

In The Matter Of:

Department of Natural Resources & Environmental Control

In re: Delaware's Offshore Wind Working Group

*Public Workshop
November 27, 2017*

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STATE OF DELAWARE
DELAWARE DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL
RESOURCES & ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL
DIVISION OF ENERGY & CLIMATE

IN RE: DELAWARE'S OFFSHORE WIND
WORKING GROUP PUBLIC COMMENT WORKSHOP

Public Workshop taken pursuant
to notice at the Appoquinimink Training
Center, 118 South Sixth Street, Odessa,
Delaware, beginning at 6:09 p.m., on Monday,
November 27, 2017, before Gloria M. D'Amore,
Registered Professional Reporter and Notary
Public.

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APPEARANCES :

On behalf of the State of Delaware
Department of Natural Resources &
Environmental Control
LISA A. VEST, PUBLIC HEARING OFFICER

On behalf of the State of Delaware
Department of Natural Resources &
Environmental Control
THOMAS NOYES

- - - - -

1 HEARING OFFICER VEST: Good
2 evening. I want to welcome everyone.

3 Can everybody hear me? We have
4 no mics. Okay.

5 I want to welcome everyone that
6 has chosen to come out tonight. I apologize
7 for the brief delay.

8 The time is, approximately,
9 6:09 p.m. on Monday, November 27th. And
10 we're going to go ahead and begin this
11 proceeding.

12 I want to thank everybody for
13 taking their time to come out, given the busy
14 schedule of the holiday season.

15 For those of you that may not
16 recognize me, my name is Lisa Vest. And I
17 have been selected to preside over these
18 meetings.

19 In conjunction with DNREC's
20 Division of Energy and Climate, Delaware's
21 Offshore Wind Working Group is hosting Public
22 Workshops to gather input from the public
23 about the potential for offshore wind energy
24 and the ways that it might benefit the State.



1 This is the first of two such
2 workshops that are currently scheduled by the
3 Offshore Wind Working Group.

4 The next meeting will be held
5 at the Lewes Public Library next Tuesday,
6 December 5th, in Sussex County, Lewes,
7 Delaware.

8 If you have not already done
9 so, I would encourage you to please sign the
10 sign-in sheet that I believe is still in the
11 process of being circulated. And on that
12 sheet indicate whether you wish to present
13 comments at tonight's meeting.

14 Those persons wishing to offer
15 formal comment for the record being developed
16 in this matter will be given an opportunity
17 to do so, following first a briefing on the
18 current status of the Offshore Wind Working
19 Group. And after that, I believe we will
20 have representatives from both US Wind and
21 Deepwater Wind to give a presentation on
22 projects approved earlier this year, and also
23 the prospects for new offshore wind projects
24 that might provide economic opportunities and



1 energy benefits to Delaware.

2 At the conclusion of those
3 proceedings, those wishing to offer formal
4 comment will be recognized accordingly.

5 Of course, even if you don't
6 wish to speak tonight or offer comment for
7 the record, it's important that we have an
8 accurate record of attendance for tonight's
9 hearing.

10 So I would again ask that you
11 please sign in now if you have not already
12 done so. And I believe Rob and Tom can
13 accommodate wherever that sheet is to make
14 sure that everybody gets their names on it.

15 Most importantly, in an effort
16 to accommodate everyone who has a desire to
17 offer comment for the record being developed
18 in this matter, and to be fair and provide
19 equal time to everyone who wishes to speak at
20 any of the up-coming workshops to be held,
21 comments must be limited solely to the
22 subject matter at hand.

23 Additionally, each commenter is
24 asked to offer their comments for the record



1 in a precise manner as possible. To that
2 end, each commenter will be granted three
3 minutes of time in which to offer their
4 comments.

5 As a matter of protocol, there
6 will be no yielding of one's time to another
7 speaker in an attempt to accumulate more than
8 the allocated time of three minutes per
9 person.

10 If you have written comments
11 that have been prepared or additional
12 documentation that you wish to put in the
13 record, I would ask that you present the same
14 to me when you've been recognized to approach
15 the front so that the same can be entered
16 into the record being generated. You may
17 then use your three minutes of allotted time
18 to offer a brief summary of your comments for
19 the benefits of those in attendance.

20 Whether listening or speaking,
21 we ask that everyone here today be respectful
22 and considerate of all opinions regarding the
23 subject matter, even though some may, of
24 course, be different from your own.



1 I would also add that all Cell
2 phones be muted or turned off for the
3 duration of tonight's proceedings.

4 Finally, it is important to
5 note that no decision will be made today with
6 regard to any particular proposal concerning
7 wind power. Nor will there be a form of
8 question-and-answer portion of the meeting
9 tonight.

10 The purpose of tonight's
11 meeting is simply to gather public input for
12 the record.

13 If instead of formal comment
14 for the record you have come with specific
15 questions, I would ask that you reserve the
16 same until after the meeting has concluded
17 and then ask those questions directly to the
18 representative here this evening.

19 With that being said, I wish to
20 turn the floor over now to Mr. Tom Noyes who
21 will begin by offering the current briefing
22 status on behalf of the Offshore Wind Working
23 Group.

24 MR. NOYES: All right. Thank



1 you, everyone, for coming out tonight.

2 My name is Tom Noyes and
3 welcome to the first Public Comment Workshop
4 on offshore wind.

5 I work for the DNREC Division
6 of Energy and Climate. And I am serving as
7 Staff Lead to the Offshore Wind Working
8 Group.

9 I will outline tonight's agenda
10 and offer a brief overview of the Working
11 Group.

12 After my brief presentation,
13 you will hear from two companies -- we plan
14 to hear from two companies. I have to say,
15 there was a glitch and one company is not
16 here. If both companies are not here, we
17 will not hear from the companies. But
18 because they are not here, we're going to
19 proceed with public comments first.

20 The two companies, US Wind and
21 Deepwater Wind, have won approval from the
22 Maryland Public Service Commission to build
23 offshore wind projects off the coast of
24 Maryland and Delaware to serve electric



1 customers in Maryland.

2 We've asked these companies to
3 be here tonight not to offer a sales pitch,
4 but to inform the public on these projects
5 that have been approved by Maryland and are
6 moving forward.

