



# Roots 2Empower

*Fostering an equitable, regenerative future.*

+1 (401) 440-0665

[contact@roots2empower.org](mailto:contact@roots2empower.org)

166 Valley Street, Providence, RI 02909

Coastal Resources Management Council  
Stedman Government Center, Suite 3  
4808 Tower Hill Road  
Wakefield, RI 02879-1900

December 20, 2024

## **RE: 2023-02-090 Public Comment**

Chair Coia, Director Gray, and members of the Council,

I am writing on behalf of Roots 2Empower in regard to the Category B Assent and Freshwater and Wetlands permit for the SouthCoast Wind Project, currently under consideration by the Rhode Island Coastal Resource Management Council.

Roots 2Empower is a community-based organization with the mission of fostering economic empowerment for low-income, justice-impacted, and marginalized people in Rhode Island through civic engagement, workforce training, environmental connection, and public education. We see the transition to a regenerative economy as a monumental opportunity to redress economic, health, environmental, and racial disparities inextricably linked to the fossil-based economy. As our state and region work to meet the urgent goals set out in state and federal climate policy, offshore wind energy is necessary to drive decarbonization while maximizing economic benefits for Rhode Islanders. The SouthCoast Wind project will bring thousands of high-quality, family-sustaining jobs to our region and has already made meaningful financial contributions to local initiatives.

Communities of color and low-wealth communities are disproportionately impacted by pollution, rising temperatures, extreme weather, and environmental degradation. Industrial activities like those described in this permit application occur frequently in urban communities like Washington Park, where ProvPort facilitates domestic and international trade on a daily basis, housing numerous toxic facilities on its 42-acre campus located in a residential area. The activities being proposed to construct the SouthCoast Wind Project include stringent environmental mitigation strategies that go beyond what is required to ensure impacts are avoided, minimized, and mitigated at every turn. The environmental benefits this project will deliver by providing clean, local, and reliable energy to the regional grid will far outweigh the costs. This project will lessen our reliance on fossil fuels that cause significant harm to the environment and our communities while stabilizing energy prices and creating savings for ratepayers over the course of its operation.



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166 Valley Street, Providence, RI 02909

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To meet the urgent goals of the Act on Climate and redress historic and ongoing injustices, we must build an equitable and environmentally responsible offshore wind industry in Rhode Island. The transition to a regenerative economy relies on a shift to localized clean energy developed with community involvement and oversight. Fully permitting the SouthCoast Wind Project is a crucial step in that direction. With all this in mind, we urge you to issue the Category B Assent and Freshwater and Wetlands permit.

Sincerely,

Nicole DiPaolo  
Program Director  
Roots 2Empower



## Cstaff1

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**From:** Amanda Barker <amanda@greenenergyconsumers.org>  
**Sent:** Friday, January 17, 2025 5:07 PM  
**To:** cstaff1@crmc.ri.gov  
**Subject:** 2023-02-090 Public Comment  
**Attachments:** 12025 NE4OSW Comments Re SouthCoast CRMC Permit.pdf

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

Hello,

Please see attached for the Rhode Island State Committee of New England for Offshore Wind's comments on File No. 20230-02-090 in support of the SouthCoast Wind Category B Assent and Freshwater Wetlands Permits.

Thank you for your consideration.

Best,  
Amanda

Amanda Barker (she/her)  
Clean Energy Program Coordinator  
(203) 455-6230  
284 Amory St, Boston, MA 02130 | 188 Valley St Suite 221, Providence, RI 02909  
[www.greenenergyconsumers.org](http://www.greenenergyconsumers.org)

*Empowering consumers and communities to speed a just transition to a zero-carbon future.*





**Rhode Island for Offshore Wind**

Acadia Center  
Audubon Society of Rhode Island  
Ceres  
Clean Water Action  
Climate Action Rhode Island  
Climate Jobs Rhode Island  
Environment Council of Rhode Island  
Green Energy Consumers Alliance  
Grow Smart Rhode Island  
National Wildlife Federation  
North Atlantic States Regional Council of Carpenters  
Oceanic Network  
Power Options  
Rhode Island Building Trades  
Roots2Empower

**Allies**

Piledrivers Local 56  
Carpenters Local 330  
Carpenters local 346

January 20th, 2025

Rhode Island Coastal Resources Management Council  
O.S. Government Center  
4808 Tower Hill Road, Rm 116  
Wakefield, RI, 02879

**RE: Comments on File No. 20230-02-090 – Support  
for SouthCoast Wind Category B Assent and  
Freshwater Wetlands Permit**

Dear Coastal Resources Management Council,

As members and allies of the RI State Committee of New England for Offshore Wind (NE4OSW), we respectfully submit the following comments in support of SouthCoast Wind's Category B Assent and Freshwater Wetlands Permit Applications. NE4OSW is a broad-based coalition of environmental, academic, labor, business, and social justice organizations united by our vision to combat climate change by increasing the supply of clean energy to our regional grid through responsibly developed offshore wind.

Climate change poses an existential threat to Rhode Island's coastline, and the transition to renewable energy is essential to addressing this challenge. The SouthCoast Wind Project represents a transformative opportunity to harness a local, clean, and reliable energy source while stimulating the economy, improving environmental justice, and advancing the state's carbon reduction goals. By approving this project, the CRMC will be taking a vital step toward preserving Rhode Island's coastline for future generations.

The SouthCoast Wind application demonstrates a commitment to environmental stewardship, incorporating mitigation measures that go beyond standard requirements. However, we encourage the CRMC to apply its local expertise to further ensure robust protections for the environment, wildlife, and fisheries wherever feasible. The infrastructure and activities proposed—such as undersea cables and horizontal directional drilling—are proven and well-understood technologies with precedents across the globe. The Bureau of Ocean Energy Management has ensured through its environmental review process

that any impacts from SouthCoast will be avoided, minimized, and mitigated to a high standard, while delivering significant long-term environmental and economic benefits to the region.

Additionally, SouthCoast Wind will provide substantial economic advantages to our state. The project is expected to generate thousands of well-paying jobs and stimulate local supply chains, fostering economic development while ensuring clean, domestically produced energy. Its commitment to utilizing union labor and investing in workforce development for underrepresented communities is commendable and ensures benefits for all Rhode Islanders.

The selection of SouthCoast Wind to provide 200 MW of renewable energy to Rhode Island and 1,000 MW to Massachusetts demonstrates the project's critical importance to meeting New England's energy needs. Offshore wind is a proven technology used successfully around the world, and the Ocean State is well-positioned to embrace this necessary solution to combat the climate crisis.

Considering the comprehensive review SouthCoast Wind has already undergone and the clear benefits the project provides to Rhode Island, we respectfully urge the CRMC to grant SouthCoast Wind's Category B Assent and Freshwater Wetlands permit.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Amanda Barker

Green Energy Consumers Alliance

*Chair, Rhode Island State Committee*

**New England for Offshore Wind**

**cstaff1@crmc.ri.gov**

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**From:** Aislinn Hanley <aislinn@climatejobsri.org>  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 16, 2025 10:09 AM  
**To:** cstaff1@crmc.ri.gov  
**Subject:** 2023-02-090 Public Comment  
**Attachments:** CJRI Support CRMC 2023-02-090.pdf

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Hello,

I am submitting Climate Jobs RI's comments supporting the approval of a Category B Assent and Freshwater Wetlands Permit for the SouthCoast Wind Project. Thank you!

Sincerely,  
Aislinn

Aislinn Hanley (she/her)  
Program Director  
Climate Jobs Rhode Island  
Institute for Labor Studies & Research  
1540 Pontiac Ave. Suite A Cranston, RI 02920  
[aislinn@climatejobsri.org](mailto:aislinn@climatejobsri.org) | 401.752.9336  
[www.climatejobsri.org](http://www.climatejobsri.org)





Climate Jobs Rhode Island  
1540 Pontiac Ave Suite A,  
Cranston, RI 02920

December 20, 2024

ATTN: Raymond C. Coia  
Coastal Resource Management Council  
4808 Tower Hill Road, Suite 116  
Wakefield, RI 02879



RE: 2023-02-090 Public Comment- Support for the Approval of a Category B Assent and Freshwater Wetlands Permit for the SouthCoast Wind Project

Dear Chairman Coia,

On behalf of Climate Jobs Rhode Island, I am writing to express our strong support for the SouthCoast Wind Project and its associated Category B Assent and Freshwater Wetlands Permit. This project is a crucial step forward in advancing both Rhode Island's clean energy future and its commitment to economic justice, by creating good jobs and supporting a just transition for workers and communities.

Climate Jobs Rhode Island (CJRI) is a coalition of more than thirty (30) labor unions, environmental, and community organizations working together to make Rhode Island a national leader in the development of a resilient 21st century clean energy economy that leaves nobody behind, centering Rhode Island's frontline communities and frontline workers.

Our members range from those who represent the frontline workers who build, repair, and maintain Rhode Island's critical infrastructure and energy systems, to community groups like the United Way of RI, Fuerza Laboral, and the Childhood Lead Action Project; to environmental organizations like The Nature Conservancy, and the Audubon Society of Rhode Island.

As the state of Rhode Island transitions to a green economy, it is essential that we transition to renewable energy in a way that benefits workers, families, and communities. The SouthCoast Wind Project represents a unique opportunity to do so. With offshore wind energy being a proven and scalable solution, this project will help address the growing demand for clean energy while providing well-paying, high quality jobs for Rhode Islanders.

The project's job creation potential is significant, with estimates showing that it will generate over 15,000 direct full-time equivalent job-years over the course of its life. This includes opportunities in construction, operations, and maintenance, as well as in the broader supply chain. These are good jobs—jobs that will support families and provide pathways to long-term careers in the clean energy sector. By prioritizing local hiring and workforce development, particularly in communities that have historically been marginalized, SouthCoast Wind will help build a more inclusive and equitable energy economy.

Beyond job creation, the SouthCoast Wind Project will deliver broader community benefits. The transition to renewable energy is not just about reducing carbon emissions; it's about ensuring that working-class communities, particularly those in energy burdened regions, are at the center. This project

will provide a boost to local economies, support businesses across Rhode Island, and stimulate long-term economic growth. RI's share of the project will power more than 125,000 homes. Importantly, the benefits extend to communities of color, low-income communities, and those that have long relied on industries such as fossil fuels. The investment in workforce development and local hiring is a direct response to the needs of these communities, ensuring that the green economy is not a distant promise, but a real, tangible benefit today.

While construction may involve temporary disruptions, these are necessary trade-offs for the long-term benefits that will be realized by the entire state. The mitigation measures in place, as described in the application, demonstrate SouthCoast Wind's commitment to minimizing environmental and community impact during construction. The infrastructure and activities outlined in this permit are neither unique nor unprecedented; numerous underground and undersea cables already exist in Rhode Island, providing essential services to residents. Similarly, construction activities such as dredging and horizontal directional drilling (HDD) are common in the state and involve well-understood processes.

