

BOROUGH OF DEAL



Samuel M. Cohen, Mayor
Department of Public Affairs
and Public Safety

Morris Ades, Commissioner
Department of Revenue
and Finance

David Simhon, Commissioner
Department of Public Works
and Beaches

Stephen R. Carasia, Borough Clerk / Administrator

www.dealborough.com

April 29, 2022

Dear President Fiordaliso and Commissioners of the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities

As Mayors and Council members of municipalities along the Jersey Shore, we are committed to protecting our beaches and preserving the quality of life for our residents. We know you appreciate that the shore is a vital source of recreation, tourism, and fishing. Our communities are dependent upon keeping our beaches clean and safe.

That is why we are very concerned that a number of proposals for offshore wind transmission have been submitted to the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (BPU) in response to the SAA Solicitation that threatens to industrialize our beaches and turn them into active construction sites with permanent high-voltage transmission infrastructure from offshore wind (OSW).

This letter does not constitute an endorsement or a rejection of OSW. Instead, this is a plea to protect our coastal communities and listen to our residents.

We call on the BPU to select projects that do not bury high-voltage cables under our beaches, parks, streets, or residential areas. The BPU should select projects that have the approval of the local community.

The fact is there are proposals that avoid this issue entirely and are appropriately zoned to accommodate high-voltage electrical transmission infrastructure where developers can work with the local community to avoid burying cables under beaches and other public property.

If the BPU wants to do the right thing, you can protect New Jersey's future by not allowing developers to industrialize our beaches and steamroll over the voices of local communities.

Please only select offshore wind transmission proposals that promote responsible development and avoid the unnecessary imposition on the use of public property.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "S. Cohen", written over a white background.

Samuel Cohen
Mayor