7 Again, we'll be able to do
8 that, hopefully, if they both arrive.

9 Turning to the Working Group,
10 Governor Carney signed Executive Order 13
11 creating the Offshore Wind Working Group in
12 August of this year to, quote, Study how
13 Delaware can participate in developing
14 offshore wind, identify ways of leverage and
15 related economic opportunities and make
16 specific recommendations for engagement in
17 the development of offshore wind for
18 Delaware.

19 I would like to recognize three
20 members of the Working Group who have taken
21 their evenings to be here tonight.

22 Drew Slater, who is the
23 Delaware Public Advocate. He represents the
24 consumer in all utility rate cases in front



1 of the Public Service Commission.

2 Mr. Bob Howatt, who is the
3 Executive Director of the Public Service
4 Commission Staff. He's generally a pretty
5 busy guy.

6 Professor Jeremy Firestone at
7 the University of Delaware is also a member
8 of the Working Group.

9 The Working Group has met four
10 times so far and two more meetings are
11 scheduled.

12 Tonight's meeting is the first
13 of two scheduled Public Comment Workshops.

14 The Working Group, according to
15 the Executive Order, is going to -- is
16 supposed to deliver a report to the Governor
17 by December 15th on the following:

18 Relevant laws, regulations,
19 benefits, cost barriers and opportunities for
20 developing offshore wind to serve Delaware.

21 Recommendations for shorter-
22 and longer-term strategies for procuring
23 offshore wind to serve Delaware.

24 Recommendations for plans to



1 develop job opportunities for Delaware and
2 the offshore wind industry.

3 And a draft of any necessary
4 implementing legislation, including possible
5 amendments to the Renewable Energy Portfolio
6 Standards Act.

7 The Working Group has discussed
8 issuing a draft report on December 15th and
9 extending the comment period beyond
10 December 15th to give the public time to
11 comment on its recommendations.

12 The Working Group has also
13 discussed holding more Public Comment
14 Sessions after the draft report is published.

15 DNREC has set up a webpage to
16 compile and make public the agendas, minutes,
17 reports, analysis, reference materials and
18 public comments relating to the Working
19 Group's deliberations.

20 We encourage you to access this
21 webpage to stay informed. So if you write
22 down one thing this evening, write down
23 [de.gov/offshore wind](http://de.gov/offshorewind). You will find on this
24 page all of the meetings, links to the



1 meetings, meeting agendas, minutes, Members
2 of the Working Group, and at the bottom,
3 reference material, all public comments that
4 have been submitted, and other related links
5 that might be of use in this process.

6 I will also say that we have a
7 stenographer here tonight, and the record of
8 this meeting will be posted on this webpage.

9 In terms of public comments,
10 public comments are being accepted at Working
11 Group meetings, in writing in between
12 meetings, at Public Comment Workshops like
13 tonight. They are being posted on the
14 webpage, as I just mentioned. More public
15 comments will be schedule after a draft
16 report is released. And written comments are
17 being accepted going forward.

18 Two companies have won approval
19 from the Maryland Public Service Commission
20 to build offshore wind projects off the coast
21 of Maryland and Delaware.

22 I'm going to sit down a moment
23 so everyone can see it. There are two shapes
24 off the coast. The lower one, the blue and



1 green one is off the coast of Ocean City,
2 Maryland. A company called US Wind has won
3 approval to develop 248 megawatts of power
4 there.

5 The northern one, the brown
6 one, is off Rehoboth and Dewey and other
7 shore communities. A company called
8 Deepwater Wind has won approval from the
9 State of Maryland to build what they call the
10 Skipjack project, which is 120 megawatts of
11 power.

12 Both wind energy areas have
13 room to accommodate more development.

14 A very brief comparison.
15 Again, US Wind is the larger project at 240
16 megawatts. A megawatt is a thousand
17 kilowatts.

18 Commercial operation date,
19 2020/2022.

20 Project cost in millions of
21 dollars. \$1.3 billion. \$720 million.
22 Somehow I put commercial operation date twice
23 in there. Excuse me for being redundant.

24 Renewable energy creates, under



1 Maryland law, as well as Delaware law,
2 renewable energy credits.

3 Under Maryland law, there's
4 something -- a special kind of renewable
5 energy credit called an OREC, an Offshore
6 Wind Renewable Energy Credit.

7 These are the prices that these
8 companies will receive on an average basis
9 for their energy.

10 The net OREC cost is what they
11 expect the net costs to consumers to be per
12 megawatt hour after they sell energy and
13 capacity into the market.

14 Other companies -- you see
15 other shapes off the coast of the Atlantic
16 from North Carolina, Virginia, Maryland,
17 Delaware, New Jersey, New York,
18 Massachusetts, and there's one off of Rhode
19 Island.

20 Other companies are in the
21 process of developing proposals for offshore
22 wind in these other areas.

23 So the Maryland projects just
24 mentioned are part of a larger set of



1 projects that we anticipate will be going
2 forward on the East Coast in the coming
3 years.

4 I want to be clear that even
5 though we have invited two companies that are
6 doing business off of our coast and won
7 approval from Maryland, that including these
8 companies in the meeting tonight should not
9 be taken as an indication that the Working
10 Group or any State Agencies favors these
11 companies over others that could conceivably
12 compete to sell offshore wind power to
13 Delaware.

14 Nor should their presence here
15 tonight be taken to mean that the Working
16 Group has decided whether to even recommend
17 entering into any offshore wind contracts at
18 all.

19 I wanted to say that as clearly
20 as possible.

21 So if you hear one of the
22 companies, what sounds like a sales pitch,
23 for instance, by describing benefits without
24 mentioning costs, I encourage you to



1 interrupt their remarks accordingly.

2 Since those companies are not
3 here again, if they are both here at the end,
4 we will invite them to speak.

5 Otherwise, I'm going to
6 conclude my remarks right now.

7 We are going to open the floor
8 to comment from the public. We ask that you
9 limit your comments to three minutes to give
10 everybody here the same opportunity to speak.

11 As I said, we have a
12 stenographer making a record of the session.
13 So please speak clearly and spell your name.

14 If you have prepared remarks,
15 you're welcome to give them to us for
16 inclusion in the public record. And, of
17 course, you are welcome to provide written
18 comments after this evening or come to any
19 other meetings.

