

**In The Matter Of:**

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

---

*Public Comment Workshop  
May 31, 2018*

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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

.. . . . .

South Coastal Library  
43 Kent Avenue  
Bethany Beach, Delaware 19930

Thursday, May 31, 2018  
6:00 p.m.

.. . . . .

BEFORE: Thomas Noyes, DNREC

-- Transcript of Proceedings --

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1 MR. NOYES: Good evening. Thank you  
2 for being here. Welcome to the Offshore Wind  
3 Working Group's fourth and final public comment  
4 workshop.

5 My name is Tom Noyes. I work for the  
6 DNREC Division of Coastal, Climate, and Energy. And  
7 I am serving as the staff lead for the Governor's  
8 Offshore Wind Working Group.

9 I will outline tonight's agenda and  
10 offer a brief overview of the working group's  
11 progress before we proceed to public comments.

12 Before I get started, though, I want  
13 to recognize a few members of the working group. We  
14 have Drew Slater, who is the Public Advocate,  
15 representing the public in front of the Public  
16 Service Commission on utility rate cases.

17 We have Representative Ronald Gray,  
18 who has got, I think, a perfect attendance record.  
19 (Laughter) or close enough, at least.

20 Matt Hartigan, who is Deputy Director  
21 of the Public Service Commission staff.

22 And Professor Jeremy Firestone of the  
23 University of Delaware.

24 The purpose of tonight's session is



1 to review the progress of the Offshore Wind Working  
2 Group and to give the public the opportunity to  
3 comment on the Working Group's draft  
4 recommendations, hence the rather simple agenda for  
5 this evening.

6 Let me push the right button. DNREC  
7 has set up a web page. You can get there at  
8 de.gov/offshorewind to compile and make public the  
9 agendas, minutes, reports, analysis, reference  
10 materials, and public comments relating to the  
11 Working Group's deliberations.

12 All of the documents I will refer to  
13 in my comments tonight are available on this web  
14 page, as well as contact information for me so you  
15 can ask me follow-up questions after tonight's  
16 evening -- after tonight's session.

17 Last year Governor Carney signed  
18 Executive Order 13 creating the Offshore Wind  
19 Working Group with the purpose, quote, to study how  
20 Delaware can participate and develop an offshore  
21 wind, identify ways to leverage the related economic  
22 opportunities, and to make specific recommendations  
23 for engaging in the development of offshore wind for  
24 Delaware.



1                   This was done after Maryland, the  
2 Maryland Public Service Commission, approved two  
3 offshore wind projects. U.S. Wind won approval to  
4 build 248 megawatts -- and a megawatt is 1,000  
5 kilowatts -- won approval to build 248 megawatts  
6 basically off the coast of Ocean City.

7                   Deepwater Wind won approval to build  
8 what it calls the Skipjack Project of 120 megawatts  
9 off of Delaware's beaches.

10                  The projects are being built to serve  
11 Maryland's electric customers and to spur economic  
12 development in Maryland. Maryland's electric  
13 customers will pay for the projects. And Maryland's  
14 Public Service Commission included specifications  
15 for economic development in approving the projects.  
16 They are being built -- (cell phone ringing) I'm  
17 sorry. That's me. It's always the person leading  
18 the meeting that gets embarrassed by that.

19                  MS. FEICHTL: Not always! (Laughter)

20                  MR. NOYES: Not always, but this  
21 time.

22                  Picking up where I left off, these  
23 two projects are being built in federal offshore  
24 wind energy areas established by the Bureau of Ocean



1 Energy Management, which is part of the U.S.  
2 Department of the Interior.

3 The companies are considering  
4 bringing the power on shore in Delaware, most likely  
5 through undersea and underground cables, though  
6 final proposals for the cable locations have not  
7 been submitted to DNREC. These will be permits.

8 I would also add that Massachusetts,  
9 Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, and New Jersey  
10 are also preparing or implementing plans to solicit  
11 proposals to build offshore wind.

12 The Offshore Wind Working Group has  
13 met seven times and considered material submitted by  
14 a variety of sources, all of which is found on  
15 DNREC's Offshore Wind web page.

16 The Working Group will meet again  
17 June 22nd to consider a final report to the Governor  
18 based on the material we are sharing with you this  
19 evening.

20 Tonight's workshop is focused on the  
21 draft recommendations of the working group. The  
22 recommendations are found in a memorandum to the  
23 Governor dated December 15, 2017 -- that's the  
24 one-page document that we passed around -- and draft



1 recommendations dated April 23, 2018. That's the  
2 five-page document that we circulated.