Finally, SouthCoast Wind has already received key approvals from state and federal agencies, reflecting the thoroughness of its planning and the quality of its proposal. These prior approvals include a Federal Consistency determination granted by the CRMC earlier this year, as well as several permits from state agencies in Massachusetts equivalent to the CRMC. RI's decision to select SouthCoast Wind to provide 200 MW of renewable energy to the grid underscores the state's recognition of the project's importance in meeting our energy needs and achieving our renewable energy goals.

For these reasons, we urge the CRMC to approve the Category B Assent and Freshwater Wetlands Permit, allowing the SouthCoast Wind Project to move forward. By doing so, CRMC will be taking a critical step toward ensuring that Rhode Island's transition to a green economy is just, equitable, and beneficial to workers and communities across the state.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide these comments. Please contact us if you have any further questions.

Sincerely,



Aislinn Hanley  
Program Director, Climate Jobs RI  
aislinn@climatejobsri.org



## Cstaff1

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**From:** Anthony Cherry <acherry@buildri.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, December 28, 2024 10:49 AM  
**To:** cstff1@crmc.ri.gov  
**Cc:** Gregory Mancini  
**Subject:** Build Rhode Island in support to SouthCoast Wind's Category B Assent and Freshwater Wetlands permit application.  
**Attachments:** Build Rhode Island letter of support to CRMC Category B Assent and Freshwater Wetlands Permit \_ SouthCoast Wind Project.pdf

Good morning Chairman Coia,

Please see the attached comments on behalf of Build Rhode Island in support to SouthCoast Wind's Category B Assent and Freshwater Wetlands permit application.

Build Rhode Island is the labor-management coalition made up of the construction management associations and the 17 unions that make up the Rhode Island Building and Construction Trades Council.

Please feel free to reach out to me if you have any follow-up questions regarding our written public comment.

Thank you,

Anthony Cherry  
*Assistant Executive Director*  
*Build Rhode Island*  
c: 413-446-1739  
w: 401-553-2100

134 Thurbers Avenue  
Suite 213  
Providence, RI 02905  
P: 401-553-2100  
F: 401-553-5855  
[www.Buildri.org](http://www.Buildri.org)



December 23, 2024

Chairman Raymond Coia  
Coastal Resource Management Council  
4808 Tower Hill Road, Suite 116  
Wakefield, RI 02879

**Re: SouthCoast Wind Project and its associated Category B Assent and Freshwater Wetlands Permit.**

Dear Chairman Coia,

On behalf of Build Rhode Island, and our partners, I am writing to express our strong support for the SouthCoast Wind Project and its associated Category B Assent and Freshwater Wetlands Permit. This project is a crucial step forward in advancing both Rhode Island's clean energy future and its commitment to creating good middle-class jobs and supporting a just transition for workers and communities.

Under the Act on Climate legislation passed, Rhode Island has committed to transitioning away from fossil fuels. While our appetite for energy consumption will only increase, the source of our fuel must change. The SouthCoast Wind development will move Rhode Island one step closer to net zero emissions.

During the early phases of the development, SouthCoast wind has engaged in community stakeholders to ensure equitable buy-in. SouthCoast and the Rhode Island Building and Construction Trades Council entered into a project labor agreement, which put thousands of local tradesmen and women to work; all of whom will earn a living wage, while being provide healthcare and investments into their retirements. Beyond have labor as an invested partner in SouthCoast Wind's success, SouthCoast Wind have a "host agreement" with the Town of Portsmouth. Within

this agreement, Portsmouth and SouthCoast have worked together to find the least impactful to the community and the environment.

As previously stated, BuildRI supports SouthCoast Winds' Category B Assent and Freshwater Wetlands Permit application. SouthCoast Wind has already obtained the Massachusetts equivalent to this CRMC application. SouthCoast Wind has already identified measures to mitigate and minimize the environmental and community impact during the construction and the laying of the necessary cables.

The construction SouthCoast Wind looks to endure is not unprecedented in Rhode Island. There are already numerous underground and undersea energy cables existing in Rhode Island waters. While the dredging and horizontal directional drilling is a common process in the construction for offshore wind projects. And with the partnership with the RIBCTC, SouthCoast Wind will have highly skilled tradesmen and women performing the work who have already worked on Rhode Island's existing offshore wind projects.

For these reasons, BuildRI, and our partners, urge the CRMC to approve the Category B Assent and Freshwater Wetlands Permit, allowing the SouthCoast Wind Project to move forward. By approving this application, CRMC will be taking a critical step towards ensuring Rhode Island's transition to a renewable and greener economy works for all.

Thank you for your opportunity to provide these comments. Please contact the signature below if you have any further questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Anthony J. Cherry". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "J" and "C".

**Anthony Cherry**

*Assistant Executive Director*

*Build Rhode Island*

**cstaff1@crmc.ri.gov**

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**From:** Chris Adams <adamschris6@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 5, 2025 12:01 AM  
**To:** cstaff1@crmc.ri.gov  
**Subject:** 2023-02-090+Public+Comment

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

[Adamschris6@gmail.com](mailto:Adamschris6@gmail.com)

## Cstaff1

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**From:** Mary <marygator77@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 21, 2025 11:07 AM  
**To:** cstaff1@crmc.ri.gov  
**Subject:** 2023-02-090 Public Comment

Dear CRMC,

I am writing to submit comments on the Category B Assent and Freshwater and Wetlands application submitted for the SouthCoast Wind Project, currently under consideration by the Rhode Island Coastal Resource Management Council. As a Rhode Island resident, I strongly urge you to approve the application and continue to move the project forward.

We share SouthCoast Wind's belief that economic and environmental progress go hand-in-hand.

Offshore wind presents Rhode Island with an opportunity to create thousands of high-quality, well-paying jobs that foster economic development, while creating domestically produced clean energy for the region. SouthCoast Wind's project will create approximately 17,400 direct full time-equivalent (FTE) job-years over the life of the project, along with significant supply chain opportunities. SouthCoast Wind's commitment to utilizing union labor throughout construction and investing in workforce development in underrepresented communities is tangible progress towards a diverse, local and inclusive workforce that will bring significant benefits to our economy, our environment, and most importantly our local communities.

In light of the long-term benefits offered by major offshore wind projects such as SouthCoast Wind, I trust that CRMC will carefully review and appropriately act on the Category B Assent application to move the project forward.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,  
Mary Helldorfer-Cooney (North Kingstown)

## Cstaff1

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**From:** Johanna Ganglbauer <johanna.ganglbauer@uri.edu>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 20, 2025 11:26 PM  
**To:** cstaff1@crmc.ri.gov  
**Subject:** 2023-02-090+Public+Comment

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

Dear CRMC,

I am writing to submit comments on the Category B Assent and Freshwater and Wetlands application submitted for the SouthCoast Wind Project, currently under consideration by the Rhode Island Coastal Resource Management Council. I immigrated to Rhode Island five months ago and I want to express my admiration for the proposed wind project at hand.

Climate change imposes an immediate thread to future generations and we have to cut down CO2 emissions as a society. This is an immense challenge and we are likely to fail, but seeing wind turbines at the horizon from Narragansett town beach gives me hope. (Please consider that you need binoculars to really see the turbines, so they do not disturb the view while they enlighten the binocular view.)

I am impressed by what New England, and especially Rhode Island already accomplished when it comes to developing offshore wind projects: the capacities of the Harbour in New London, the long-term experience built from operating Block Island wind farm, and especially the people, companies and schools who engage to plan, build and operate offshore wind farms in a responsible manner.

I strongly urge you to support the efforts, approve the application and continue to move the project forward.

You can be especially proud of your state and what it has accomplished so far. I strongly urge you to support the efforts, approve the application and continue to move the project forward.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,  
Johanna Ganglbauer

## Cstaff1

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**From:** Provost, Kara <kprovost0907@curry.edu>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 20, 2025 9:34 PM  
**To:** cstaff1@crmc.ri.gov  
**Subject:** 2023-02-090 public comment

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

Attn: CRMC

I would like to urge you to support the permits for SouthCoast Wind that are currently under your review. SouthCoast Wind's turbine proposal has already been vetted by other organizations and found to be economically and environmentally sound as well as helping to meet Rhode Island's energy needs. While it is true that construction of wind turbines causes some temporary disruption to the natural site where the turbines are installed, we know that obtaining and using fossil fuels causes vastly more environmental damage. It is the Rhode Island Coastal Resource Management council's responsibility to protect Rhode Island's coastal environments; climate change, along with sea level rise, are the biggest threats to our coastlines. We need to dramatically reduce our dependence on fossil fuels in order to mitigate climate change, and wind power is a proven way to do this.

I hope you will keep the best interests of the citizens of Rhode Island and beyond in mind and approve this wind turbine project to help support healthy coastal environments in Rhode Island, and a healthy planet for all.

Thank you,

Kara Provost  
Registered RI voter  
280 Hillside Ave.  
Pawtucket, RI 02860

## Cstaff1

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**From:** Archana Ramanujam <a.ramanujam@protonmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 20, 2025 7:56 PM  
**To:** cstff1@crmc.ri.gov  
**Subject:** 2023-02-090 Public Comment

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

Dear CRMC,

I am writing to submit comments on the Category B Assent and Freshwater and Wetlands permit submitted for the SouthCoast Wind Project, currently under consideration by the Rhode Island Coastal Resource Management Council. As a Rhode Island resident, I strongly urge you to approve the application and continue to move the project forward.

Climate change and rising energy demands pose significant challenges for Rhode Islanders, but there is a solution right off our shore- a massive renewable energy resource capable of transforming how we power our region. The SouthCoast Wind project offers an opportunity to reduce our reliance on imported fossil fuels and improve grid reliability by providing a locally produced source of power.

By integrating SouthCoast Wind into our energy grid, we can create a more stable system that's capable of meeting the increased demands of our electrified future while supporting the state's ambitious carbon reduction and renewable energy goals. While the short-term, off-season construction may present some inconveniences, it is a small and necessary investment for the significant, long-term benefits this project offers.

In light of the long-term climate, reliability and economic benefits offered by major offshore wind projects such as SouthCoast Wind, I trust that CRMC will carefully review and appropriately act on the Category B Assent application to move the project forward.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Archana Ramanujam

## Cstaff1

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**From:** Jen Horwitz <jennifer.horwitz@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 20, 2025 4:47 PM  
**To:** cstff1@crmc.ri.gov  
**Subject:** 2023-02-090 Public Comment

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

Dear CRMC,

I am writing to submit comments on the Category B Assent and Freshwater and Wetlands permit submitted for the SouthCoast Wind Project, currently under consideration by the Rhode Island Coastal Resource Management Council. As a Rhode Island resident, I strongly urge you to approve the application and continue to move the project forward.

Climate change is the number one issue for me -- it determines how I vote on all levels. Climate change and rising energy demands pose significant challenges for Rhode Islanders, but there is a solution right off our shore- a massive renewable energy resource capable of transforming how we power our region. The SouthCoast Wind project offers an opportunity to reduce our reliance on imported fossil fuels and improve grid reliability by providing a locally produced source of power.