20 With that, for people who have
21 just arrived, there are sign-up sheets that
22 we are asking people to sign.

23 That concludes my prepared
24 remarks.



1 I'm now going to find the
2 sign-in sheet so we can start inviting people
3 to offer comments.

4 And for those sitting over
5 here, if you want to sneak to the front row
6 so you can see better, you are welcome to do
7 that. All right.

8 HEARING OFFICER VEST: Can we
9 get the comments going?

10 MR. NOYES: Yes.

11 HEARING OFFICER VEST: Thank
12 you, Mr. Noyes, for that brief presentation.

13 Again, I'm not going in any
14 favorite order. I'm just going in the order
15 that you all signed up.

16 When you're recognized, I would
17 ask that you spell your last name for the
18 benefit of the court reporter. We want to
19 make sure we have an accurate record.

20 This slide that's coming up now
21 is the three-minute timer. The first bar
22 will be all green. And then it will proceed
23 to the second bar, which will be yellow. And
24 then the third bar will be red. When it gets



1 to the end of the red, the three minutes is
2 up.

3 And we're not doing this to be
4 mean. We're just trying to be fair across
5 the board. We don't want anybody in the
6 Lewes workshop to have more time to offer
7 comment than those up here. So we're just
8 doing three minutes across the board.

9 Okay. With that being said,
10 the first name is Charles Falletta. I
11 apologize in advance if I massacre up your
12 name.

13 MR. CHARLES FALLETTA: Charles
14 F-A-L-L-E-T-T-A. I have a precious metal
15 company in Newark, or I mean, Newport.

16 To me, this project is a total
17 no-brainer. Offshore wind should have been
18 in Delaware some time ago when it was first
19 suggested.

20 I want a better life for my
21 children and my grandchildren. And it's not
22 going to happen unless all of us get together
23 and put in as much renewable energy as
24 possible. Okay.



1 We're lucky in Delaware, we
2 have offshore, not too much of it, but we
3 have enough.

4 I'm not sympathetic to people
5 who say they don't like to see the windmills
6 to distort their view off of Rehoboth Beach.
7 There won't be a Rehoboth Beach if we don't
8 start moving on it.

9 And if you look at other
10 countries in the world, they are way ahead of
11 us. We're way behind.

12 And with the current
13 administration, we're going to fall even
14 further behind. Because I suspect there's
15 going to be tariffs put on solar panels any
16 day now.

17 And I just want to say, I just
18 can't support a project like this enough. I
19 hope it's a big one that you propose.

20 Thank you.

21 HEARING OFFICER VEST: Matt
22 Sarver.

23 MR. MATT SARVER: Hi. I'm Matt
24 Sarver. I'm the Conservation Chair of the



1 Delmarva Ornithological Society. We
2 represent, approximately, 500 members in
3 Delaware, Pennsylvania and Maryland. And
4 we're all a volunteer organization dedicated
5 to bird conservation and study of birds.

6 We just have very brief
7 comments. There's considerable scientific
8 uncertainty about the offshore movement of
9 sea birds and migratory coastal birds in the
10 Mid-Atlantic.

11 For instance, data published
12 recently in 2015 by the Biodiversity Research
13 Institute indicates that there's significant
14 overlap of habitat use by birds of
15 conservation concern, including Northern
16 Gannets, Scoters and Redford Briloon with
17 designated wind energy areas offshore of the
18 coast of Delaware and Maryland.

19 And so DOS believes that a
20 technical committee should be created to
21 access the available scientific data and help
22 inform citing decisions with regard to
23 wildlife impacts of potential offshore wind
24 development.



1 And also the vigorous pre and
2 post construction monitoring of any offshore
3 wind projects should be required.

4 HEARING OFFICER VEST: Thank
5 you.

6 MR. FALLETTA: Are you saying
7 you're opposed to it?

8 MR. SARVER: I stated in the
9 comments that we would like to see a
10 technical committee access the potential
11 citing locations.

12 HEARING OFFICER VEST: Thank
13 you, Mr. Sarver.

14 Next Geoff Pohanka.

15 MR. GEOFF POHANKA: Before you
16 start the timer, quick question.

17 How can Maryland approve wind
18 turbines off the Delaware coast? I don't
19 quite understand that.

20 Don't start the timer yet.
21 That's an important question, I think. I
22 don't understand how that will work.

23 HEARING OFFICER VEST: Are you
24 guys ready to answer that? Is that a quick



1 question?

2 MR. NOYES: That is a quick
3 technical question. And we don't want to get
4 into question and answer, but I'll answer --

5 MR. GEOFF POHANKA: Just seems
6 strange. But if you don't want to answer --

7 MR. NOYES: No, I will. I will
8 right now, which is that these are in federal
9 waters. These are federal wind energy areas
10 established by the Federal Government.

11 MR. GEOFF POHANKA: I
12 understand that.

13 So Maryland can approve through
14 the Federal Government what's off Delaware
15 now?

16 It's kind of strange another
17 State can control our Delaware waters.

18 I'm Geoff Pohanka.
19 P-O-H-A-N-K-A. 25 Surf Side Drive, Bethany
20 Beach, Delaware.

21 How many people in the room
22 have investment properties, a business or
23 homes on the bench in Fenwick Island and
24 Rehoboth? Anyone here. No one. So, I'll



1 represent all the homeowners --

2 MS. JILL GAUMER: I just raised
3 my hand.

4 MR. POHANKA: One person.

5 So between us, I'll represent
6 all of the homeowners, all of the businesses
7 along the beach. I've been there since '79,
8 a family house. And I care a lot about the
9 beach.

10 I'm concerned about aesthetics.
11 Do you know what it would look like? It's
12 telling us, the wind turbine companies are
13 not here. They should bring the big board
14 and tell you what it will look like. You
15 know what it would look like, 200 wind
16 turbines? They're taller than the Washington
17 Monument. They say they're as big as a
18 thumbnail, so imagine 150 wind turbines as
19 big as a thumbnail looking out over the
20 coast? You think that will have an impact?
21 I think it will. It could affect property
22 values, local businesses and rental income.

