:12 6:7	speak (1)	3:16
record (1) 7:18	Rhode (1)	7:20	three (3)
refer (1) 2:23	4:14	speaking (1)	6:17 7:4,8
reference (1) 2:20	right (1)	5:21	times (1)
Region (1) 6:3	5:10	specific (1)	4:19
Rehoboth (1) 3:19	S	3:8	Tom (1)
related (1) 3:7	said (1)	specifications (1)	2:4
relating (1) 2:21	5:22	4:2	tonight (2)
remarks (1) 7:21	scale (1)	spell (1)	7:22 8:3
renewable (2) 6:4 7:2	5:24	7:20	tonight's (5)
	scheduled (2)	spur (1)	2:7,11 4:22 5:5 7:12
	4:23,24	3:21	two (3)
	Second (1)	staff (1)	3:13 5:12 6:23
	5:22	2:5	U
	Seeing (1)	started (1)	underground (1)
	8:4	7:15	4:10
	series (1)	state (3)	undersea (1)
	6:6	3:22 5:20 7:1	4:9
	serve (3)	stenographer (1)	until (1)
	2:5 3:21 6:22	7:18	6:2
	Service (2)	study (1)	up (3)
	3:13 4:1	3:5	2:17 7:16 8:1
	session (1)	subjects (1)	V
	7:18	6:10	variety (1)
	set (1)	submitted (2)	4:20
	2:17	4:11,19	
	seven (1)	summarize (1)	
	4:18	5:16	
	several (1)	supply (1)	
		7:6	

W	1		
<p>waiting (1) 6:2</p> <p>ways (1) 3:7</p> <p>web (8) 2:17,24 4:21 5:15 6:16 7:11,14,24</p> <p>Welcome (2) 2:2 7:21</p>	<p>120 (1) 3:18</p> <p>13 (1) 3:2</p> <p>15 (1) 5:13</p> <p>15th (2) 5:17 6:10</p>		
<p>Wind (18) 2:2,6,13 3:3,6,10, 11,14,14,17 4:4,17,21 5:19 6:5,21 7:3,7</p> <p>wishes (1) 8:3</p> <p>won (2) 3:14,18</p> <p>word (1) 2:18</p> <p>work (1) 2:4</p>	<p>2</p> <p>2017 (1) 5:13</p> <p>2018 (1) 5:14</p> <p>23 (1) 5:14</p> <p>23rd (1) 6:15</p> <p>248 (2) 3:15,16</p>		
<p>Working (16) 2:2,6,8,13,14,22 3:3,11 4:18,24 5:6,18, 22 6:6,15 7:15</p> <p>workshop (2) 2:3 5:5</p> <p>workshops (1) 4:23</p>	<p>6</p> <p>6:16 (1) 8:9</p>		
Y			
<p>year (1) 3:1</p> <p>York (1) 4:14</p>			