



10 W Lafayette Street  
Trenton, NJ 08608-2002

609-393-7707  
www.njbja.org

**Michele N. Siekerka, Esq.**  
President and CEO

**Christopher Emigholz**  
Chief Government Affairs Officer

**Raymond Cantor**  
Deputy Chief Government Affairs Officer

**Alexis Bailey**  
Vice President

**Kyle Sullender**  
Director of Economic Policy Research

IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION OF OCEAN WIND, LLC PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 48:3-87.1(f) FOR A DETERMINATION THAT CERTAIN EASEMENTS AND CONSENTS NEEDED FOR CERTAIN ENVIRONMENTAL PERMITS IN, AND WITH RESPECT TO, THE COUNTY OF CAPE MAY ARE REASONABLY NECESSARY FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OR OPERATION OF THE OCEAN WIND 1 QUALIFIED OFFSHORE WIND PROJECT

Docket No. QO22050347

---

To Whom It May Concern:

On behalf of the New Jersey Business & Industry Association, the nation’s largest and most influential statewide business association, I am writing to support the petition of Ocean Wind to obtain certain easements and consents related to the Ocean Wind Project in Cape May County.

Under the law, this project clearly meets the statutory standard for approval by the Board. The easements and approvals sought are clearly “reasonably necessary for the construction or operation of the qualified offshore wind project or open access offshore wind transmission facility.” Without these easements and approvals this project cannot commence.

New Jersey’s carbon mitigation goals are tied to the development of offshore wind projects, and this is the first project to proceed. The Legislature recognized the need for an alternative process to allow for these easements and approvals to be approved, which is why this hearing and comment period are being held. This project clearly meets the statutory and the petition should be approved.

As a business association, NJBIA is also enthused with the economic opportunities the wind industry will bring to New Jersey. As the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management’s recent released Draft Environmental Impact statement summarizes the public interest for Ocean Wind 1:

[T]here will be notable and measurable benefits to employment, economic output, infrastructure improvements, and community services, especially job training, because of offshore wind development.

“The long-term benefits of offshore wind projects are the medium-term (10 to 20 years) job market for offshore wind construction; long-term O & M [operations and maintenance] jobs (25 to 35 years); long-term tax revenues; long-term economic benefits of improved ports to and other industrial land areas; diversification of marine industries, especially in those areas dominated by recreation and tourism; and growth in a skilled marine construction workforce.

For all the above reasons, we ask the Board to approve the petition.

Sincerely,

Raymond E. Cantor  
Deputy Chief Government Affairs Officer  
New Jersey Business & Industry Association