23 Now, North Carolina State
24 University did a study about offshore wind



1 power to the effect on tourist economy. And
2 in their study, they found they studied
3 people that would rent the same house
4 multiple times. They said if there are wind
5 turbines visible to your rental property,
6 would you come back? And most people said
7 no, they would not. Their study found it
8 would be a negative impact on the local
9 economy.

10 Now, if you can push them far
11 enough out, you've got to push them out at
12 least 24 miles. I can show you what it looks
13 like at 12 miles. I'll hand that out.

14 US Wind -- I got this from
15 Coastal Point which is a local newspaper --
16 US Wind gave that to Maryland to tell you
17 what the wind turbines would look like
18 visible from the shore.

19 So if you don't know what they
20 look like, how can you comment on it.

21 Now, ecologically, wind
22 turbines don't replace fossil fuel because
23 the wind doesn't always blow. So you end up
24 paying for two sources of power which is more



1 expensive. It raises the cost of
2 electricity.

3 Now, the jobs created are not
4 permanent jobs. The maintenance jobs are
5 minimal. There are very few.

6 But if the cost of electricity
7 goes up, that means people have less money to
8 spend within the State and businesses are
9 less competitive because their costs go up.
10 That cost jobs. And Delaware needs jobs. We
11 are 49th out of 50 States in job creation
12 right now.

13 The wind power costs three to
14 four hundred percent more than regular power.
15 It just does. Particularly, offshore wind is
16 very expensive to build.

17 They say it will cost \$1.50 per
18 household per month. It doesn't seem like a
19 lot. Now, this is a \$2 billion dollar
20 project, which you can see have the numbers
21 there. And that means take \$1.50 by 500,000
22 households by 20 years, the project raises
23 \$180 million dollars. So, where is the
24 almost other \$2 billion dollar coming from?



1 It's coming from someplace, not just the
2 energy, the energy they produce.

3 As for the global climate, the
4 world is rapidly developing. What Delaware
5 does will have no effect on the global
6 climate, but we can affect our local economy
7 very negatively.

8 As for the rate of sea level
9 rise, it is three inches per century. Right
10 now, the rate of rise is three inches per
11 century. There is no desirable impact man is
12 having on the rate of sea level rise. Just
13 go Google it. Sea level rise. You'll see
14 for yourself.

15 HEARING OFFICER VEST: Sir,
16 your three minutes.

17 Sir, do you have any
18 documentation that you wish to enter into the
19 record?

20 MR. GEOFF POHANKA: I think the
21 main thing -- yes. I think --

22 HEARING OFFICER VEST: You can
23 feel free to do that, if you wish.

24 MR. GEOFF POHANKA: I'll say



1 this.

2 Here is the wind turbines.
3 Eight megawatt wind turbines. 728 feet tall.
4 728 feet tall. That's what they're proposing
5 off of Delaware.

6 HEARING OFFICER VEST: Thank
7 you.

8 MR. GEOFF POHANKA: Now, if you
9 look, you can see ships out there, at ten
10 nautical miles, it's about 12 statute miles.
11 You can almost still see the deck of a
12 freighter. So, that's not 700 feet. So you
13 got another 650 feet above that wind turbine
14 to be able to be visible.

15 And the main thing is whether
16 or not you like wind or you like low carbon,
17 you really have to be concerned about the
18 aesthetics and what effect that will have.
19 They say it will become a tourist attraction.
20 I fear it will be the other way. I think it
21 will really depress jobs. People will choose
22 to go to other beaches where they don't see
23 the 200 wind turbines off the coast. That's
24 my concern.



1 HEARING OFFICER VEST: Thank
2 you, sir.

3 Next up is Alex Horgan.

4 ALEX HORGAN: Alex Horgan
5 H-O-R-G-A-N.

6 We understand that there are
7 potential environmental impacts from
8 construction and operations in the Atlantic
9 Ocean.

10 Due diligence with experts on
11 these potential risks is essential,
12 particularly with endangered species. But we
13 also believe that these risks and benefits of
14 sitting offshore in the open ocean may need
15 to be better understood by comparing offshore
16 wind to other current and proposed activities
17 in the ocean.

18 More importantly, it seems that
19 we must also conduct an evaluation of what
20 might happen if the State does not deploy
21 more energy over time.

22 HEARING OFFICER VEST: Thank
23 you, Alex.

24 Eleri Phillips.



1 MS. ELERI PHILLIPS: Eleri
2 Phillips. E-L-E-R-I. P-H-I-L-L-I-P-S. And
3 I'm a freshman at St. Andrew's School in
4 Middletown.

5 Anticipated growth in Delaware,
6 especially in Sussex County, has implications
7 for energy and consumption; in that, we will
8 have twice the energy need in less than
9 35 years.

10 Our wisest plan is to protect
11 ourselves and the remaining landscape by
12 choosing a renewable, non-polluting energy
13 source like wind. Though the conventional
14 price for wind power is about the same as
15 that produced from fossil fuels, the costs
16 for renewables like wind is far less once
17 savings are appreciated. That is savings
18 from no air and water pollution, from no
19 mercury and other emitted toxics, from no
20 pollution-related health issues.

21 We are slow to appreciate the
22 value to the world's ecosystem services, of
23 which wind is a part.

24 Please do all you can do to



1 well consider our future.

2 Native Americans make decisions
3 as to how out the outcomes will affect their
4 people seventh generation hence.

5 I suggest we follow their lead;
6 this wise example, no doubt. Our
7 grandchildren will be glad we found the moral
8 courage to do what is wisest and right for
9 this and future generations.

10 This is from me and other
11 people.

12 HEARING OFFICER VEST: Thank
13 you.

14 Next up. Diana Burk.

15 MS. DIANA BURK: Diana Burk.
16 B-U-R-K. And I'm faculty at St. Andrew's
17 School.

18 There are large public health
19 benefits to deploying renewable energy like
20 offshore wind. This is documented in a
21 recently peer-reviewed study by Lawrence
22 Berkeley Laboratory in the prestigious Nature
23 Energy Journal.

24 In 2015, combined air quality



1 and climate health benefits, energy like
2 offshore wind and solar equals 14.3 cents per
3 kilowatts hours of wind in the Mid-Atlantic
4 Region.