3 Again, both are found on the web  
4 page.

5 Starting with the December 15th memo  
6 to the Governor, the memo starts with the first  
7 recommendation.

8 The Working Group recommended no  
9 immediate procurement of offshore wind from a  
10 project already approved by another state.  
11 Practically speaking, this means the State of  
12 Maryland.

13 Second, the Working Group said that  
14 several options deserve further consideration,  
15 including a large-scale purchase, incremental  
16 commitments to future projects, waiting until more  
17 developers propose projects in the Mid-Atlantic  
18 region, and evaluating other renewable resources in  
19 lieu of offshore wind.

20 The Working Group posed a series of  
21 questions for further review and analysis in order  
22 to consider these options.

23 These questions, as detailed in the  
24 December 15 memo, cover subjects like project cost,



1 rate impacts, cost allocation, environmental  
2 impacts, and economic costs and potential benefits.

3 These questions were further refined  
4 in the draft recommendations developed by the  
5 Working Group at its meeting on April 23rd, and are  
6 available, again, on our web page.

7 The draft recommendations are  
8 organized around three key questions: First, what  
9 factors need to be considered before Delaware can  
10 respond when a company proposes to develop offshore  
11 wind to serve Delaware?

12 Second, what factors need to be  
13 considered in a decision as to whether the state  
14 would solicit or purchase energy, capacity, or  
15 renewable energy credits from an offshore wind  
16 project?

17 And third, what would Delaware need  
18 to do to position itself to become the location for  
19 part of the supply chain for offshore wind projects  
20 in the Mid-Atlantic.

21 These questions, as you can see, are  
22 broken down into more detailed questions for further  
23 analysis. Again, all posted on our web page.

24 After tonight's meeting, we will



1 continue to accept public comments and post them on  
2 the web page, as we have done since the working  
3 group began meeting.

4           Again, all public comments that we  
5 have received are posted on our web page, either as  
6 part of the transcripts that we have taken at these  
7 meetings, records of public comments made through  
8 the minutes at meetings of the Working Group, or in  
9 the terms of written comments submitted to the  
10 Working Group.

11           And if you have written comments, you  
12 can submit them tonight or submit them to me by  
13 e-mail after tonight's meeting.

14           In a moment we will open the floor to  
15 comments from the public. We ask that you limit  
16 your comments to five minutes, if possible, to give  
17 everybody the same opportunity to speak.

18           Again, we have a stenographer making  
19 a record of this session, so we ask if you could  
20 come up to the front of the room, speak clearly, and  
21 spell your name when offering comments.

22           Are there any questions about how the  
23 meeting is going to run tonight before we turn it  
24 over to public comments? Thank you.



1                   If you have not signed up and  
2 indicated yes on one of these sign-up sheets, you  
3 can raise your hand when people who have signed up  
4 have done so.

5                   There are a couple of other  
6 clipboards circulating. They are on the side here.  
7 So turning to the first clipboard -- and excuse me  
8 if I don't do a good job of reading your  
9 handwriting. I have a Deborah R.

10                  MS. RAYNER: Rayner, R-A-Y-N-E-R.

11                  MR. NOYES: Okay. Deborah Rayner.

12                  MS. RAYNER: It's probably moot that  
13 I am up here. But I'm from Maryland, and I have  
14 started the petition to move our windmills kind of  
15 six miles out because of the whole --

16                  MR. ZAK: Can you speak up, please?

17                  MS. RAYNER: It's been a nightmare  
18 trying to get U.S. Wind to move the wind turbines  
19 out of sight. So I'm just up here as a cautionary,  
20 please watch what you are doing, and do your  
21 homework.

22                  And it certainly looks like you guys  
23 are doing a good job. I commend you. You have done  
24 all your homework.



1                   But please look at the environment  
2 and what the turbines are actually doing.

3                   MR. ZAK:    Could you mention where,  
4 how far out they are presently proposed?

5                   MS. RAYNER:  Yes.  There is three  
6 phases that, starting with the third phase,  
7 30 miles, I think.  And phase three comes all the  
8 way up to 11 nautical miles.  So they will be  
9 visible in all three phases.

10                  MRS. ZAK:  Isn't it 17?

11                  MS. RAYNER:  I think it's 17.  I'm  
12 sorry.

13                  MR. ZAK:  Is it 17?

14                  MS. RAYNER:  Yeah.  We want them at  
15 30 or 26.

16                  MR. ZAK:  One more question.  When my  
17 wife and I were, you know, involved in the initial  
18 talks about wind farms out at sea, the figures that  
19 we heard at the time were that at 12 miles the  
20 turbines would look like toothpicks on the horizon.  
21 That's at 12 miles.  You are saying that even at  
22 30 miles they would be visible?