By integrating SouthCoast Wind into our energy grid, we can create a more stable system that's capable of meeting the increased demands of our electrified future while supporting the state's ambitious carbon reduction and renewable energy goals. While the short-term, off-season construction may present some inconveniences, it is a small and necessary investment for the significant, long-term benefits this project offers.

In light of the long-term climate, reliability and economic benefits offered by major offshore wind projects such as SouthCoast Wind, I trust that CRMC will carefully review and appropriately act on the Category B Assent application to move the project forward.

We need to take urgent and decisive action toward creating a more sustainable future. Otherwise, we won't have a future, and we will be on the wrong side of history in the most final of ways.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Jen Horwitz

## Cstaff1

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**From:** George Hasapidis <ghasapidis@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 20, 2025 1:50 PM  
**To:** cstaf1@crmc.ri.gov  
**Subject:** 2023-02-090 Public Comment

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

Dear CRMC,

I am writing to submit comments on the Category B Assent and Freshwater and Wetlands permit submitted for the SouthCoast Wind Project, currently under consideration by the Rhode Island Coastal Resource Management Council. As a Rhode Island resident, I strongly urge you to approve the application and continue to move the project forward.

Climate change and rising energy demands pose significant challenges for Rhode Islanders, but there is a solution right off our shore- a massive renewable energy resource capable of transforming how we power our region. The SouthCoast Wind project offers an opportunity to reduce our reliance on imported fossil fuels and improve grid reliability by providing a locally produced source of power.

By integrating SouthCoast Wind into our energy grid, we can create a more stable system that's capable of meeting the increased demands of our electrified future while supporting the state's ambitious carbon reduction and renewable energy goals. While the short-term, off-season construction may present some inconveniences, it is a small and necessary investment for the significant, long-term benefits this project offers.

In light of the long-term climate, reliability and economic benefits offered by major offshore wind projects such as SouthCoast Wind, I trust that CRMC will carefully review and appropriately act on the Category B Assent application to move the project forward.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,  
George Hasapidis

## Cstaff1

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**From:** Avery Robertson <robertson.av1@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 20, 2025 1:45 PM  
**To:** cstff1@crmc.ri.gov  
**Subject:** 2023-02-090 Public Comment

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

Dear CRMC,

I am writing to submit comments on the Category B Assent and Freshwater and Wetlands permit submitted for the South Coast Wind Project, currently under consideration by the Rhode Island Coastal Resource Management Council. As a Rhode Island resident, **I strongly urge you to approve the application and continue to move the project forward.**

The primary responsibility of the CRMC is to preserve and protect Rhode Island's coastal resources. Climate change is the single biggest threat to these resources, and a rapid transition to renewables like offshore wind is the only way to truly preserve and protect Rhode Island's coast. The short disturbance of this project is negligible when you compare it to the impact that climate change will have on our coastal resources. We're already seeing the effects of climate change through warmer winters, increased severe storm events, and species loss, and this is just the beginning.

There is a lot of misinformation going around about offshore wind, and most of it is rooted in fear rather than fact. We are afraid to see our world, our coastline, change; we are afraid of potentially harming beloved sea animals like whales; we don't want to disrupt a fishing industry that is core to our little state. I believe that offshore wind has become a scapegoat, which all these fears have been placed on, and people hope that if they just stop building these farms, then it will fix everything. However, it is the opposite. Climate change is what we really should fear; the same thing that is melting glaciers in the Arctic is what's contributing to species extinction, causing our seas to rise, and threatening the livelihoods of future generations.

It is proven that human caused emissions are the biggest contributor to climate change. We live in a society that depends on energy, and while yes, there are efforts being made to try to reduce that energy use and to find alternative sources, offshore wind is here now, and we must decarbonize our energy sources and move away from burning fossil fuels. Thank you for your time in reading my letter and I once again strongly urge you to approve the application and continue to move the project forward.

Best,  
Avery Robertson

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**Avery Robertson**  
Senior Content Associate, Digital Engagement  
[Future Earth](#) / [Climate Power](#)  
City of Newport, RI Energy & Environment Commission

## Cstaff1

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**From:** Emily Totten <etotten330@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 20, 2025 11:37 AM  
**To:** cstaff1@crmc.ri.gov  
**Subject:** 2023-02-090 Public Comment

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

Dear CRMC,

I am writing to submit comments on the Category B Assent and Freshwater and Wetlands permit submitted for the SouthCoast Wind Project, currently under consideration by the Rhode Island Coastal Resource Management Council. As a Rhode Island resident, I strongly urge you to approve the application and continue to move the project forward.

Climate change and rising energy demands pose significant challenges for Rhode Islanders, but there is a solution right off our shore: a massive renewable energy resource capable of transforming how we power our region. The SouthCoast Wind project offers an opportunity to reduce our reliance on imported fossil fuels and improve grid reliability by providing a locally produced source of power.

By integrating SouthCoast Wind into our energy grid, we can create a more stable system that's capable of meeting the increased demands of our electrified future while supporting the state's ambitious carbon reduction and renewable energy goals. While the short-term, off-season construction may present some inconveniences, it is a small and necessary investment for the significant, long-term benefits this project offers.

In light of the long-term climate, reliability and economic benefits offered by major offshore wind projects such as SouthCoast Wind, I trust that CRMC will carefully review and appropriately act on the Category B Assent application to move the project forward.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,  
Emily Totten

## Cstaff1

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**From:** Meredith Pearson <meredith.pearson@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 20, 2025 10:09 AM  
**To:** cstaff1@crmc.ri.gov  
**Subject:** 2023-02-090+Public+Comment

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

Dear CRMC,

I urge you to approve the SouthCoast Wind Project's applications for Category B Assent and a Freshwater and Wetlands permit. This windfarm project needs to keep moving forward!

With climate change dictating the need to reduce fossil fuel usage and with rising energy demands, this project will provide RI with significant renewable energy, helping to reduce RI's reliance on natural gas and aiding our grid stability.

I feel proud to be part of a state that is on the cutting edge of energy independence and resilience. Please keep us moving in the right direction by approving SouthCoast Wind's applications.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,  
Meredith Pearson  
Providence, RI

## Cstaff1

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**From:** Tamber Woodworth <tamberwoodworth@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 20, 2025 8:01 AM  
**To:** cstff1@crmc.ri.gov  
**Subject:** 2023-02-090 Public Comment

Rhode Island, and probably all of New England has a huge problem - heating and cooling homes. The cost of electricity is outrageous so it is difficult for most people to switch away from oil and wood burning. Most homes still burn wood! Oil trucks are constantly moving on our highways and roads. We must find alternative ways to provide energy. Solar and wind should be our primary sources. And in the meantime, we must lower the cost of electricity so citizens are willing to make the switch.

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*Tamber Woodworth*  
734-646-4423

## Cstaff1

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**From:** hilld6948@gmail.com  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 19, 2025 11:44 PM  
**To:** cstaff1@crmc.ri.gov  
**Subject:** 2023-02-090 Public Comment

Dear CRMC,

I support the approval of permits for the SouthCoast Wind Project. Moving this project forward to completion is of the utmost importance to the citizens of Rhode Island.

Sincerely,  
Diane Hill  
40 Heritage Road  
North Kingstown, RI 02852  
Sent from my iPhone=

## Cstaff1

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**From:** Joey Dearing <jojodearing@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 19, 2025 10:38 PM  
**To:** cstff1@crmc.ri.gov  
**Subject:** 2023-02-090 Public Comment.

Dear CRMC,

I am writing to submit comments on the Category B Assent and Freshwater and Wetlands permit for the South Coast Wind Project, currently under consideration by the Rhode Island Coastal Resource Management Council. As a Rhode Island resident, I strongly urge you to approve this application. The South Coast Wind project presents a critical opportunity to address climate change and rising energy demands by reducing reliance on imported fossil fuels and improving grid reliability with locally produced renewable energy. This project supports Rhode Island's carbon reduction and renewable energy goals while creating a more stable energy system for our electrified future.

Given these substantial climate, reliability, and economic benefits, I urge CRMC to approve the Category B Assent application to advance the South Coast Wind Project.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,  
Joey Dearing

## Cstaff1

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**From:** Nicholas Helldorfer Cicchinelli <nicholas.helldorfer.cicchinelli@mailbox.org>  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 19, 2025 9:33 PM  
**To:** cstff1@crmc.ri.gov  
**Subject:** 2023-02-090 Public Comment

Dear CRMC,

I am writing to submit comments on the Category B Assent and Freshwater and Wetlands permit submitted for the SouthCoast Wind Project, currently under consideration by the Rhode Island Coastal Resource Management Council. As a Rhode Island resident, I strongly urge you to approve the application and continue to move the project forward.

Climate change and rising energy demands pose significant challenges for Rhode Islanders, but there is a solution right off our shore- a massive renewable energy resource capable of transforming how we power our region. The SouthCoast Wind project offers an opportunity to reduce our reliance on imported fossil fuels and improve grid reliability by providing a locally produced source of power. By integrating SouthCoast Wind into our energy grid, we can create a more stable system that's capable of meeting the increased demands of our electrified future while supporting the state's ambitious carbon reduction and renewable energy goals. While the short-term, off-season construction may present some inconveniences, it is a small and necessary investment for the significant, long-term benefits this project offers.

In light of the long-term climate, reliability and economic benefits offered by major offshore wind projects such as SouthCoast Wind, I trust that CRMC will carefully review and appropriately act on the Category B Assent application to move the project forward.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Nicholas Helldorfer Cicchinelli

493 West Ave Apt 3, Pawtucket, RI 02860

## Cstaff1

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**From:** nancy mogielnicki <mogsaway@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 19, 2025 7:54 PM  
**To:** cstaff1@crmc.ri.gov  
**Subject:** 2023-02-090 Public Comment

We are fully supportive of offshore wind and urge you to promote its development and success.  
Thank you,  
Nancy and Peter Mogielnicki  
Charlestown

## Cstaff1

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**From:** Claire Bobst <cbobst19@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 19, 2025 6:36 PM  
**To:** cstaf1@crmc.ri.gov  
**Subject:** 2023-02-090 Public Comment

Dear CRMC,

I am writing to submit comments on the Category B Assent and Freshwater and Wetlands permit submitted for the SouthCoast Wind Project, currently under consideration by the Rhode Island Coastal Resource Management Council. As a Rhode Island resident, I strongly urge you to approve the application and continue to move the project forward.

As an individual, I am deeply concerned about the climate crisis and the impact it will have on current and future generations. I am not alone in this concern: according to the Yale Program on Climate Change Communication, a majority of Rhode Islanders are concerned about climate change and support the generation of renewable energy on public land (<https://bit.ly/3CwRzlh>). The SouthCoast Wind project offers an opportunity to take action by reducing our reliance on imported fossil fuels and instead providing Rhode Island residents with a clean, renewable, locally produced source of power.