5 We understand that there is a
6 ratepayer impact for this new technology of
7 offshore wind. But the simple comparison of
8 market costs ignores the savings of lower
9 health costs, these public health benefits.

10 So we would like the State to
11 account for these environmental health
12 impacts of pollutants. Avoid it from
13 offshore wind.

14 HEARING OFFICER VEST: Thank
15 you, Diana.

16 MR. STU WIDOM: Stu Widom.
17 S-T-U W-I-D-O-M.

18 Good evening, my name is Stu
19 Widom. I'm the Director of Governmental and
20 Regulatory Affairs for Calpine Corporation's
21 East Office, which is based in Wilmington.

22 Calpine is an independent power
23 producer with a national portfolio of 80
24 power plants in operation or under



1 construction representing, approximately,
2 26,000 megawatts of electric generating
3 capacity.

4 About 95 percent of the
5 electricity generated by Calpine's nationwide
6 fleet is from technologically advanced
7 natural gas-fired power plants.

8 Overall, Calpine utilizes more
9 than ten percent of all natural gas consumed
10 by the power industry in the United States
11 making us one of the largest consumers of
12 natural gas in the United States, and the
13 among the largest of all power generators.

14 We also have a significant
15 footprint in renewable generation business.
16 Calpine is the largest geothermal power
17 producer and the largest operator of combined
18 heat and power facilities in the United
19 States.

20 We generate power in 18 states,
21 including Delaware, and we have the ability
22 to use and utilize Calpine-owned,
23 Delaware-based, electric generating assets to
24 meet more than half of Delaware's peak summer



1 load electric demand.

2 We are not a regulated utility
3 receiving a guaranteed rate of return.

4 Rather, we compete against other generators
5 to sell wholesale power into the PJM market
6 or the electric grid.

7 Despite our size, Calpine's
8 fleet is the cleanest among the major players
9 in America's independent power producer
10 sector. The economics of supply and demand
11 are fundamental to our business.

12 Calpine does not believe that
13 the Working Group should advocate for any
14 form of public financial subsidies in pursuit
15 of the development and implementation of
16 Offshore Wind for Delawareans.

17 These would include ratepayer
18 guaranteed Power Purchase Agreements or any
19 financial subsidies offered by the State.

20 Rather, we believe that
21 offshore wind technology should be able to
22 continue to advance and compete on its own
23 merits with any project development,
24 technology, financing or construction risks



1 being borne by the project developers and not
2 by the public.

3 While the development of
4 offshore wind policy goals for Delaware may
5 be well attended, they nevertheless can have
6 a significant, negative impact on the
7 wholesale electricity markets, on the retail
8 market, and, ultimately, the cost that
9 Delaware consumers will pay.

10 In summary, Calpine believes
11 that the Working Group should not advocate
12 for any financial subsidies utilizing public
13 resources.

14 We believe that competition
15 yields the best results and relying upon the
16 free market ultimately creates more value and
17 better outcomes for all.

18 Thank you.

19 HEARING OFFICER VEST: Thank
20 you. Next on the list, Andrew Slater, you
21 put a maybe.

22 MR. ANDREW SLATER: No.

23 HEARING OFFICER VEST: John
24 Nichols.



1 MR. JOHN NICHOLS: Hi, my name
2 is John Nichols. N-I-C-H-O-L-S. I'm a
3 resident of Middletown, Delaware.

4 I'm an advocate for reliable
5 energy. I oppose this proposition, and I'll
6 tell you why.

7 I would also urge you to go to
8 the website for the Working Group. I've
9 attended all of the meetings that have been
10 conducted. I offered the Governor my
11 services to sit on the Committee, and I was
12 rejected. And he knew what I would tell you
13 tonight. Hopefully, we will have other
14 public meetings that will go into more detail
15 as to why they shouldn't be pursued.

16 My major objection is costs.
17 The EIA, the Energy Information Agency, says
18 that it is \$155 dollars a megawatt hour to
19 generate offshore wind.

20 That same study puts combined
21 cycle natural gas that is generated by
22 Calpine about \$55 dollars a megawatt hour.

23 It's too expensive. The
24 natural gas generator is going to be



1 available, approximately, 90 percent of the
2 time. The offshore wind generator is going
3 to be available, according to the University
4 of Delaware data at the Experimental turbine,
5 29 percent of the time. It won't be any
6 better offshore. 29 percent of the time,
7 Professor Firestone. That data also is at
8 the website. You can go and look at my
9 comments about that.

10 You do not create jobs by
11 driving up the cost of electricity. You
12 destroy them. Any temporary jobs that are
13 created are going to be more than offset by
14 real job losses in the economy. Businesses
15 will leave.

16 And let me say one other thing.
17 One of the proposals currently before the
18 Working Group is that large industrial
19 companies be exempted. Large industrial
20 companies are defined as those companies that
21 use more than 1,500 kilowatts of electricity
22 during peak demand hours.

23 Now, if it was such a great
24 idea, don't you think that these large



1 industrial customers would be clambering to
2 get on board instead of asking for an
3 exemption? Wouldn't it be great for their PR
4 to say, Look at the green energy. No,
5 they're not doing that.

6 What they're specifically
7 saying at the meetings that I have attended,
8 and it has been all of them, is no more.

9 We can't afford to subsidize
10 any more Bloom dollars. That's just what is
11 happening. Bloom is \$166.67. That is the
12 subsidy. Here we are talking about \$135,
13 approximately.

14 It's insanity. 55, 135,
15 29 percent capacity versus 80 percent
16 capacity.

17 And let me tell you this, to
18 you young people. You're ignorant. You
19 don't understand how the grid operates, with
20 all due respect. Learn how electricity is
21 dispatched.

22 Understand this. Wind does not
23 add to capacity. It does not give you the
24 ability to meet more demand. It does



1 nothing. All it does is temporarily -- put
2 this word into your head -- displaces
3 reliable generation. Temporarily displace.

4 As Mr. Pohanka said, I
5 apologize if I mispronounced your name, Mr.
6 Pohanka says, it displaces temporarily, it
7 replaces nothing, which means society for a
8 given megawatt of generation required has to
9 pay twice, once for the wind and again for
10 the reliable generation generally in the form
11 of coal, nuclear and natural gas.