23                  MS. RAYNER:  At that point when they  
24 were saying that --



1 MR. ZAK: Yeah.

2 MS. RAYNER: -- in the early process

3 --

4 MR. ZAK: Uh-huh.

5 MS. RAYNER: -- and that was years  
6 ago, and they were 350 feet with the blades.

7 MR. ZAK: Oh, I see.

8 MS. RAYNER: And now they are  
9 650 feet, which are 65 stories high. So the  
10 progress has made them taller.

11 MR. ZAK: Right, going up. So what  
12 do they look like at 12 miles?

13 MS. RAYNER: At 12 miles --

14 MR. ZAK: What would be visible at  
15 12 miles?

16 MS. RAYNER: You will see some.

17 MRS. ZAK: He is going to give a  
18 picture.

19 MS. RAYNER: You will see that. And  
20 then there are pictures at Offshore Wind (inaudible)  
21 dot com.

22 MR. NOYES: May I respectfully  
23 suggest that we not do a lot of back and forth. We  
24 will give everybody here time to say their piece.



1 THE REPORTER: Sir, could you just  
2 say your name so I don't have to put unidentified  
3 speaker?

4 MR. ZAK: Oh, sure. Bill Zak, Z-A-K.

5 THE REPORTER: Thank you.

6 MS. RAYNER: Thank you so much.

7 MR. NOYES: Thank you for coming.

8 MS. RAYNER: It looks like you are  
9 doing a great job.

10 MR. NOYES: Thank you. Now,  
11 continuing, we have Jeff Pohanka.

12 MR. POHANKA: You know, there is not  
13 a lot of people who are representing everybody at  
14 the beach. And either they don't know about it  
15 or --

16 MR. NOYES: Give your name, please.

17 MR. POHANKA: Jeff Pohanka. Last  
18 name is P-O-H-A-N-K-A. And we have a family house  
19 in Gull's Nest since the late seventies.

20 Our entire neighborhood is 60  
21 homeowners, and no one knew anything about it.  
22 Because a lot of people live someplace else, and  
23 this is their weekend place and stuff like that. So  
24 they are not really aware of what's happening.



1                   Basically, there are two lease zones.  
2 Even though you are in Delaware, you should be  
3 concerned about both, because they are equal  
4 distance to Bethany, about 12 miles.

5                   And when these were designed, wind  
6 turbines were a lot smaller than they are today.  
7 Those are the ones they are proposing.

8                   And decisions are being made for  
9 you -- and, you know, the beach is important to you.  
10 You are here for a reason. You like the beach -- in  
11 Dover, Annapolis, Washington, and Italy. U.S. Wind  
12 is entirely owned by an Italian manufacturer.

13                   The two lease areas, they are about  
14 12 and a half miles from Bethany, both of these.

15                   When they designed these lease areas,  
16 wind turbines were much smaller than they are today.  
17 They are getting bigger and bigger because they are  
18 more efficient the bigger they get. The bigger they  
19 get, the more visible they are. And there is really  
20 a derth of information about these, a lot of  
21 misinformation. If you really peel back the onion  
22 and get the real facts, it should be surprising to  
23 people.

24                   The wind turbines now being proposed



1 at Deepwater are over 700 feet tall, 8 megawatts,  
2 taller than the Washington Monument. And U.S. Wind,  
3 some in Europe are a thousand feet tall, are really  
4 massive, these turbines.

5 There is absolutely no consideration  
6 given to economic impact to beach economy. When you  
7 come to the beach, you like the beach view. You  
8 like, you know, you like what's there.

9 Do you want to see a sea of turbines  
10 out there? And you will see them. And I will tell  
11 you why. But you will also see them at night,  
12 because there are a lot of flashing red lights for  
13 planes, flashing lights for navigation. There is a  
14 lot of shipping out there. So your evening view  
15 will be changed, too.

16 U.S. Wind is trying to do 64  
17 turbines. They can do up to 200 in this area. I  
18 think there are 14 at Deepwater. But you can  
19 probably do another 150 or more at this area once  
20 they get going.

21 How visible will they be? Well, the  
22 National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration has a  
23 formula. There is an earth curvature. Right? A  
24 700-foot wind turbine at 12 miles, 655 feet, would



1 be above the horizon. At 15 miles, 619 feet would  
2 be visible. And at 18 miles, 573 feet would be  
3 visible.