By integrating SouthCoast Wind into our energy grid, we can create a more stable system that's capable of meeting the increased demands of our electrified future while supporting the state's ambitious carbon reduction and renewable energy goals. While the short-term, off-season construction may present some inconveniences, it is a small and necessary investment for the significant, long-term benefits this project offers.

In light of the long-term climate, reliability and economic benefits offered by major offshore wind projects such as SouthCoast Wind, I trust that CRMC will carefully review and appropriately act on the Category B Assent application to move the project forward.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,  
Claire Bobst

## Cstaff1

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**From:** Martha Kuhlman <mkuhlman@bryant.edu>  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 19, 2025 5:48 PM  
**To:** cstaff1@crmc.ri.gov  
**Subject:** 2023-02-090

To whom it may concern,

The fire disasters in Los Angeles underline how important it is for us to find alternatives to fossil fuels as climate change continues to wreck havoc on our neighborhoods, causing costly damage and human suffering. I urge you to approve of SouthCoast wind's permits and help RI meet its climate resilience goals. Renewable energy is the only way forward if we are to protect the environment.

Thank you,

Martha Kuhlman

Martha Kuhlman (she/her)  
Professor of Comparative Literature  
Editor, Cambridge University Press  
History, Literature, and the Arts  
Bryant University  
1150 Douglas Pike  
Smithfield, RI 02917  
<https://marthakuhlman.academia.edu/>

## Cstaff1

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**From:** Susan Chakmakian <susan.chakmakian@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 19, 2025 4:23 PM  
**To:** cstaf1@crmc.ri.gov  
**Subject:** 2023-02-090 Public Comment

Dear CRMC,

I am writing to submit comments on the Category B Assent and Freshwater and Wetlands permit submitted for the SouthCoast Wind Project, currently under consideration by the Rhode Island Coastal Resource Management Council. As a Rhode Island resident who is deeply concerned about our state's long-term environmental sustainability and energy needs, I strongly urge you to approve the application and continue to move the project forward.

Climate change and rising energy demands pose significant challenges for Rhode Islanders, but there is a solution right off our shore — a massive renewable energy resource capable of transforming how we power our region. The SouthCoast Wind project offers an opportunity to reduce our reliance on imported fossil fuels and improve grid reliability by providing a locally-produced, renewable source of power.

Offshore wind energy technology is a proven and reliable source of energy that has been utilized around the world for decades. There are nearly 12,000 offshore wind turbines in operation today across nearly 300 projects. It is now time for Rhode Island to join the modern world by proceeding with these much-needed projects.

By integrating SouthCoast Wind into our energy grid, we can create a more stable system that's capable of meeting the increased demands of our electrified future while supporting the state's ambitious carbon reduction and renewable energy goals. While the short-term, off-season construction may present some temporary inconveniences, it is a small and necessary investment for the significant, long-term benefits that this project offers to our state.

In light of the long-term climate, reliability, and economic benefits offered by major offshore wind projects such as SouthCoast Wind, I trust that CRMC will carefully review and appropriately act on the Category B Assent application to move the project forward.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,  
Susan Chakmakian  
Cranston, RI 02920

## Cstaff1

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**From:** Douglas Shepard <dshep27283@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 19, 2025 3:47 PM  
**To:** cstaf1@crmc.ri.gov  
**Subject:** 2023-02-090 Public Comment

2023-02-090 Public Comment

Dear CRMC,

I am writing to submit comments on the Category B Assent and Freshwater and Wetlands permit submitted for the SouthCoast Wind Project, currently under consideration by the Rhode Island Coastal Resource Management Council. As a Rhode Island resident, I strongly urge you to approve the application and continue to move the project forward.

Climate change and rising energy demands pose significant challenges for Rhode Islanders, but there is a solution right off our shore- a massive renewable energy resource capable of transforming how we power our region. The SouthCoast Wind project offers an opportunity to reduce our reliance on imported fossil fuels and improve grid reliability by providing a locally produced source of power.

By integrating SouthCoast Wind into our energy grid, we can create a more stable system that's capable of meeting the increased demands of our electrified future while supporting the state's ambitious carbon reduction and renewable energy goals. While the short-term, off-season construction may present some inconveniences, it is a small and necessary investment for the significant, long-term benefits this project offers.

In light of the long-term climate, reliability and economic benefits offered by major offshore wind projects such as SouthCoast Wind, I trust that CRMC will carefully review and appropriately act on the Category B Assent application to move the project forward.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Douglas and Donna Shepard  
65 holiday ct  
South Kingstown RI, 02879

## Cstaff1

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**From:** Lindsay Neagle <lindsayneagle@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 19, 2025 9:10 AM  
**To:** cstaff1@crmc.ri.gov  
**Subject:** 2023-02-090 Public Comment

Dear CRMC,

I am writing to submit comments on the Category B Assent and Freshwater and Wetlands permit submitted for the SouthCoast Wind Project, currently under consideration by the Rhode Island Coastal Resource Management Council. As a Rhode Island resident, I strongly urge you to approve the application and continue to move the project forward.

Climate change and rising energy demands pose significant challenges for Rhode Islanders, but there is a solution right off our shore- a massive renewable energy resource capable of transforming how we power our region. The SouthCoast Wind project offers an opportunity to reduce our reliance on imported fossil fuels and improve grid reliability by providing a locally produced source of power.

By integrating SouthCoast Wind into our energy grid, we can create a more stable system that's capable of meeting the increased demands of our electrified future while supporting the state's ambitious carbon reduction and renewable energy goals. While the short-term, off-season construction may present some inconveniences, it is a small and necessary investment for the significant, long-term benefits this project offers.

In light of the long-term climate, reliability and economic benefits offered by major offshore wind projects such as SouthCoast Wind, I trust that CRMC will carefully review and appropriately act on the Category B Assent application to move the project forward.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,  
Lindsay Neagle  
1180 Narragansett Blvd Apt G2  
Cranston, RI 02905

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)

## Cstaff1

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**From:** Monica Maye <monicamay@icloud.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 18, 2025 9:23 PM  
**To:** cstaff1@crmc.ri.gov  
**Subject:** 2023-02-090 Public Comment

Dear CRMC,

I am writing to submit my comments on the Category B Assent and Freshwater and Wetlands permit submitted for the SouthCoast Wind Project, currently under consideration by the Rhode Island Coastal Resource Management Council. As a Rhode Island resident, I strongly urge you to approve the application and continue to move the project forward.

There is nothing more important to the survival of our planet and all living beings on it than slowing, stopping, and reversing climate change. Wind power is a key tool for achieving that goal. By integrating SouthCoast Wind into our energy grid, we can create a more stable system that's capable of meeting the increased demands of our electrified future while supporting the state's ambitious carbon reduction and renewable energy goals.

Although the short-term, off-season construction may present some inconveniences, that is a small price to pay for the significant, long-term benefits this project offers. I therefore hope that CRMC will move this project forward with all due haste.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Monica Maye  
66 Kenyon Rd  
Cranston, RI 02910

## Cstaff1

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**From:** A Pearson <anne.pearson@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 18, 2025 8:32 PM  
**To:** cstff1@crmc.ri.gov  
**Subject:** 2023-02-090 Public Comment

Dear CRMC,

It is important that you approve the SouthCoast Wind Project's applications for Category B Assent and a Freshwater and Wetlands permit. This windfarm project needs to keep moving forward!

With climate change dictating the need to reduce fossil fuel usage and with rising energy demands, this project will provide RI with significant renewable energy, helping to reduce RI's reliance on natural gas and aiding our grid stability.

For me, with a view to the Providence River, it has been exciting to watch the steady stream of ships going back and forth between ProvPort's Orsted/Eversource factory and the windfarms currently under construction. Let's keep this kind of work going!

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,  
Anne Pearson  
Cranston

## Cstaff1

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**From:** martha f <mfraenkel@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 18, 2025 8:23 PM  
**To:** cstff1@crmc.ri.gov  
**Subject:** 2023-02-090 Public Comment

I support wind power and urge you to do so.  
Our lives depend on your choices.

Martha Fraenkel  
Providence RI  
M.S. plant science

## Cstaff1

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**From:** Rick Taylor <4ricktaylor@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 18, 2025 8:23 PM  
**To:** cstff1@crmc.ri.gov  
**Subject:** 2023-02-090 Public Comment

This is urgent! With all of the likely rollbacks on environmental progress, we need to do everything we can to help minimize the effects of climate change. Wind power does that. We need more, not less. This is a no-brainer. Forward thinking countries don't debate this, they do the right thing. We are stuck and our extremely dangerous hesitation and reluctance to embrace science is spreading to other countries. Future generations deserve better!

## Cstaff1

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**From:** Jonaliza D. Ceklic <hello@jonaliza.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 18, 2025 7:50 PM  
**To:** cstff1@crmc.ri.gov  
**Subject:** 2023-02-090 Public Comment

Dear CRMC,

I am writing to submit comments on the Category B Assent and Freshwater and Wetlands application submitted for the SouthCoast Wind Project, currently under consideration by the Rhode Island Coastal Resource Management Council. As a Rhode Island resident, I strongly urge you to approve the application and continue to move the project forward.

We share SouthCoast Wind's belief that economic and environmental progress go hand-in-hand.

Offshore wind presents Rhode Island with an opportunity to create thousands of high-quality, well-paying jobs that foster economic development, while creating domestically produced clean energy for the region. SouthCoast Wind's project will create approximately 17,400 direct full time-equivalent (FTE) job-years over the life of the project, along with significant supply chain opportunities. SouthCoast Wind's commitment to utilizing union labor throughout construction and investing in workforce development in underrepresented communities is tangible progress towards a diverse, local and inclusive workforce that will bring significant benefits to our economy, our environment, and most importantly our local communities.

In light of the long-term benefits offered by major offshore wind projects such as SouthCoast Wind, I trust that CRMC will carefully review and appropriately act on the Category B Assent application to move the project forward.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,  
Jonaliza

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Jonaliza D. Ceklic  
Call/Text: +1(518) 478-3893  
Email: [hello@jonaliza.com](mailto:hello@jonaliza.com)

## Cstaff1

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**From:** Alice Simmons <simmonsalicep@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 18, 2025 7:41 PM  
**To:** cstaff1@crmc.ri.gov  
**Subject:** 2023-02-090 Public Comment

Good evening,

My name is Miles Simmons and I am a resident of Riverside. I am writing to express my support for the development of an offshore wind farm. Every energy source has its benefits and drawbacks, but in the case of wind power, the potential benefits far outweigh the drawbacks. Also I personally know several people who moved to Rhode Island for the express purpose of working on these wind farms. This is an industry that we can use to better the economy of our state, and we have the potential to lead other states in renewable energy going forward.