12 Thank you very much. I hope we
13 have another meeting, and we can discuss this
14 more thoroughly. Please go to the website
15 and look at my public comments and the
16 literature I have already submitted.

17 HEARING OFFICER VEST: Thank
18 you, Mr. Nichols.

19 JoAnn Umbel, there's a question
20 mark.

21 MS. JOANN UMBEL: No comment.

22 HEARING OFFICER VEST: Mr.
23 Noyes, is there any additional sign-in
24 sheets? Because I've gone through all of



1 them...

2 MR. NOYES: Are there other
3 sheets?

4 HEARING OFFICER VEST: I have
5 gone through all of them. There are two
6 maybes.

7 Bill Dunn.

8 MR. BILL DUNN: Bill Dunn.

9 D-U-N-N.

10 My comments are based on what
11 little information we got front end of this
12 thing. Under other experiences I've had with
13 many civic organizations and other things I
14 have been involved with, workshops being run
15 by WILMAPCO or DelDOT or other State Agencies
16 is an interactive process where we can
17 discuss things, ask questions, get more
18 details.

19 What we got on the front of
20 this is nothing more than a predefined
21 statement, which gives us very little detail.

22 I showed up to attend an
23 interactive workshop which is typical of
24 State and Federal presentations. So I'm very



1 disappointed in that. There are a lot of
2 things that I would like to see in more
3 detail specifically. It was implied that the
4 two Maryland people that are under the
5 contract potentially might be bidders on the
6 Delaware project.

7 I can't have that interaction
8 with that kind of information presented to me
9 or the names of those companies because they
10 have not been provided.

11 Who else might be in the field
12 that is also participating up and down the
13 East Coast in other projects which would be
14 inclined to look at Delaware's options along
15 with the ones that they're already involved
16 with.

17 There's very little information
18 that's being presented here. A workshop is
19 an interactive exchange with the Department
20 that is overseeing this. I find this meeting
21 very disappointing.

22 Tom, please take it back to the
23 people you report through and see if we can
24 get a much better workshop so that we can



1 participate in the process and get a better
2 understanding.

3 Thank you.

4 HEARING OFFICER VEST: Thank
5 you.

6 Jill Gaumer.

7 MS. JILL GAUMER: Jill Gaumer.
8 G-A-U-M-E-R.

9 I didn't really intend to say
10 anything here. But as the other person who
11 is a property owner in Downstate Delaware,
12 and I hear the concern about the visuals that
13 people see and the lack of rental, I share
14 with you that I have the privilege to travel
15 throughout the world. And I was recently off
16 the coast, sailing off the coast of Croatia,
17 which is the Dalmatian Coast, which is called
18 the most beautiful coast in the whole entire
19 world.

20 And there are windmills along
21 the ridges there which are not the least bit
22 disturbing to people. They are part of the
23 scenery and they are part of their economy.
24 And I hope that Delaware will become a leader



1 in wind energy, and I see people shaking
2 their heads. And I say, I'm not going to be
3 around to give this house at the beach to my
4 children. You guys are. And if we don't
5 have clean energy, nobody is going to be
6 happy.

7 Thank you.

8 HEARING OFFICER VEST: At this
9 point, I have gone through all of the sheets.

10 I will turn it back over to Tom
11 if we're going to hear from the companies.

12 MS. ANNE KIRBY: We never
13 actually got the sign-in sheet down this row.

14 HEARING OFFICER VEST: I'm glad
15 you spoke up.

16 MS. ANNE KIRBY: My name is
17 Anne Kirby. A-N-N-E K-I-R-B-Y.

18 And I didn't prepare any
19 comments. But as other people talked, I just
20 have some thoughts that I would like to
21 share.

22 You know, as far as negative
23 impacts on the environment, there's no
24 question. Everything that we do is going to



1 have a negative impact on our environment.

2 The act of our existence here on this Earth,
3 if we're alive, is going to be negative.

4 All sources of energy are going
5 to have some level. So we have to trade off
6 what is important, where the least negative
7 impacts are.

8 As far as economics --
9 economics, I don't know, Tom, have you talked
10 about the economics? We can look at other
11 countries have done. We can look at what
12 other projects in the works in our country.
13 Right now, I know the economics, they can and
14 do make sense.

15 Right now, in our State,
16 natural gas has our electricity prices really
17 unsustainably low. The price of natural gas
18 is going to rise. And so, when we're looking
19 at the economics right now, by the time we
20 get a wind project in place and it was in
21 existence for 20, 25 years in that time
22 frame, we're going to see our electric prices
23 rise if we continue to keep natural gas as
24 part of our primary mix.



1 And jobs, we will see jobs.
2 They're not jobs like coal miner's jobs.
3 They're skilled jobs, skilled laborer jobs
4 that we will see, engineers, construction
5 workers. All of those jobs we will see with
6 any wind development project.

7 And as far as aesthetics, I do
8 think that really is in the eye of the
9 beholder. The photograph that was shared --
10 I did not catch your name -- I looked at that
11 and I think that that's lovely and beautiful
12 and I welcome it being there.

13 And I do not currently own a
14 property at the beach. I had for many years.
15 I spent a lot of time at the beach, on the
16 beach. Nothing would make me happier than to
17 look off the shore and see renewable energy
18 operating.

19 I think that any -- I don't
20 know how much time I have left --

21 HEARING OFFICER VEST: 20
22 seconds.

23 MS. ANNE KIRBY: It's just
24 cognitive distance to think that people are



1 not going to go to the beach because there's
2 wind turbines off the beach.

3 And I can say one other thing.
4 If anybody wants to see something that is
5 aesthetically unpleasing, watch loved ones
6 and family members die from lung cancer and
7 other cancers. That's about as ugly as it
8 gets. It stops there.

9 HEARING OFFICER VEST: Thank
10 you, Ms. Kirby.

11 Working down that row, is there
12 anybody traveling in that direction that
13 wishes to speak?

14 MS. STEPHANIE HERRON:
15 Stephanie Herron. H-E-R-R-O-N. I'm with the
16 Delaware Chapter of the Sierra Club. And
17 we'll submit longer comments online. I don't
18 want to take a whole lot of time.

