

## **Noyes, Thomas G. (DNREC)**

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**From:** Ted Spickler <spickler8@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Friday, November 03, 2017 11:37 AM  
**To:** Noyes, Thomas G. (DNREC)  
**Subject:** Public Comment to Wind Project

I support Delaware offshore wind generation despite the higher costs currently predicted for such a project. Look at the synergies that Delaware has! The University of Delaware is uniquely situated to offer national leadership in offshore wind energy generation. We can chose to overlook that expertise and wait timidly in the background for other universities and other states to lead the way or we can make a choice to get out in front. There are a host of new jobs to be had; Delaware jobs rather than expensive, imported, temporary labor. There are other offshore wind projects being discussed in states up and down the east coast that have the potential to pay Delaware experts and workers to build turbines and towers for them. Talk about economic development is easy and pours out the mouths of politicians but here is a real chance under our very noses to become a national leader in offshore wind. The published research study, "Industrializing Off Shore Wind Power" comes from the experts at our very own University of Delaware and describes a new, cheaper, and faster way to construct wind turbines on shore. The engineers even include a design for necessary port facilities located at Delaware City on the Delaware Bay! This is like having the answer to reducing our carbon footprint sitting on our laps! It's right here in river city!

Oh but then we have the scary problem of those panicked tourists fleeing in horror from the sight of sleek, space-age turbines rotating majestically on the far, distant horizon. The University of North Carolina study on that fear suggests such a problem is only significant for turbines closer than 5 miles to shore. I claim the reaction of tourists will be the opposite! Tourists travel to Europe on cruise ships and are accustomed to seeing huge numbers of wind turbines EVERYWHERE! They wonder why the United States is so far behind other countries and might eagerly flock to a Delaware beach to proudly show off to their kids and grandkids what the future looks like – a future dedicated to saving the planet from excessive and growing greenhouse gases in the atmosphere.

Of course, there are technical difficulties to be resolved. Little Delaware must do the job right! No blackouts allowed from the link between wind and grid. Where does the investment money come from? Is there the political will among voters and their elected representatives to take some chances? What can we learn from past mistakes? The risks are worth the potential benefits from becoming a national leader in off shore wind energy generation, leadership that folks from all over the country will come to see and marvel at.

*Signed,*

Dr. Ted Spickler, resident of Dagsboro, Delaware, retired physics professor from West Virginia (coal country) and retired manager of business excellence: Bayer Material Science, volunteer with Citizens Climate Lobby, member of the Climate Reality Project.