From: <u>lah4169@aol.com</u>

To: <u>Secretary, BPUBoard [BPU]</u>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Fwd: Ocean Wind and comments for BPU

Date: Thursday, May 19, 2022 11:21:15 AM

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Linda Hammond. I own a beach front corner property on 35th Street in Ocean City, where the cables are projected to come ashore. I just viewed a public zoom meeting held by The Board of Public Utilities. There was much discussion concerning the notice to the public about this hearing. I found out 5 minutes before it was to begin, when I read the information on ocnjdaily.com. The email was sent at 6:06 AM, and luckily, I happened to see it at 8:55 AM.

I understand that I can send written comments which will be included in your records. Please read below a letter I wrote to Ocean Wind on March 8, 2022, with a copy to BLSS public comments @dep.nj.gov following the zoom hearing led by Orsted on March 7, 2022. I was told there would be a document released responding to our concerns, of which there were many. Orsted would not respond to any of the public questions during the meeting that did not pertain to the topic, which was the Green Acres property diversion. I have yet to receive any correspondence from them.

I am very concerned about this, especially knowing there are other alternatives for the placement of the cables. I would appreciate acknowledgement of receipt of this email.

Thank you. Linda Hammond

----Original Message-

To: Info@OceanWind.com <Info@OceanWind.com>

Cc: BLSSpubliccomments@dep.nj.gov <BLSSpubliccomments@dep.nj.gov>

Sent: Tue, Mar 8, 2022 3:29 pm

Subject: Ocean Wind

My name is Linda Hammond. I own the corner beach front property at 35th street in Ocean City.

I attended the zoom scoping hearing on Monday, March 7. I also listened to the public meeting held in Ocean City on November 6th, along with reading and researching information on this Wind Farm Project.

I do believe climate change is an issue which must be addressed, especially how it will affect the coastal areas and those who live there. However, I do have concerns about this project which I'd like to state:

1. Orsted has not adequately answered the safety issues. From what I have read, cables have floated to the surface at other sites; wind turbine generators have significant electromagnetic reflectivity; weather issues such as hurricanes could impact towers and blades; cables could be wrapped in lead when buried; turbines have leaked oil in the ocean. As the owner of the property where the cables will come ashore, I

am worried for the safety of my family, along with other families, as my grandkids and others play and enjoy the 35th street beach, the playground and tennis courts on 34th/35th street, and the businesses along this corridor. Are past mistakes being corrected and tested first in a smaller context before a project of this sized begins?

- 2. Orstead has not adequately answered environmental issues. How will this project affect the wildlife in this area, both in the ocean, on land, and in the air? How will the towers and blades be monitored and what will happen to them when they need to be replaced? Will there be noise pollution?
- 3. Orsted has not adequately answered economic issues.

 Orsted has stated jobs will be created which is positive, but what could be lost? Will tourism/property rentals be affected, which will in turn hurt businesses which depend on tourism? Will the fisherman have difficulty due to the installation of the towers and boating restrictions? Will maintenance and repairs be **invasive on the densely populated coastal areas** in Ocean City? Will property values drop? (I'm not sure I would purchase my property knowing the cables are underground 35th street.) What will happen to our electric bills? Who is responsible for funding upkeep and or problems if they arise?

This project NEEDS to be more thoroughly studied. And the people of Ocean City deserve more time to evaluate it after receiving honest and complete answers to questions. At the zoom meeting, we were constantly reminded that we should only discuss the Green Acres proposed diversion. It was impossible to focus on that one area when there are still so many concerns. Not one question was answered.

Things are being rushed and the majority of people that I have listened/spoken to are unhappy with the manner in which things are progressing...including me.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. Linda Hammond