Regards,  
Miles

## Cstaff1

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**From:** susan razza <razzasusan@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 18, 2025 5:40 PM  
**To:** cstaff1@crmc.ri.gov  
**Subject:** 2023-02-090+Public+Comment

YES YO WIND

## Cstaff1

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**From:** Alec Beckett <abeckett@nail.cc>  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 18, 2025 5:28 PM  
**To:** cstaff1@crmc.ri.gov  
**Subject:** 2023-02-090 Public Comment

I am writing in support of the South Coast wind project. Every watt of power we generate from renewable resources keeps carbon out of our rapidly warming atmosphere. It also provides our region with energy independence and deprives some of the most dangerous entities in the world—Russia, Iran, Venezuela and the oil companies—of revenue.

Please approve the project. My kids will thank you for it.

-Alec Beckett  
174 Freeman Parkway  
Providence, RI

## Cstaff1

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**From:** Joanne DeVoe <joanned@qis.net>  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 18, 2025 5:22 PM  
**To:** cstff1@crmc.ri.gov  
**Subject:** 2023-02-090 Public Comment

Say Yes to Wind!

Here in RI we have the resources of wind and water to have wind mills produce energy. Let's use it!

Joanne DeVoe  
67 King St.  
Warren, RI 02885

## Cstaff1

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**From:** trish sylvester <trishsylvester@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 18, 2025 4:44 PM  
**To:** cstaff1@crmc.ri.gov  
**Subject:** 2023-02-090 Public Comment

Dear CRMC Members,

I am writing to urge your support for the Category B Assent and Freshwater and Wetlands permit application submitted by SouthCoast Wind Project.

The SouthCoast Wind Project should be allowed to proceed for a variety of important reasons:

The project will support Rhode Island's carbon reduction and renewable energy goals.

It will bring long term economic benefits to our state, adding many jobs for a variety of workers.

It will reduce our reliance on oil and gas which is crucial as we try to offset the negative effects of climate change.

Offshore wind technology has been proven to be safe, reliable, and long lasting.

My granddaughter has been working in the offshore wind industry for several years.

She is excited to be working in this important industry that promotes long term benefits for the public and for the environment and climate.

Thank you for your anticipated support.

Patricia Sylvester

11 Seabreeze Lane, Bristol 02809

## Cstaff1

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**From:** Bobbie Hunger <bobbie.hunger@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 18, 2025 4:27 PM  
**To:** cstaff1@crmc.ri.gov  
**Subject:** 2023-02-090 Public Comment

Greetings, members of CRMC.

I am a resident of South Providence and I see the windmills regularly - they give me hope.

Actually, hope is not easy to come by these days. I have great fear for the future of my kids and their kids. I've had a long and good life and I want that for them, too. Using any kind of renewable energy to turn this planet around is essential to us. Please make the health of the generations to come and the planet itself as your top priority, before it's too late. We're counting on you.

Sincerely,  
Bobbie Hunger

## Cstaff1

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**From:** Elena Lledo <lledo.elena@gmx.de>  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 18, 2025 4:24 PM  
**To:** cstaf1@crmc.ri.gov  
**Subject:** 2023-02-090 Public Comment

Dear CRMC,

I am writing to submit comments on the Category B Assent and Freshwater and Wetlands permit submitted for the South Coast Wind Project, currently under consideration by the Rhode Island Coastal Resource Management Council. As a Rhode Island resident, I strongly urge you to approve the application and continue to move the project forward. Climate change and rising energy demands pose significant challenges for Rhode Islanders, but there is a solution right off our shore- a massive renewable energy resource capable of transforming how we power our region. The SouthCoast Wind project offers an opportunity to reduce our reliance on imported fossil fuels and improve grid reliability by providing a locally produced source of power.

By integrating South Coast Wind into our energy grid, we can create a more stable system that's capable of meeting the increased demands of our electrified future while supporting the state's ambitious carbon reduction and renewable energy goals. While the short-term, off-season construction may present some inconveniences, it is a small and necessary investment for the significant, long-term benefits this project offers.

In light of the long-term climate, reliability, and economic benefits offered by major offshore wind projects such as SouthCoast Wind, I trust that CRMC will carefully review and appropriately act on the Category B Assent application to move the project forward.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Elena Lledo, PhD

## Cstaff1

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**From:** CAROL J CRAIG <teachercjcraig@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 18, 2025 1:49 PM  
**To:** cstaff1@crmc.ri.gov  
**Subject:** 2023-02-090 Public Comment

Yes ~ I am 🎯 % in favor of offshore wind farms ~ I can see the wind farm off the coast of Block Island from my house on mainland Rhode Island and I think they are a fantastic success. I attended the original town meeting about them as a FWS commenter in favor of the wind farm and it's been appreciated by everyone on Block Island.  
I'm so happy to see that more wind farms are going to be installed.  
Thank you 🙏 for your efforts in this industry.  
Carol J Craig

Sent from my iPhone

## Cstaff1

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**From:** David Larson <adl21412@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 18, 2025 1:22 PM  
**To:** cstaf1@crmc.ri.gov  
**Subject:** 2023-02-090 Public Comment

Members of the Coastal Resource Management Council:

I am providing a public comment with regards to the Category B Assent and Freshwater and Wetlands permit submitted for the SouthCoast Wind Project. I have been a resident of Rhode Island since 1987 including living several years in Middletown. I urge the CRMC to approve the application so the SouthCoast Wind Project can continue to move forward.

The world must transition to renewable energy sources to reduce fossil fuel based CO2 and other hazardous emissions. Global CO2 levels continue to rise in an ever accelerating path. The rise in CO2 affects global terrestrial AND ocean temperatures and further exacerbates ocean acidification. Both of these impacts will affect the ecosystems of Rhode Islands coastal waterways. The civil construction work required to connect the SouthCoast Wind Project is well planned and will have minimal impact on the environment, particularly compared to what would be required over the life of a fossil fuel based alternative.

The project's long term benefits for Rhode Island's coastal communities far outweigh the costs of the near term construction. I urge you to approve the permit.

Thank you,

A. David Larson

Rumford, RI

[adl21412@gmail.com](mailto:adl21412@gmail.com)

## Cstaff1

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**From:** D Randolph Watts <randywatts@uri.edu>  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 18, 2025 1:00 PM  
**To:** cstaff1@crmc.ri.gov  
**Subject:** 2023-02-090 Public Comment

Please add CRMC approval for the SouthCoast Wind Project. Our region needs to increase the use of electricity greatly -- for heating and cooling buildings, for transportation, and for tech/industrial use. And it would be plain foolish to get that increase from gas or oil or coal energy. Nuclear energy buildup will require proof of promising-sounding technologies to reduce long-lived nuclear waste. Availability of nuclear energy will be too slow to meet our clean energy needs.

Climate change is already serious, and we must not delay to eliminate production of more CO2 pollution. For our region, abundant clean solar and wind energy is available. Our region has the best offshore winds for wind-energy -- and the transmission distance is short to where the energy is needed. So please approve the SouthCoast Wind Project.

Randy Watts

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D. Randolph Watts           [randywatts@uri.edu](mailto:randywatts@uri.edu)  
Professor of Oceanography - 215 South Ferry Road  
University of Rhode Island  
Narragansett, RI 02882 USA tel: +1 401.874.6507

## Cstaff1

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**From:** Lawrence, Charles <charles\_lawrence@brown.edu>  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 18, 2025 12:57 PM  
**To:** cstaff1@crmc.ri.gov  
**Subject:** 2023-02-090 Public Comment

Please, say yes to offshore wind!

Chip Lawrence,  
tiverton , RI

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Charles (Chip) E. Lawrence

Professor of Applied Mathematics, Box F

Center for Computational Biology

Brown University

[Socrates](#): “I cannot teach anybody anything. I can only make them think”

## Cstaff1

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**From:** marian falla <mjfalla@outlook.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 18, 2025 12:40 PM  
**To:** cstff1@crmc.ri.gov  
**Subject:** 2023-02-090 Public Comment

Dear CRMC,

I am writing to submit comments on the Category B Assent and Freshwater and Wetlands permit submitted for the SouthCoast Wind Project, currently under consideration by the Rhode Island Coastal Resource Management Council. As a Rhode Island resident, I strongly urge you to approve the application and continue to move the project forward.

**Climate change is a crisis** and rising energy demands pose significant challenges for Rhode Islanders, but there is a solution right off our shore- a massive renewable energy resource capable of transforming how we power our region. The SouthCoast Wind project offers an opportunity to reduce our reliance on imported fossil fuels and improve grid reliability by providing a locally produced source of power.

By integrating SouthCoast Wind into our energy grid, we can create a more stable system that's capable of meeting the increased demands of our electrified future while supporting the state's ambitious carbon reduction and renewable energy goals. While the short-term, off-season construction may present some inconveniences, it is a small and necessary investment for the significant, long-term benefits this project offers.

In light of the long-term climate, reliability and economic benefits offered by major offshore wind projects such as SouthCoast Wind, I trust that CRMC will carefully review and appropriately act on the Category B Assent application to move the project forward.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,  
Marian Falla  
75 Green Lane  
Jamestown RI  
4012079201

## Cstaff1

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**From:** Jamie Haines Matthews <jamiehaines@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 18, 2025 12:30 PM  
**To:** cstff1@crmc.ri.gov  
**Subject:** 2023-02-090 Public Comment

### **CRMC's Category B Assent and Freshwater Wetlands Permit South Coast Wind**

**RE: 2023-02-090 Public Comment**

January 17, 2025

Dear CMRC staff,

I am writing to submit comments in support of the Category B Assent and Freshwater and Wetlands Permit for the SouthCoast Wind Project. As a resident of Jamestown, Rhode Island, and an advocate for our coastal resilience and the transition to renewable energy, I strongly encourage you to approve this permit and allow the project to move forward.

Climate change poses the single greatest threat to the coastal resources of Rhode Island, driving sea level rise, greater storm intensity and frequency and increasing water temperatures. Jamestown saw three winter storms in a period of 6 weeks last winter, that not only trisected the island, but also closed schools and businesses, leaving a portion of the community unable to evacuate the island if needed. Across the state coastlines are being lost to sea level rise and communities damaged by increased flooding, damaging the coastal resources that make Rhode Island unique and drive the local economies. The Coastal Resources Management Council holds the crucial responsibility of preserving and protecting these resources.

Our greatest resource for transitioning to renewable energy we hold in our wind resources off the coast, and is how Rhode Island can make the greatest impact in the energy transition. Rhode Island's recent selection of SouthCoast Wind to negotiate contracts for 200MW of renewable energy—enough to power 125,000 homes—underscores the state's urgent need for this project.

SouthCoast Wind's application demonstrates a commitment to carrying out its proposed activities in a safe and environmentally responsible manner. While temporary disruptions during construction are inevitable, they pale in comparison to the long-term environmental and economic benefits this project will deliver. Offshore wind energy has been successfully implemented worldwide, with nearly 12,000 turbines operating across almost 300 projects, proving its reliability as a modern energy solution. Rhode Island must now follow suit to secure a sustainable and resilient future.

With extensive scientific investigations and a carefully designed plan, SouthCoast Wind's proposal reflects the high standards expected by the CRMC for responsible coastal development and should be approved without delay.