19 But I do just want to say that
20 the Delaware Chapter of the Sierra Club
21 strongly supports the idea of offshore wind,
22 obviously, for all of the reasons we've heard
23 for our health, for our climate, for our
24 environment and for our future because the



1 levelized costs of renewable energy is
2 actually very much closer to the cost of
3 fossil fuels today than some folks like to
4 have us believe. And, of course, we know
5 that the cost of fossil fuels is going to
6 rise over time. Those are finite resources
7 that will be diminished.

8 And we also do agree, though,
9 with our friends at DOS and other
10 organizations that, of course, offshore wind
11 turbines do need to be appropriately cited.

12 HEARING OFFICER VEST: Thank
13 you, Ms. Herron.

14 Anyone else?

15 MS. BECKY BRILL: Becky Brill.
16 B-R-I-L-L.

17 I just want to commend the
18 young people for coming and speaking. I
19 think that you probably have done your study
20 looking at what the vast majority of the
21 scientific community has been saying for many
22 years. I just want to thank you for coming
23 out and speaking out.

24 HEARING OFFICER VEST: Thank



1 you, ma'am.

2 Anyone else in the back row?

3 All right. Thank you.

4 Anyone else in general?

5 Anybody else we skipped over or at the time
6 said no, but upon further reflection or
7 thoughts, wish to comment.

8 MR. NOYES: We should recognize
9 Secretary Shawn Garvin of DNREC, who has just
10 joined us. Secretary Garvin is also a Member
11 of the Offshore Wind Working Group.

12 As we mentioned at the
13 beginning, our agenda has been scrambled
14 somewhat.

15 But we now have representatives
16 of two companies here today as we planned.
17 So we apologize for the scrambling of the
18 agenda, but we have asked, as I said at the
19 beginning, representatives of US Wind and
20 Deepwater Wind to give two short
21 presentations about what they are doing as
22 already approved by Maryland.

23 So since Mr. Paul Rich of US
24 Wind was the latecomer, shall we say, the



1 last shall be first. And if you give us a
2 moment, we will load your presentation.

3 We have given both companies a
4 short amount of time to give basic
5 presentation. We have asked them not to make
6 this a sales pitch, again, with the caveat,
7 that the Working Group has yet to make
8 decisions on whether to move ahead with
9 procuring offshore wind, let alone what
10 companies, either these two companies, or as
11 somebody mentioned, any other companies up
12 and down the East Coast, whether we should do
13 business with any of them.

14 With that caveat in mind, I'll
15 man this, and, Paul, you can tell me when to
16 click the button.

17 MR. PAUL RICH: Well, good
18 evening and thank you for allowing me to
19 speak to you all. I will stick around after
20 the presentation and after the meeting is
21 over if you have other questions you want to
22 ask me directly. But thanks again for
23 letting me come here.

24 And I think as Tom talked



1 about, this won't be a two-horse race if it
2 were to go forward. There are many companies
3 who are interested in participating in this
4 offshore wind renewable energy market. And
5 there are some up in the Southern New Jersey
6 offshore areas that might participate in
7 this. And the Federal Government is also
8 looking to lease additional areas off of the
9 Atlantic Coast, which may also play into this
10 market. But who knows?

11 But what I can do is tell you
12 what we're doing up in Maryland. I'm a
13 15-year Veteran of the renewable energy
14 sector. Many of my projects were submarine
15 transmission cable projects in the New York
16 City region.

17 And before joining this
18 organization, US Wind, I was Project
19 Development Director for the Block Island
20 Windfarm off of Rhode Island, which was
21 organized by Deepwater Wind. So that is my
22 background.

23 So as we know, and you saw from
24 that previous slide, that's our lease area



1 off of the coast of Maryland. It's 80,000
2 acres. It starts at about ten miles off the
3 coast of Maryland and extends out to about
4 24. It's shaped in sort of a triangle
5 because the eastern edge is on the traffic
6 separation scheme for the shipping traffic
7 going into the Delaware River. And so we
8 can't build into that, obviously.

9 It's about 21 miles from
10 Bethany Beach to the nearest turbine on our
11 offshore wind farm layout.

12 Next slide. That's the turbine
13 configuration for our scheme.

14 Next slide. That's really hard
15 to see and it's unfair. I'm sorry. But
16 that's what it looks like for the turbine
17 renderings from the pier in Ocean City,
18 Maryland at 32 turbines at 17 miles using an
19 8.4 megawatts turbine, which stands at about,
20 I have to look at my notes here, I always
21 forget, and the sail of the generator height
22 is about 370 feet in the air. That's the
23 most obvious thing you're going to see as you
24 look at these.



1 But, again, this is just to
2 give you an idea.

3 Next slide. So to get into
4 costs, and this is unlike the Bloom Energy
5 Project, we don't generate any taxpayer or
6 ratepayer impacts until we actually are
7 producing electricity. So there is no cost
8 to anyone until we deliver, until we produce
9 on our contract.

10 The costs down in Maryland for
11 the OREC, which was awarded by the Public
12 Service Commission, and after six years of
13 stakeholder engagement, legislation, debate,
14 public hearings and the like, produced an
15 approval for 368 megawatts in total. A
16 levelized price of \$131 dollars and however
17 many cents for 20 years.

18 So unlike the other fuel
19 products that provide generation, this is on
20 a fixed contract. This is a construction
21 project which is then paid off over 20 years.
22 That's how you can think about it. It is one
23 way to think about it anyway.

24 And we don't disparage other



1 fuel sources either. We need a balanced
2 portfolio mix to have a strong generation
3 portfolio.

4 The legislation in Maryland was
5 to have ratepayer impacts be at \$1.40 a month
6 or less for ratepayers, and for us, that's 94
7 cents a month. And to not impact industrial
8 users by more than 1.4 percent, which we came
9 in, I think, around 95 percent of an increase
10 on an annual basis to their electrical bill.

11 So those are the costs to
12 ratepayers and impacts to commercial users.

13 Next, please. Next. So we're
14 using a foundation design which I thought
15 some might be interested in. It is in the
16 middle there. It is standard four-legged
17 jacket.

