From: <u>Jeffrey F.</u>

To: Secretary, BPUBoard [BPU]
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Offshore Wind

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The offshore wind projects that are scheduled to go up off the coast of Monmouth County southward to Cape May would be a tragic mistake for the environment and the economy of New Jersey.

These wind turbines will cause huge impacts on the benthic species. This will remove a food source that many species further up the food chain depends on either directly or indirectly.

The fisheries of clams, crabs, scallops, and lobster will also be affected.

Flatfish, fluke, and flounder, which have tourism and commercial importance, as well as other fish which live close to the bottom and middle of the food chain, will be affected having impacts on game fish, dolphins, seals, and sharks.

Another very important species which can not be emphasized enough is the horseshoe crab. Not only is it important to the migration of birds and other species, but it is also important to man for medicinal purposes.

Without the horseshoe crab, vaccines, and implanted medical devices would not be possible. It is their blood that makes these products virus and microbe free.

NJ is the home to the largest migration and nesting area of the horseshoe crab, which will make these procedures which are common, will be unaffordable, and medicine will be sent back 50 years.