4 Now, of course you could have fog and  
5 stuff. But, you know, in the morning you come out,  
6 and you like seeing the horizon, you see every  
7 anomaly, every little boat. You can see all those  
8 turbines. And you will have a hard time finding out  
9 what they look like. But, if you do, you would be  
10 shocked.

11 Now, again, there has been no  
12 analysis on the impact of the beach economy.  
13 Property values, tourism, will people continue to  
14 come to the beach? Rental income?

15 But there was a study. North  
16 Carolina University economists did a study. They  
17 studied 484 people who rent at the beach. A large  
18 percentage rented the same house for five years in a  
19 row. And 54 percent said they would not rent a  
20 vacation home if turbines were visible at all.

21 So what would the impact be on the  
22 price of electricity of these projects that are  
23 proposed? It would raise electricity prices  
24 \$177 million every year for the life of the project.



1 \$177 million.

2 Now, that may not be borne right away  
3 by Delaware residents, but it would be borne by  
4 people in the 13-state grid.

5 Well, we will create a lot of jobs.  
6 Well, there will be some construction jobs. Those  
7 are temporary jobs.

8 How many permanent jobs? Well, the  
9 two Deepwater Wind and U.S. Wind, for the two people  
10 who submitting applications to build here, they said  
11 there would be 69 permanent jobs.

12 But if you dig deeper and using the  
13 National Renewable Energy Laboratories Jobs and  
14 Economic Development Impact Models, the permanent  
15 jobs would be around 50.

16 So we divide 177 million in higher  
17 electrical costs by 50. That's 3.5 million cost for  
18 every job every year for the life of the project.

19 Now, some people will say we need  
20 wind power to replace fossil fuels. Well, wind, as  
21 you know, is not predictable, nor is it reliable.  
22 The wind power would not replace any fossil fuel  
23 plants. They must remain in case the wind stops  
24 blowing, which it does.



1           An example would be the University of  
2 Delaware's 2 megawatt wind turbine at Lewes. So how  
3 efficient is that? It's 2 megawatts. Well, last  
4 year, according to the U.S. Information Agency, it  
5 operated 28.3 percent of capacity. Some months were  
6 higher than others. The high months was  
7 51.7 percent in March of last year. The low was  
8 12.5 percent in June. There is less wind in the  
9 summer.

10           MR. NOYES: Excuse me. You have five  
11 minutes.

12           MR. POHANKA: Almost.

13           MS. GUINN: Okay.

14           MR. POHANKA: The Maryland Public  
15 Services Commission hired a consultant to determine  
16 air quality benefits, Leftan Associates. It's a  
17 185-page report.

18           They found there would be no net  
19 environmental benefit to the wind power projects.  
20 They determined that CO2, sulfur dioxide, and NOX  
21 levels would actually increase in the region. So  
22 there is no environmental benefit.

23           And no studies have been conducted to  
24 determine the impact on migratory birds, sea life,



1 or even the horseshoe crab. The horseshoe crab is  
2 very important. The blood is used for medical  
3 research, testing vaccines and medical devices.

4 So, basically, I think our economy is  
5 at risk. The cost of energy will go up. It's very  
6 few jobs being created. There is no environmental  
7 impact benefit.

8 So they really should be -- they have  
9 to go out 26 miles. Ocean City, Maryland, the city  
10 council voted unanimously to push them out 26 miles.  
11 They were very concerned about the impact on the  
12 economy of Ocean City.

13 The thing is, these are so big, if  
14 they push them out, they are going to be out of  
15 their lease area, so they are going to fight like  
16 hell to be in these areas.

17 And, you know, there will be more  
18 information distributed to people so they get to  
19 know. And you get to weigh in with your politicians  
20 and let your voice be heard once you get the facts.  
21 Thank you.

22 MR. NOYES: Thank you. Bill Zak.

23 MR. ZAK: I wanted to thank you for  
24 your work. I wanted to speak very much on behalf of



1 wind power development.

2 I, too, live at the beach. I think  
3 nothing is perfect. But we shouldn't make a utopian  
4 perfection the enemy of the good and the better.  
5 And wind power is a major factor in the good and the  
6 better.

7 We talk about the inconvenience of  
8 visible things on the horizon at beaches. Every  
9 European show I watch on Netflix repeatedly features  
10 wind turbines everywhere. They are developed and  
11 being developed in great volume in Europe.