Sincerely,

Jamie Haines Matthews  
1 Fox Run, Jamestown, RI 02825

## Cstaff1

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**From:** George Voutes <george\_voutes@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 18, 2025 12:10 PM  
**To:** cstff1@crmc.ri.gov  
**Subject:** 2023-02-090 Public Comment

Dear CRMC,

I am writing to submit comments on the Category B Assent and Freshwater and Wetlands application submitted for the SouthCoast Wind Project, currently under consideration by the Rhode Island Coastal Resource Management Council.

As a Rhode Island resident, I strongly urge you to approve the application and continue to move the project forward. My house and neighborhood in Bristol is threatened by rising sea levels. I see first hand during high tides and storms the growing devastation that rising sea levels are having on my property. It is truly horrifying to whiteness sea water creeping closer and closer to my house, and I am not even in a flood zone!!

We share SouthCoast Wind's belief that economic and environmental progress go hand-in-hand.

Offshore wind also presents Rhode Island with an opportunity to create thousands of high-quality, well-paying jobs that foster economic development, while creating domestically produced clean energy for the region.

SouthCoast Wind's project will create approximately 17,400 direct full time-equivalent (FTE) job-years over the life of the project, along with significant supply chain opportunities. SouthCoast Wind's commitment to utilizing union labor throughout construction

and investing in workforce development in underrepresented communities is tangible progress towards a diverse, local and inclusive workforce that will bring significant benefits to our economy, our environment, and most importantly our local communities. Where else are these type of innovative good jobs going to come from? The jobs will go to neighboring states and we don't want that to happen.

In light of the long-term benefits offered by major offshore wind projects such as SouthCoast Wind, I trust that CRMC will carefully review and appropriately act on the Category B Assent application to move the project forward.

The benefits of SouthCoast Wind far far outweigh any negatives (perceived or real). We will all look back very soon and wish we had accelerated alternative energy projects like SouthCoast Wind. Our state, our children, our grandchildren, and our existence requires we take action now.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

George Voutes  
Bristol, RI  
US Army Combat Veteran

## Cstaff1

---

**From:** Marcie Knox <marcie.knox@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 18, 2025 11:33 AM  
**To:** cstaff1@crmc.ri.gov  
**Subject:** 2023-02-090 Public Comment

I want to add my positive assent to our necessary commitment to properly permitted “wind farms” in our oceans.

With proper oversight , these turbines can safely and bring to our shores the power we need to dial back the burden of fossil energy so impacting our shores now.

I miss the clean, unobstructed ocean,s horizon, while I applaud the technical towers of power we need to live on a health planet, the only on we have!

Respectfully,

Marcia Lindsay  
18 Constellation .ct.  
Jamestown, RI 02835  
Sent from my iPad=

## Cstaff1

---

**From:** Daniel Reiser <danreiser@icloud.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 18, 2025 11:25 AM  
**To:** cstaff1@crmc.ri.gov  
**Subject:** 2023-02-090 Public Comment

Dear CRMC,

I urge you to approve the Category B Assent and Freshwater and Wetlands permit for the SouthCoast Wind Project.

This project will provide a reliable source of renewable energy, reducing our reliance on imported fossil fuels and supporting Rhode Island's carbon reduction and renewable energy goals. The construction inconveniences are a small price to pay for the long-term benefits.

Please act on the application and move the SouthCoast Wind project forward.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Daniel Reiser

Daniel Reiser  
[danreiser@icloud.com](mailto:danreiser@icloud.com)  
917-671-6831

## Cstaff1

---

**From:** Johnny Truant <johnny.a.truant@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 18, 2025 11:21 AM  
**To:** cstff1@crmc.ri.gov  
**Subject:** 2023-02-090 Public Comment

Dear CRMC,

I am writing to submit comments on the Category B Assent and Freshwater and Wetlands permit submitted for the SouthCoast Wind Project, currently under consideration by the Rhode Island Coastal Resource Management Council. As a Rhode Island resident, I strongly urge you to approve the application and continue to move the project forward.

Climate change and rising energy demands pose significant challenges for Rhode Islanders, but there is a solution right off our shore- a massive renewable energy resource capable of transforming how we power our region. The SouthCoast Wind project offers an opportunity to reduce our reliance on imported fossil fuels and improve grid reliability by providing a locally produced source of power.

By integrating SouthCoast Wind into our energy grid, we can create a more stable system that's capable of meeting the increased demands of our electrified future while supporting the state's ambitious carbon reduction and renewable energy goals. While the short-term, off-season construction may present some inconveniences, it is a small and necessary investment for the significant, long-term benefits this project offers.

In light of the long-term climate, reliability and economic benefits offered by major offshore wind projects such as SouthCoast Wind, I trust that CRMC will carefully review and appropriately act on the Category B Assent application to move the project forward.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Jonathan Truant

## Cstaff1

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**From:** Katherine Lacasse <katherine.lacasse@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 18, 2025 10:59 AM  
**To:** cstaff1@crmc.ri.gov  
**Subject:** 2023-02-090 Public Comment

To whom it may concern,

My name is Katherine Lacasse and I live at 108 Myrtle Ave in Cranston, RI. I am writing to submit comments on the Category B Assent and Freshwater and Wetlands application submitted for the SouthCoast Wind Project, currently under consideration by the Rhode Island Coastal Resource Management Council. As a Rhode Island resident, I strongly urge you to approve the application and continue to move the project forward.

Rhode Island and the rest of the country needs to move away from fossil fuels and offshore wind projects like this are a great opportunity to provide energy to Rhode Islanders.

Thank you,

Katherine Lacasse

## Cstaff1

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**From:** Madelin Schlenz <madelinschlenz@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 18, 2025 10:46 AM  
**To:** cstaff1@crmc.ri.gov  
**Subject:** 2023-02-090+Public+Comment

Hi,

I am writing to you to ask you to support the offshore wind project.

Thank you!

Madelin Schlenz  
401-651-5808

## Cstaff1

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**From:** G M <gmastoras@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 18, 2025 10:14 AM  
**To:** cstaff1@crmc.ri.gov  
**Subject:** 2023-02-090 Public Comment

Hello CRMC - I'll keep it brief. We need wind power to help us keep our world as it is. The South Coast Wind Project is critical and needed.

regards,

Gregg Mastoras

## Cstaff1

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**From:** Kip Coerper <kipcoerper@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 18, 2025 10:07 AM  
**To:** cstff1@crmc.ri.gov  
**Subject:** 2023-02-090 Public Comment

Dear CRMC,

I am writing to submit comments on the Category B Assent and Freshwater and Wetlands permit submitted for the SouthCoast Wind Project, currently under consideration by the Rhode Island Coastal Resource Management Council. As a Rhode Island resident, I strongly urge you to approve the application and continue to move the project forward.

Climate change and rising energy demands pose significant challenges for Rhode Islanders, but there is a solution right off our shore- a massive renewable energy resource capable of transforming how we power our region. The SouthCoast Wind project offers an opportunity to reduce our reliance on imported fossil fuels and improve grid reliability by providing a locally produced source of power.

By integrating SouthCoast Wind into our energy grid, we can create a more stable system that's capable of meeting the increased demands of our electrified future while supporting the state's ambitious carbon reduction and renewable energy goals. While the short-term, off-season construction may present some inconveniences, it is a small and necessary investment for the significant, long-term benefits this project offers.

In light of the long-term climate, reliability and economic benefits offered by major offshore wind projects such as SouthCoast Wind, I trust that CRMC will carefully review and appropriately act on the Category B Assent application to move the project forward.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Kip Coerper  
55 Cedarwood Lane  
Hope valley, RI  
02832

## Cstaff1

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**From:** Dubey, Anna <anna\_dubey@brown.edu>  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 18, 2025 10:00 AM  
**To:** cstff1@crmc.ri.gov  
**Subject:** 2023-02-090 Public Comment

Dear CRMC,

I am writing to submit comments on the Category B Assent and Freshwater and Wetlands permit submitted for the SouthCoast Wind Project, currently under consideration by the Rhode Island Coastal Resource Management Council. As a student in Rhode Island, I strongly urge you to approve the application and continue to move the project forward.

Climate change and rising energy demands pose significant challenges for Rhode Islanders, but there is a solution right off our shore- a massive renewable energy resource capable of transforming how we power our region. The SouthCoast Wind project offers an opportunity to reduce our reliance on imported fossil fuels and improve grid reliability by providing a locally produced source of power.

By integrating SouthCoast Wind into our energy grid, we can create a more stable system that's capable of meeting the increased demands of our electrified future while supporting the state's ambitious carbon reduction and renewable energy goals. While the short-term, off-season construction may present some inconveniences, it is a small and necessary investment for the significant, long-term benefits this project offers.

In light of the long-term climate, reliability and economic benefits offered by major offshore wind projects such as SouthCoast Wind, I trust that CRMC will carefully review and appropriately act on the Category B Assent application to move the project forward.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,  
Anna Dubey

## Cstaff1

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**From:** Roger Carlsten <rogernc@mac.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 18, 2025 9:59 AM  
**To:** cstaf1@crmc.ri.gov  
**Subject:** 2023-02-090 Public Comment

Roger Carlsten here - happen to live in Providence.  
I, like I hope and trust do so many others, strongly endorse wind power in RI.  
Thank you for your work & protections.

Be healthy, be happy, be kind, be nice.  
Best wishes,  
Roger=

## Cstaff1

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**From:** Jay Lustgarten <jaylustgarten@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 18, 2025 9:54 AM  
**To:** cstaff1@crmc.ri.gov  
**Subject:** 2023-02-090 Public Comment. Just say yes!

Please approve the SouthCoast Wind Project currently under consideration. Let's keep our national wind energy lead in Rhode Island!

Thank you,

Jay Lustgarten

23 School St., 4W

Westerly, RI. 02891

Tel/text: 401-596-4548

Email: jaylustgarten@gmail.com=

## Cstaff1

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**From:** kristen allen <kristen37allen@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 18, 2025 9:15 AM  
**To:** cstff1@crmc.ri.gov  
**Subject:** 2023-02-090 Public Comment

Dear CRMC,

I am writing regarding the Category B Assent and Freshwater and Wetlands permit submitted for the SouthCoast Wind Project, currently under consideration by the Rhode Island Coastal Resource Management Council. As a lifelong Rhode Island resident, I strongly urge you to approve the application so the project may move forward.

Climate change and rising energy demands pose significant challenges for Rhode Islanders. The SouthCoast Wind project provides our region the ability to reduce our reliance on fossil fuels and improve grid reliability by providing a locally produced source of power. It is a win win, creating a more stable system to meet the energy demands of our state while also decreasing our carbon footprint. It is past time that we focus on long term benefits rather than short term inconvenience or benefit.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Best Regards,

Kristen Allen  
108 Elmwood Dr  
North Kingstown, RI 02852

## Cstaff1

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**From:** kdescoteaux <kdescoteaux@cox.net>  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 18, 2025 8:51 AM  
**To:** cstaff1@crmc.ri.gov  
**Subject:** 2023-02-090 Public Comment

Hi.

