RESOLUTION No. 126 -2024 BOROUGH OF SEA GIRT

RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF SEA GIRT, MONMOUTH COUNTY, NEW JERSEY, OPPOSING THE PROPOSED PLACEMENT OF WIND TURBINE CLUSTERS OFF THE COAST OF SEA GIRT, THE RUNNING OF TRANSMISSON CABLES THROUGH ESSENTIAL FISH HABITAT, AND OPPOSING THE INSTALLATION OF CABLE BANKS AND TRANSMISSION CABLES THROUGHOUT THE BOROUGH

WHEREAS, The Borough of Sea Girt acknowledges the desire to incorporate alternative energy sources to address the state's energy needs; and

WHEREAS, while the governing body acknowledges the potential benefits of renewable energy sources, we urge a more considerate approach that balances environmental responsibility, environmental impacts to the marine environment, the massive infrastructure associated with ocean turbine clusters and transmission cables, the cultural impacts of wind power and its massive and expensive infrastructure on those using our ocean and beaches, and the disproportionate impact on coastal and near coastal communities within the landing zone of transmission lines and in sight of the turbines; and

WHEREAS, the environmental impacts to the marine environment from offshore wind turbine construction and placement, particularly on benthic and pelagic organisms, and sound and mitigation measures appear to be inadequate; and

WHEREAS, the impact of cutting trenches through dozens of miles of ocean floor to run transmission wires from offshore turbines to the shore, while tearing up essential fish habitat, the damage to which may be irreparable; and

WHEREAS, the proposal to trench power cables under the Borough's beach at, or immediately adjacent to, the nesting area of threatened and endangered bird species and growing zones for endangered vegetation is deleterious to those species and is contrary to the long-standing policy of the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection and federal agencies; and

WHEREAS, Sea Girt is a picturesque small shore town that thrives on the vibrancy brought by summer tourists. The beauty of our coastline, the tranquility of our beaches, and the allure of our ocean are the lifeblood of our community. The installation of wind turbines in our offshore waters threatens to irreversibly alter the offshore views, the character of our town and the experiences that draw residents and visitors to our beaches and boardwalk year after year; and

WHEREAS, our local economy relies heavily on the tourism industry, which sustains local businesses and supports countless livelihoods which would be negatively impacted by the presence of imposing wind turbines on the horizon and transmission cables slicing through our beach, dunes and land; and

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Whereas, the Borough of Sea Girt is directly affected by the installation and construction of cable banks and hot transmission lines under our Borough streets and potentially impacting the Borough's subterranean infrastructure and streets; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, on this ____ day of June 2024, by the Borough Council of the Borough of Sea Girt, in the County of Monmouth and State of New Jersey that

- 1. The governing body opposes the proposal to construct offshore wind turbine clusters off our coast, the running of dozens of miles of transmission wires by trenching through the ocean floor and essential fish habitat, and construction of cable banks in the Borough of Sea Girt and running transmission cables in or near Borough infrastructure; and
- 2. The governing body calls upon relevant state and federal authorities to engage in transparent and collaborative discussions with our community before finalizing any decisions and awarding bids, and for those bids awarded, by utilizing appropriate administrative measures to allow more time for studies to address both the potential, and real, deleterious impacts of these projects.

I, Dawn Harriman, Municipal Clerk of the Borough of Sea Girt, do hereby *certify* that the foregoing is a true and exact copy of the Resolution adopted by the Borough of Sea Girt Borough Council on the 12th day of June, 2024.

Dawn Harríman

Dawn Harriman, RMC

Council	Introduced	Seconded	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Anthony	х		х			
DiFeo			х			
Downey			х			
Perry			х			
Richman		х	х			
Zakin			x			
On Consent Agenda YESxNo						o