12 Obviously, they wouldn't be doing  
13 that, I don't think, if it weren't financially  
14 feasible on a large scale to make huge differences.

15 It doesn't seem to bother them very  
16 much. And talking about the visible problem, which  
17 is to a very small number of vacationers, compared  
18 to the invisible mess of fossil fuel.

19 Fossil fuel production causes  
20 enormous damage. You want to talk about maybe we  
21 are going to kill some marine mammals, maybe we are  
22 going to kill some birds, although the studies that  
23 I have seen in Denmark indicate that it's wildly  
24 exaggerated that it's terrible on birds.



1                   But let's talk about the  
2   3 million pounds of explosive used daily in the West  
3   Virginia mountains blowing the tops off of  
4   mountains, and then talk about what we are doing to  
5   animals.

6                   Let's talk about ocean acidification  
7   from CO2 which threatens to absolutely destroy the  
8   ocean food chain.

9                   So, if you don't want to eat, or if  
10   you want to be paying \$55 a pound for fish, keep  
11   pouring acid-producing CO2 into the oceans. Great  
12   idea.

13                  Let's start talking about the good  
14   and the better.

15                  I heard talk about the costs to the  
16   poor. Well, let's talk about the costs to the poor.  
17   The Harvard Health Study in 2006 indicated that  
18   anybody that lived near, within 50 miles of an old  
19   coal plant -- the only kind of power generation we  
20   have got in Delaware is old coal plants -- anyone  
21   living within 50 miles of that -- and, of course,  
22   the poor live the closest to those plants -- but  
23   anybody who lives within 50 miles is taking great  
24   risks, according to the Harvard Health Study, with



1 shortening their lives and developing heart and lung  
2 diseases of very significant dimension.

3           And that does not even include Sudden  
4 Infant Death Syndrome, which is intensified by  
5 particulates in the atmosphere, as well, apparently.

6           So let's not talk about the costs to  
7 the poor of a slight increase in your electricity  
8 rates. And from what I understand from the study  
9 that I just read today, the rates for the costs of  
10 production in wind are down 46 percent in the last  
11 five years and 22 percent in the last year alone.

12           So I think large-scale development  
13 will become economically feasible. It will also  
14 produce economic development here. Supply chains,  
15 good labor jobs, good union labor jobs for people  
16 who repair these things.

17           And if the whole thing folds, it's on  
18 the corporation that they have managed their time  
19 and money poorly. And what do we do? If everything  
20 fails or we develop better systems yet to develop  
21 power and deliver it, then you just disassemble the  
22 damn power towers out at sea.

23           What are we doing with the 100-foot  
24 deep, 46-acre unlined coal slurry pit right here at



1 Indian River, unlined, right in the Delaware and  
2 Indian River Bay, that is unlined that is subject to  
3 flooding, that is loaded with chromium, Mercury, and  
4 all kinds of hideous things?

5 And you are worried about metal  
6 towers that might rust? If they are a problem, we  
7 will deal with it. But it's not remotely on the  
8 scale of what we are doing to ourselves and our  
9 children with the way we are doing things now.

10 We have got to do industrial capacity  
11 size development of power. And this is an on ready  
12 to hand. If we get better ways we take the towers  
13 down and use the better ways.

14 Um, that's enough. (Laughter)

15 MR. NOYES: Thank you. Kit Zak?

16 Again, spell your name.

17 MS. ZAK: Okay. K-I-T. Last name,  
18 Z-A-K.

19 I went to one hearing where there was  
20 a lot of talk that was made about the impact to the  
21 poor. But one of things that is never factored in  
22 is the health issues to the poor that are caused by  
23 fossil fuel.

24 But also I want to point out that the



1 poor live in the worst areas of the state in  
2 Delaware. Around here they live in areas that flood  
3 frequently.

4 And you realize that the reason that  
5 we have this high degree of flooding and the poor  
6 people living in flooding areas is because of the  
7 fossil fuels.

8 So, obviously, I think there is a  
9 link for us to move forward. And we think of the  
10 poor, and let's make sure they have clean air and  
11 disband the fossil fuels.

12 MR. NOYES: Thank you. I do not have  
13 anyone else who marked down yes.

14 MR. POHANKA: Can I say one more  
15 thing in rebuttal?

16 MR. NOYES: Forgive me, but I am not  
17 interested in hosting a debate.

18 MR. POHANKA: Okay.

19 MR. NOYES: I want to be able to hear  
20 from everybody.

21 MR. POHANKA: Okay. It's about  
22 education.

23 MS. ZAK: Put your comment on the  
24 website.



1 MR. POHANKA: 60 seconds.

2 MR. NOYES: Here is what we will do.  
3 I would like to give everybody a chance to speak.  
4 And then I will give anyone else who has spoken  
5 another 60 seconds. Is that fair?