I am a lifelong Rhode Islander. I am in support of offshore wind and I urge you to approve the permits for this project. It would mean more jobs and a more diverse energy portfolio for the region

Thank you

Kevin Descoteaux

328 Admiral St.

Providence, RI, 02908

[Yahoo Mail: Search, Organize, Conquer](#)

## Cstaff1

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**From:** Kim Cobb <kimcobb@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 18, 2025 8:48 AM  
**To:** cstaff1@crmc.ri.gov  
**Subject:** 2023-02-090 Public Comment - pro offshore wind

As a climate scientist, mom to four young children, and resident of RI, I'm writing in strong support of offshore wind as a boon to our state economy, our decarbonization goals, and our position as a national leader on climate.

The stakes are high - we must find a way to harness the carbon free power off our shores. I fear that if we cannot proceed in this moment, it will spell the death of offshore wind in the US.

I cannot fathom a future defined by accelerated warming and deterioration for generations to come. The time to act is now. History is watching.

Best wishes,  
Kim

Sent from mobile device

Kim Cobb

Director, Institute at Brown for Environment and Society Professor, Dept of Earth, Environmental, and Planetary Sciences Brown University

Pronouns: she/her=

## Cstaff1

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**From:** Dorothy Sinchuk <dhsinchuk@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 18, 2025 8:26 AM  
**To:** cstaff1@crmc.ri.gov  
**Subject:** 2023-02-090 Public Comment

YES, YES, YES to WIND!!

## Cstaff1

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**From:** Craig O'Connor <craig.r.oconnor@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 18, 2025 8:22 AM  
**To:** cstaf1@crmc.ri.gov  
**Subject:** 2023-02-090 Public Comment

**Subject:** 2023-02-090 Public Comment

Dear CRMC,

I am writing to submit comments on the Category B Assent and Freshwater and Wetlands permit submitted for the SouthCoast Wind Project, currently under consideration by the Rhode Island Coastal Resource Management Council. As a Rhode Island resident, I strongly urge you to approve the application and continue to move the project forward.

Climate change and rising energy demands pose significant challenges for Rhode Islanders, but there is a solution right off our shore- a massive renewable energy resource capable of transforming how we power our region. The SouthCoast Wind project offers an opportunity to reduce our reliance on imported fossil fuels and improve grid reliability by providing a locally produced source of power.

By integrating SouthCoast Wind into our energy grid, we can create a more stable system that's capable of meeting the increased demands of our electrified future while supporting the state's ambitious carbon reduction and renewable energy goals. While the short-term, off-season construction may present some inconveniences, it is a small and necessary investment for the significant, long-term benefits this project offers.

In light of the long-term climate, reliability and economic benefits offered by major offshore wind projects such as SouthCoast Wind, I trust that CRMC will carefully review and appropriately act on the Category B Assent application to move the project forward.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Craig O'Connor  
craig.r.oconnor@gmail.com  
(401) 479-9787

## Cstaff1

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**From:** Ruth Newquist <ruthnewq@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 18, 2025 8:21 AM  
**To:** cstaff1@crmc.ri.gov  
**Subject:** 2023-02-090 Public Comment

YES to wind! Absolutely!

Ruth Newquist  
South Kingstown resident and registered voter.

Thank you for all you do.

## Cstaff1

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**From:** Richard J McBride <rickjmcbride@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 18, 2025 8:21 AM  
**To:** cstaff1@crmc.ri.gov  
**Subject:** 2023-02-090+Public+Comment

Yes to wind power!  
Rick McBride  
Barrington, RI

## Cstaff1

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**From:** Terry Meyer <tmeyer02906@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 18, 2025 8:20 AM  
**To:** cstaff1@crmc.ri.gov  
**Subject:** 2023-02-090 Public Comment

I am writing to submit comments on the Category B Assent and Freshwater and Wetlands application submitted for the SouthCoast Wind Project, currently under consideration by the Rhode Island Coastal Resource Management Council. As a Rhode Island resident, I strongly urge you to approve the application and continue to move the project forward.

We share SouthCoast Wind's belief that economic and environmental progress go hand-in-hand.

Offshore wind presents Rhode Island with an opportunity to create thousands of high-quality, well-paying jobs that foster economic development, while creating domestically produced clean energy for the region. SouthCoast Wind's project will create approximately 17,400 direct full time-equivalent (FTE) job-years over the life of the project, along with significant supply chain opportunities. SouthCoast Wind's commitment to utilizing union labor throughout construction and investing in workforce development in underrepresented communities is tangible progress towards a diverse, local and inclusive workforce that will bring significant benefits to our economy, our environment, and most importantly our local communities.

In light of the long-term benefits offered by major offshore wind projects such as SouthCoast Wind, I trust that CRMC will carefully review and appropriately act on the Category B Assent application to move the project forward.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,  
Terry Meyer, Providence

Terry Meyer  
[terry401@duck.com](mailto:terry401@duck.com)  
401.258.1016

## Cstaff1

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**From:** Jake Jones <jakejones0@icloud.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 18, 2025 8:20 AM  
**To:** cstff1@crmc.ri.gov  
**Subject:** 2023-02-090 Public Comment

Dear CRMC,

I am writing to submit comments on the Category B Assent and Freshwater and Wetlands permit submitted for the SouthCoast Wind Project, currently under consideration by the Rhode Island Coastal Resource Management Council. As a Rhode Island resident, I strongly urge you to approve the application and continue to move the project forward.

Climate change and rising energy demands pose significant challenges for Rhode Islanders, but there is a solution right off our shore- a massive renewable energy resource capable of transforming how we power our region. The SouthCoast Wind project offers an opportunity to reduce our reliance on imported fossil fuels and improve grid reliability by providing a locally produced source of power.

By integrating SouthCoast Wind into our energy grid, we can create a more stable system that's capable of meeting the increased demands of our electrified future while supporting the state's ambitious carbon reduction and renewable energy goals. While the short-term, off-season construction may present some inconveniences, it is a small and necessary investment for the significant, long-term benefits this project offers.

In light of the long-term climate, reliability and economic benefits offered by major offshore wind projects such as SouthCoast Wind, I trust that CRMC will carefully review and appropriately act on the Category B Assent application to move the project forward.

Thank you,  
-Jake Jones

## Cstaff1

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**From:** Abby Huber <abigail.huber@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 18, 2025 8:19 AM  
**To:** cstff1@crmc.ri.gov  
**Subject:** 2023-02-090 Public Comment

To the CRMC:

I am writing to submit comments on the Category B Assent and Freshwater and Wetlands application submitted for the SouthCoast Wind Project, currently under consideration by the RI CRMC. As a Rhode Island resident, I strongly urge you to approve the application and continue to move the project forward.

Economic and environmental progress go hand-in-hand.

Offshore wind is an opportunity to create thousands of high-quality, well-paying jobs that foster economic development, while creating domestically produced clean energy for the region. SouthCoast Wind's project will create approximately 17,400 direct full time-equivalent (FTE) job-years over the life of the project, along with significant supply chain opportunities. SouthCoast Wind's commitment to utilizing union labor throughout construction and investing in workforce development in underrepresented communities is tangible progress towards a diverse, local and inclusive workforce that will bring significant benefits to our economy, our environment, and most importantly our local communities.

In light of the long-term benefits offered by major offshore wind projects such as SouthCoast Wind, I trust that CRMC will carefully review and appropriately act on the Category B Assent application to move the project forward.

The climate crisis is a serious threat and this is something we can do to help mitigate it.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,  
Abigail Huber

Abigail Huber

ATA-Certified Translator (German to English)

Certified Healthcare Interpreter (CHI – Spanish)

MA, International Literatures

**Abigail Huber Language Services, LLC**

[www.ajordanhuber.com](http://www.ajordanhuber.com)

## Cstaff1

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**From:** Amanda Barker <amanda@greenenergyconsumers.org>  
**Sent:** Friday, January 17, 2025 5:07 PM  
**To:** cstaff1@crmc.ri.gov  
**Subject:** 2023-02-090 Public Comment  
**Attachments:** 12025 NE4OSW Comments Re SouthCoast CRMC Permit.pdf

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

Hello,

Please see attached for the Rhode Island State Committee of New England for Offshore Wind's comments on File No. 20230-02-090 in support of the SouthCoast Wind Category B Assent and Freshwater Wetlands Permits.

Thank you for your consideration.

Best,  
Amanda

Amanda Barker (she/her)  
Clean Energy Program Coordinator  
(203) 455-6230  
284 Amory St, Boston, MA 02130 | 188 Valley St Suite 221, Providence, RI 02909  
[www.greenenergyconsumers.org](http://www.greenenergyconsumers.org)

*Empowering consumers and communities to speed a just transition to a zero-carbon future.*





**Rhode Island for Offshore Wind**

Acadia Center  
Audubon Society of Rhode Island  
Ceres  
Clean Water Action  
Climate Action Rhode Island  
Climate Jobs Rhode Island  
Environment Council of Rhode Island  
Green Energy Consumers Alliance  
Grow Smart Rhode Island  
National Wildlife Federation  
North Atlantic States Regional Council of Carpenters  
Oceanic Network  
Power Options  
Rhode Island Building Trades  
Roots2Empower

**Allies**

Piledrivers Local 56  
Carpenters Local 330  
Carpenters local 346

January 20th, 2025

Rhode Island Coastal Resources Management Council  
O.S. Government Center  
4808 Tower Hill Road, Rm 116  
Wakefield, RI, 02879

**RE: Comments on File No. 20230-02-090 – Support  
for SouthCoast Wind Category B Assent and  
Freshwater Wetlands Permit**

Dear Coastal Resources Management Council,

As members and allies of the RI State Committee of New England for Offshore Wind (NE4OSW), we respectfully submit the following comments in support of SouthCoast Wind’s Category B Assent and Freshwater Wetlands Permit Applications. NE4OSW is a broad-based coalition of environmental, academic, labor, business, and social justice organizations united by our vision to combat climate change by increasing the supply of clean energy to our regional grid through responsibly developed offshore wind.

Climate change poses an existential threat to Rhode Island's coastline, and the transition to renewable energy is essential to addressing this challenge. The SouthCoast Wind Project represents a transformative opportunity to harness a local, clean, and reliable energy source while stimulating the economy, improving environmental justice, and advancing the state’s carbon reduction goals. By approving this project, the CRMC will be taking a vital step toward preserving Rhode Island's coastline for future generations.

The SouthCoast Wind application demonstrates a commitment to environmental stewardship, incorporating mitigation measures that go beyond standard requirements. However, we encourage the CRMC to apply its local expertise to further ensure robust protections for the environment, wildlife, and fisheries wherever feasible. The infrastructure and activities proposed—such as undersea cables and horizontal directional drilling—are proven and well-understood technologies with precedents across the globe. The Bureau of Ocean Energy Management has ensured through its environmental review process

that any impacts from SouthCoast will be avoided, minimized, and mitigated to a high standard, while delivering significant long-term environmental and economic benefits to the region.