18 Next. That's a depiction of
19 this turbine at 8.4 megawatts. As I talked
20 about, the total height of the turbine
21 because of the size of the blades is much
22 higher. It's around -- it's not up there --
23 it should be about 643 feet. And as you see,
24 the weights are incredible. So these are



1 large construction projects.

2 Next. That's me. So any
3 questions, we're headquartered out of
4 Baltimore, Maryland.

5 Again, I'm available after this
6 presentation or any time in the future. Feel
7 free to reach out to me.

8 Thank you. Thank you for this
9 opportunity.

10 HEARING OFFICER VEST: Thank
11 you, Mr. Rich.

12 Deepwater Wind.

13 MR. JAMIL KHAN: Good evening,
14 everyone. My name is Jamil Khan. I am a
15 Development Manager with Deepwater Wind.

16 I am just going to read from my
17 presentation. This one is on the screen as
18 well.

19 Thank you to the Working Group
20 Members for the opportunity to speak here
21 tonight.

22 Thank you to the Working Group
23 Chair.

24 Thank you to everyone for



1 coming. I know the Ravens are playing
2 tonight.

3 So, anyway, let's just get
4 started.

5 Next slide, please. For those
6 that don't know, Deepwater Wind is the
7 developer for America's first offshore wind
8 farm as my colleague mentioned.

9 Deepwater also owns three
10 federal leases off of the Atlantic Coast with
11 potential up to 2,000 megawatts of capacity.

12 Next slide. So just a little
13 bit about the Block Island Wind Farm, which
14 is currently under operation. If anyone
15 would like to, you can actually visit and see
16 what the project looks like as a physical
17 reality, not just a rendering.

18 It's five turbines. It powers
19 about 17,000 homes. Provided about 300 or so
20 construction jobs and is the first in the
21 nation to actually be operational.

22 Next slide, please. A little
23 bit about our SkipJack Wind Farm. It's about
24 120-megawatt windfarm located, approximately,



1 18 miles off of the Delmarva Peninsula.

2 We were awarded the OREC
3 contract from the Maryland Public Service
4 Commission in a competitive process. And we
5 are on schedule to commence operations in
6 about 2023.

7 You might not be able to see it
8 clearly from here, but we tried to draw out
9 distance in 10, 15 and 20-mile increments
10 where you can see the closest wind turbine
11 for our project is, approximately, 18 miles.
12 Approximately, 18 miles off the Peninsula.

13 Next slide, please. I
14 apologize. You might not be able to see this
15 clearly as well. This is our rendering what
16 the project may look like from -- this is
17 Ocean City. So about, approximately,
18 20 miles from Ocean City as you can see.
19 Very little visual impact just due to the
20 distance from land.

21 Next slide, please. This is
22 another rendering from the perspective of
23 Bethany Beach. Again, a little bit closer
24 than Ocean City. You can see the minimal



1 visual impact there as well.

2 Next slide, please. So this is
3 a little bit of the timeline for the Skipjack
4 Wind Farm.

5 In May, we were awarded the
6 OREC contract from the Maryland Public
7 Service Commission.

8 We are currently and we'll be
9 launching additional stakeholders outreach
10 from now going throughout the project
11 timeline.

12 We will not apply for permits
13 until, approximately, next summer. Possibly
14 in June. And then we expect, if all goes
15 well, that permanent approvals would return
16 in two years later in June of 2020. And then
17 to begin construction February 2021.

18 And finally, commercial
19 operation in November of 2022, before our
20 deadline of operation 2023.

21 Next slide, please. And this
22 is just some of the benefits of our project.

23 Obviously, reduced emissions
24 because the energy is renewable. 120



1 megawatts will provide clean energy to the
2 Delmarva transition system, which will reduce
3 emission from local fossil power plants.

4 We'll provide lower wholesale
5 prices. Doing so will reduce the electric
6 congestion and result in lower prices for the
7 Delmarva service area.

8 And then as demand for clean
9 energy grows, the Skipjack Windfarm can be
10 cost effectively expanded to meet the needs
11 of the regional coastal communities.

12 And that's the end of my
13 presentation.

14 Next slide. That is just my
15 contact information, if anyone would like to
16 reach out. I will also be here after the
17 meeting for anyone who would like to discuss
18 anything.

19 HEARING OFFICER VEST: Thank
20 you, Mr. Khan.

21 Mr. Noyes, the floor is yours
22 still.

23 MR. TOM NOYES: Again, thank
24 you all for being here. This is not the



1 first and not the last opportunity for public
2 comment.

3 As I said at the beginning of
4 our session, public comments are being
5 accepted at all working group meetings. We
6 have one other Public Comment Workshop
7 scheduled.

8 Public comments are being
9 accepted in writing at any time. You can do
10 that by E-mailing me. My E-mail address is
11 at this website. Again, de.gov/offshorewind.

12 Everything presented here
13 tonight, including the transcript of the
14 sessions, will be posted on this website.

15 So thank you, all, for coming
16 out tonight. You are, of course, welcome to
17 offer comments again going forward.

18 HEARING OFFICER VEST: Thank
19 you, Mr. Noyes. Thank you, everybody, once
20 again, for taking the time to come out.

21 I encourage everyone to speak
22 to the Gentlemen that offered their
23 presentations tonight.

24 This is formally adjourned.



1 (The Public Workshop was
2 concluded at, approximately, 7:15 p.m.)
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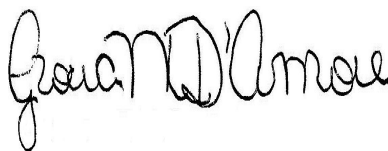
1 State of Delaware:

2 New Castle County:

3
4 CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER

5
6 I, Gloria M. D'Amore, Registered
7 Professional Reporter and Notary Public, do
8 hereby certify that the foregoing record,
9 Pages 1 to 60 inclusive, is a true and
10 accurate transcript of my stenographic notes
11 taken on Monday, November 27, 2017, in the
12 above-captioned matter.

13 IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set
14 my hand and seal this 29th day of November,
15 2017, at Wilmington, Delaware.

16
17
18 
19 _____

20 GLORIA M. D'AMORE, RPR

21
22
23
24



\$	11:20 20:21 21:10 accommodate (3)	32:6 Advocate (4)	ahead (3) 3:10 19:10 48:8
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