6 MR. POHANKA: Yes.

7 MR. NOYES: Okay. Is there anyone  
8 else here who would like to speak?

9 MS. WEBER: Tom, I will say hello.

10 MR. NOYES: Come on up.

11 MS. WEBER: My name is Joy Weber,  
12 Development Manager for the Skipjack Project.

13 I just want to thank DNREC for doing  
14 these meetings. We are interested in the outcome of  
15 the recommendations you make. We are also  
16 interested in hearing the voices of the people in  
17 the community here.

18 So I just want you to know that we  
19 are here, we are listening to your concerns, and  
20 that we are available to talk.

21 MR. NOYES: All right. Thank you,  
22 and spell your name.

23 MS. WEBER: It's Joy Weber,  
24 W-E-B-E-R.



1 MR. NOYES: All right. Yes.

2 MS. FEICHTL: I wasn't going to talk,  
3 but I am now.

4 MR. NOYES: All right. Please spell  
5 your name.

6 MS. FEICHTL: My name is Nancy. And  
7 the last name is Feichtl, F-E-I-C-H-T-L, believe it  
8 or not. F-E-I-C-H-T-L.

9 I am a native of the area, and I  
10 spent my life sitting on the beach at Bethany Beach  
11 and Rehoboth.

12 But I am also a native that has, from  
13 birth, had severe lung diseases and asthma.

14 And I was a school principal. And I  
15 was very aware of air quality all these years. And  
16 I would get the alerts from the state. I called in  
17 to get them ahead of time.

18 And every year for 30 years that I  
19 was a principal, I took a kid to the hospital just  
20 in time to save his life from a severe asthma  
21 attack.

22 We have one of the worst asthma areas  
23 in the nation, and lung diseases and those kinds of  
24 things.



1                   We need clean fuel. It can be solar.  
2 It can be wind. But we can't -- look at the  
3 weather. We are not going to get solar. And where  
4 are the big fields coming that we would have solar?  
5 Yes, solar energy would be fine. But we have a  
6 resource right in our back yard, a resource that  
7 could build the economy of Delaware.

8                   I have been to Denmark and seen the  
9 windmills. I have been off the coast of England and  
10 Scotland and seen the windmills. I have been to  
11 several countries.

12                   And, by the way, the United Kingdom  
13 now is going to only do wind and renewable fuels.  
14 There will be no other kinds of electricity  
15 produced.

16                   We would be stupid to miss this  
17 opportunity.

18                   Also, the other thing I'm concerned  
19 with education. I was a school principal for years.  
20 And I'm seeing young people leaving for jobs.

21                   You know, I will get into the  
22 population here, but Sussex County has the oldest  
23 population in the nation. And at 65 and above, we  
24 will soon be 44 percent for 65 and above.



1                   For the middle-aged kids, our  
2 children, my son lives in San Francisco, because  
3 jobs in technology and future things, drones and  
4 renewable energies and everything, need to be here  
5 for there to be a good middle-aged group society to  
6 live in.

7                   And one of the things I have heard at  
8 one of the working groups -- excuse me -- one of the  
9 things I heard at one of the working groups is the  
10 idea of even supplying a port that would be off of  
11 Delaware City to build -- to have the wind towers  
12 laid out and floated out to sea.

13                   We could be the support industry for  
14 the East Coast. We would have an economic basis.  
15 We can have the Del Tech doing training centers on  
16 all those kinds of works that are the real-world  
17 that is to be.

18                   And I would -- I will find pleasure  
19 and found pleasure on sitting on a beach in Denmark  
20 and looking at the lovely windmills. It didn't mess  
21 up my trip at all. I enjoyed it. And that's even  
22 before I got into the caring about this idea.

23                   Don't throw this opportunity away.  
24 This is the one opportunity I want to see done



1 before I drop dead. And that will be from asthma.  
2 Okay?

3 But, anyway, thank you very much.

4 MR. NOYES: Thank you. Is there  
5 anyone else who would like to speak?

6 MS. POHANKA: Hi. I'm Laura Pohanka.  
7 Um, I'm very new to this subject. And my father is  
8 quite passionate about it, and it's great being here  
9 to learn more about it.

10 It's a very interesting topic for me,  
11 since I have grown up here since I was born.  
12 Bethany means a lot to me.

13 MR. POHANKA: Speak up.

14 MS. POHANKA: Bethany has a very  
15 special place in my heart. I really don't like  
16 talking in front of people. I'm sorry.

17 MR. ZAK: You will survive.

18 MS. POHANKA: But it's interesting  
19 hearing everybody's points. You know, like your  
20 educational background and asthma is really  
21 interesting to hear. And you guys have been natives  
22 for so long.

23 The question I have -- and I'm not  
24 sure if it's really a question-and-answer time.



1 But, for me, I'm new to the subject and really  
2 wanting to learn more about it. I like hearing  
3 everybody's side so I can help make my own opinion,  
4 as well -- is what's holding the project back from  
5 being pushed back further?

6 Is it costs? Is it the permits?  
7 What's holding back the -- I mean, if it's pushed  
8 back, it sounds like it could really benefit all  
9 sides, from at least this hearing alone. We are  
10 still getting the turbines done, because everyone  
11 wants to make a happy, healthier world. If you  
12 don't, I don't know, that's on you.

13 But I feel like that is a probable  
14 solution in trying to determine now, if people are  
15 allowed to answer, what's holding that back from not  
16 happening?

17 MS. RAYNER: Sometimes they say that  
18 U.S. Wind --

19 MR. ZAK: Would you speak up? I  
20 can't hear you.

21 MS. RAYNER: -- it would take too  
22 long to get a new lease area. But, in fact, U.S.  
23 Wind, it would take about one or two years to  
24 resituate the lease area.



1                   And it does cost a little more money,  
2 a million dollars a mile, they said, to push it  
3 back. But they make -- oh, what was it --  
4 \$8 million in 25 days once this thing is up.

5                   MS. POHANKA: So it would be an  
6 easy -- yeah.

7                   MS. RAYNER: It would be easy.

8                   MS. POHANKA: Yeah, it sounds like  
9 it. So I don't know. It's just something to  
10 carefully consider, as well as myself, to figure out  
11 what's holding it up from pushing back further,  
12 because I think both sides could live with a  
13 solution like that.

14                  MR. NOYES: Thank you.

15                  If I may just interject before we  
16 invite any further comments: This meeting is about  
17 whether we build offshore wind to serve Delaware.

18                  And, as I said in my comments, the  
19 Maryland projects are built -- were approved by  
20 Maryland and are situated in federal wind energy  
21 areas. And the State of Delaware doesn't have  
22 anything to do with that decision. So I just want  
23 to make that clear.

24                  MS. HOOBER: Well, where would the



1 ones, if Delaware builds, where would they be?

2 THE REPORTER: Can you say your name,  
3 please?

4 MS. HOOBER: Shirley Hooper,  
5 H-O-O-B-E-R.

6 THE REPORTER: Thank you.

7 MR. NOYES: The short answer is we  
8 have not decided to do that. And the Working Group  
9 is recommending that we study a whole lot of issues  
10 before making a decision.

11 So that's the short answer with a  
12 whole lot of questions, as you can see, with what we  
13 have distributed.

14 MR. ZAK: Just to ask you to follow  
15 up, what, then, is the yellow Deepwater Wind lease?  
16 Is that a proposal?

17 MR. NOYES: Let me --

18 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: That's  
19 Maryland.

20 MR. ZAK: Oh, that's also Maryland?

21 MR. NOYES: These are, as I said  
22 earlier, these two shapes are federal wind energy  
23 areas.

24 MR. ZAK: Oh, okay.



1 MR. NOYES: And U.S. Wind and  
2 Deepwater Wind Have leases to use these areas, and  
3 they are using portions of those leases to propose  
4 and now build offshore wind to serve Maryland.

5 There are several jurisdictions  
6 there.

7 MR. ZAK: Yeah.

8 MS. ZAK: But if it's coming ashore  
9 in Delaware areas, why we would not have any benefit  
10 from Maryland wind?

11 MR. NOYES: That's a big question.  
12 And I'm going to suggest you follow up after the  
13 meeting.

14 MS. ZAK: Okay.

15 MR. NOYES: There is a lot in that  
16 question. I'm not going to try and tackle that.

17 Now, are there any other -- is there  
18 anyone else here who would like to speak who has not  
19 spoken yet? Now, Mr. Pohanka, do you want to?

20 MR. POHANKA: Yes, one minute.

21 MR. NOYES: Yes.

22 MR. POHANKA: There are some big  
23 global issues, and there lies -- you know, we want  
24 to do the right thing, whatever this is. But the



1 big thing you gotta be concerned about settings.

2 If you go to Delmarva Now -- I've got  
3 it on my phone -- the pictures scare the hell out of  
4 me what they look like.

5 So you don't know what they look  
6 like. You should be interested in knowing what they  
7 look like at dawn on a clear day. That's the most  
8 important thing.

9 You show there is no graphics about  
10 what they will look like. And what they will look  
11 like, but the great unknown is economic impact on  
12 rental income, tourism, and home values. And people  
13 will say, "I'm going to North Carolina, I'm going to  
14 new Jersey, I don't like this." That's nearly  
15 everybody. It will cost a lot more jobs than 50  
16 jobs.

17 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Excuse me,  
18 sir.

19 MR. POHANKA: Air quality. You know,  
20 you talk about air quality and things like that.  
21 Air quality in the United States is -- the six  
22 primary air pollutants have declined 64 percent  
23 since 1980. The air is getting cleaner and cleaner  
24 and cleaner. You can't see CO2. But CO2, I won't



1 get into that.

2 As for the poor, the energy produced  
3 by these projects will cost 400 percent more than  
4 energy being produced from natural gas and coal  
5 plants, nuclear plants that you are now paying.

6 The costs will be four times more.  
7 They are going to be paid 13.7 cents per kilowatt  
8 hour. You are paying 3.5 right now with  
9 electricity.

10 It's energy poverty. The poor hurt  
11 the most when energy prices go up, because a bigger  
12 percentage of their wages goes to their energy  
13 costs. So it's called energy poverty.

14 Back to Europe, 12 percent of the  
15 population, according to the European Commission,  
16 suffer from energy poverty. The price of energy is  
17 so high that people will be disconnected from the  
18 grid. Go look it up. Energy poverty in Europe.  
19 Because the price of energy is jacked up because of  
20 the use of wind power, which doesn't replace fossil  
21 fuels, nuclear power, which have to remain in case  
22 the wind stops blowing. So you are paying for two  
23 energy systems and not one.

24 So but now let's take esthetics. We



1 can have our wind. Let's go further out, whatever  
2 it takes. It's not going to cost them that much  
3 more. You can have your cake and eat it too.

4 Do we want to risk the coastal  
5 environment, your property values which are  
6 important to you, jobs? That's the great unknown.  
7 If the people say, "I don't want to come here  
8 anymore," it will have an impact, absolutely.

9 Thank you.

10 MR. NOYES: Thank you. Now, is there  
11 anyone else who has spoken who would like to speak  
12 again for one minute? Is there anyone who would --

13 (Mr. Pohanka is speaking with other  
14 members of the public while Mr. Noyes is speaking.)

15 MR. NOYES: Excuse me. Is there  
16 anyone else who has not spoken who would like to  
17 speak?

18 MR. POHANKA: Look at that. (Showing  
19 cell phone photos to Mr. Zak.)

20 MR. NOYES: Excuse me.

21 MR. POHANKA: Sorry.

22 MR. NOYES: As I said, this is not  
23 the last opportunity to submit comments. You can go  
24 to this web page to find out how to submit comments,



1 or you can e-mail me to submit comments.

2 As I said, the Working Group meets  
3 again once more in June. The Working Group will be  
4 given everything that has been submitted to us  
5 through the transcripts, through written comments  
6 submitted to us.

7 And, in particular, the Working Group  
8 will be making a final decision on the  
9 recommendations that we have circulated.

10 We deeply appreciate public  
11 engagement in this. And thank you for being here  
12 tonight. I am available tonight and going forward  
13 to accept comments and deal with questions that  
14 people have.

15 With that, there being no further  
16 comments, our business here this evening, our  
17 official business here this evening, is done.

18 Thank you for being here. The  
19 meeting is closed.

20 (Concluded at 6:49 p.m.)

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CERTIFICATE

I, Lorena J. Hartnett, a Notary Public and Registered Professional Reporter, do hereby certify that the foregoing is an accurate and complete transcription of the proceeding held at the time and place stated herein, and that the said proceeding was recorded by me and then reduced to typewriting under my direction, and constitutes a true record of the testimony given by said witnesses.

I further certify that I am not a relative, employee, or attorney of any of the parties or a relative or employee of either counsel, and that I am in no way interested directly or indirectly in this action.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my seal of office on this 6th day of June 2018.



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Lorena J. Hartnett  
Registered Professional Reporter

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