Additionally, SouthCoast Wind will provide substantial economic advantages to our state. The project is expected to generate thousands of well-paying jobs and stimulate local supply chains, fostering economic development while ensuring clean, domestically produced energy. Its commitment to utilizing union labor and investing in workforce development for underrepresented communities is commendable and ensures benefits for all Rhode Islanders.

The selection of SouthCoast Wind to provide 200 MW of renewable energy to Rhode Island and 1,000 MW to Massachusetts demonstrates the project's critical importance to meeting New England's energy needs. Offshore wind is a proven technology used successfully around the world, and the Ocean State is well-positioned to embrace this necessary solution to combat the climate crisis.

Considering the comprehensive review SouthCoast Wind has already undergone and the clear benefits the project provides to Rhode Island, we respectfully urge the CRMC to grant SouthCoast Wind's Category B Assent and Freshwater Wetlands permit.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Amanda Barker

Green Energy Consumers Alliance

*Chair, Rhode Island State Committee*

**New England for Offshore Wind**

**From:** Joel Gates <jagates@verizon.net>  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 16, 2025 10:39 PM  
**To:** cstaff1@crmc.ri.gov  
**Subject:** 2023-02-090 Public Comment

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

Dear CRMC,

I am writing in support of the SouthCoast Wind Project's application for the Category B Assent and the Freshwater and Wetlands Permit. I urge the CRMC to approve the application so this important project can continue to completion. We, as a state and region, have made great strides in offshore wind development. Let's not stop now!

The SouthCoast Wind project is one more way Rhode Island can attack climate change with a local solution. Being local, this project will add economic benefits to Rhode Island during construction and also during years of operation, Right now many of Rhode Island's energy dollars are sent out of state (for gas from Pennsylvania, for example). Local workers will be the beneficiaries. And Rhode Island will benefit by collecting income taxes from those workers.

Since some of the generated electricity from the turbines will be coming to RI, we can further our support for Rhode Island's Act on Climate CO2 reduction goals. The SouthCoast Wind project will provide stability and support for the anticipated increased demand for electricity. While electric rates may increase in the short term, long term rates will be much more stable than they are currently.

I strongly encourage the CRMC to approve this application so the SouthCoast Wind Project can move forward. Rhode Island will benefit!

Thank you for considering my thoughts.

Sincerely,  
Joel Gates  
15 Elmdale Road  
N. Scituate, RI 02857

**cstaff1@crmc.ri.gov**

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**From:** Aislinn Hanley <aislinn@climatejobsri.org>  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 16, 2025 10:09 AM  
**To:** cstaff1@crmc.ri.gov  
**Subject:** 2023-02-090 Public Comment  
**Attachments:** CJRI Support CRMC 2023-02-090.pdf

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Hello,

I am submitting Climate Jobs RI's comments supporting the approval of a Category B Assent and Freshwater Wetlands Permit for the SouthCoast Wind Project. Thank you!

Sincerely,  
Aislinn

Aislinn Hanley (she/her)  
Program Director  
Climate Jobs Rhode Island  
Institute for Labor Studies & Research  
1540 Pontiac Ave. Suite A Cranston, RI 02920  
[aislinn@climatejobsri.org](mailto:aislinn@climatejobsri.org) | 401.752.9336  
[www.climatejobsri.org](http://www.climatejobsri.org)

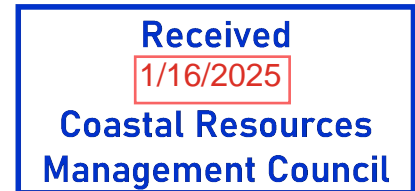




Climate Jobs Rhode Island  
1540 Pontiac Ave Suite A,  
Cranston, RI 02920

December 20, 2024

ATTN: Raymond C. Coia  
Coastal Resource Management Council  
4808 Tower Hill Road, Suite 116  
Wakefield, RI 02879



RE: 2023-02-090 Public Comment- Support for the Approval of a Category B Assent and Freshwater Wetlands Permit for the SouthCoast Wind Project

Dear Chairman Coia,

On behalf of Climate Jobs Rhode Island, I am writing to express our strong support for the SouthCoast Wind Project and its associated Category B Assent and Freshwater Wetlands Permit. This project is a crucial step forward in advancing both Rhode Island's clean energy future and its commitment to economic justice, by creating good jobs and supporting a just transition for workers and communities.

Climate Jobs Rhode Island (CJRI) is a coalition of more than thirty (30) labor unions, environmental, and community organizations working together to make Rhode Island a national leader in the development of a resilient 21st century clean energy economy that leaves nobody behind, centering Rhode Island's frontline communities and frontline workers.

Our members range from those who represent the frontline workers who build, repair, and maintain Rhode Island's critical infrastructure and energy systems, to community groups like the United Way of RI, Fuerza Laboral, and the Childhood Lead Action Project; to environmental organizations like The Nature Conservancy, and the Audubon Society of Rhode Island.

As the state of Rhode Island transitions to a green economy, it is essential that we transition to renewable energy in a way that benefits workers, families, and communities. The SouthCoast Wind Project represents a unique opportunity to do so. With offshore wind energy being a proven and scalable solution, this project will help address the growing demand for clean energy while providing well-paying, high quality jobs for Rhode Islanders.

The project's job creation potential is significant, with estimates showing that it will generate over 15,000 direct full-time equivalent job-years over the course of its life. This includes opportunities in construction, operations, and maintenance, as well as in the broader supply chain. These are good jobs—jobs that will support families and provide pathways to long-term careers in the clean energy sector. By prioritizing local hiring and workforce development, particularly in communities that have historically been marginalized, SouthCoast Wind will help build a more inclusive and equitable energy economy.

Beyond job creation, the SouthCoast Wind Project will deliver broader community benefits. The transition to renewable energy is not just about reducing carbon emissions; it's about ensuring that working-class communities, particularly those in energy burdened regions, are at the center. This project

will provide a boost to local economies, support businesses across Rhode Island, and stimulate long-term economic growth. RI's share of the project will power more than 125,000 homes. Importantly, the benefits extend to communities of color, low-income communities, and those that have long relied on industries such as fossil fuels. The investment in workforce development and local hiring is a direct response to the needs of these communities, ensuring that the green economy is not a distant promise, but a real, tangible benefit today.

While construction may involve temporary disruptions, these are necessary trade-offs for the long-term benefits that will be realized by the entire state. The mitigation measures in place, as described in the application, demonstrate SouthCoast Wind's commitment to minimizing environmental and community impact during construction. The infrastructure and activities outlined in this permit are neither unique nor unprecedented; numerous underground and undersea cables already exist in Rhode Island, providing essential services to residents. Similarly, construction activities such as dredging and horizontal directional drilling (HDD) are common in the state and involve well-understood processes.

Finally, SouthCoast Wind has already received key approvals from state and federal agencies, reflecting the thoroughness of its planning and the quality of its proposal. These prior approvals include a Federal Consistency determination granted by the CRMC earlier this year, as well as several permits from state agencies in Massachusetts equivalent to the CRMC. RI's decision to select SouthCoast Wind to provide 200 MW of renewable energy to the grid underscores the state's recognition of the project's importance in meeting our energy needs and achieving our renewable energy goals.

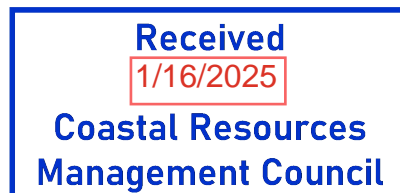
For these reasons, we urge the CRMC to approve the Category B Assent and Freshwater Wetlands Permit, allowing the SouthCoast Wind Project to move forward. By doing so, CRMC will be taking a critical step toward ensuring that Rhode Island's transition to a green economy is just, equitable, and beneficial to workers and communities across the state.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide these comments. Please contact us if you have any further questions.

Sincerely,



Aislinn Hanley  
Program Director, Climate Jobs RI  
aislinn@climatejobsri.org



**cstaff1@crmc.ri.gov**

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**From:** David Brunetti <davidabrunetti1@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 16, 2025 9:14 AM  
**To:** cstaff1@crmc.ri.gov  
**Subject:** 2023-02-090 Public Comment  
**Attachments:** SouthCoast Wind\_2023-02-090 Public Comment\_1.16.25.docx

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Dear CRMC,

Attached are my comments regarding the SouthCoast Wind project.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

David A. Brunetti  
935 Sherman Farm Road  
Harrisville, RI 02830

Dear CRMC,

I am writing to submit comments on the Category B Assent and Freshwater and Wetlands permit submitted for the SouthCoast Wind Project, currently under consideration by the Rhode Island Coastal Resource Management Council.

As a Rhode Island resident, an environmental and wildlife activist, and someone who is greatly concerned about the future of all life on this planet, I strongly urge you to approve the application and continue to move the project forward.

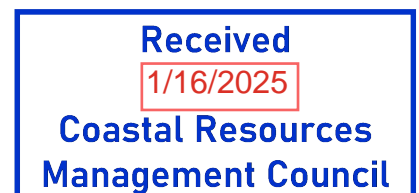
As you are aware, the primary responsibility of the CRMC is the preservation and protection of Rhode Island's coastal resources. Climate change is the single biggest threat to these resources, and a rapid transition to renewables like offshore wind is the only way to truly preserve and protect Rhode Island's coast. To this end, there is a solution right off our shore- a massive renewable energy resource capable of transforming how we power our region. The SouthCoast Wind project offers an opportunity to reduce our reliance on imported fossil fuels and improve grid reliability by providing a locally produced source of power. Offshore wind also presents Rhode Island with an opportunity to create thousands of high-quality, well-paying jobs that foster economic development, while creating domestically produced clean energy for the region.

SouthCoast Wind's application provides extensive detail on how the proposed activities will be carried out in a safe & environmentally responsible way, implementing mitigation measures beyond what is typically required.

While construction may cause temporary disruptions, these will pale in comparison to the lasting environmental and economic benefits of the project.

The infrastructure and activities described in this permit are in no way unique or unheard of, dozens of underground & undersea cables already exist in Rhode Island and provide essential services to residents. Similarly, construction activities like dredging and horizontal directional drilling (HDD) are commonplace in Rhode Island, and are well understood processes.

SouthCoast Wind has already undergone extensive review through parallel permitting processes at the local, state, and federal level, and has already been granted permits in many of these proceedings. These prior approvals include a Federal Consistency approval

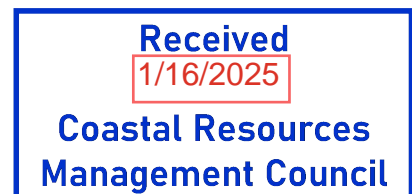


granted by the CRMC earlier this year, and several permits from state agencies equivalent to the CRMC in Massachusetts. This is a testament to the quality of their proposal.

Considering the long-term climate, reliability and economic benefits offered by major offshore wind projects such as SouthCoast Wind, I trust that CRMC will carefully review and appropriately act on the Category B Assent application to move the project forward.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide you with my comments on this matter and for your consideration thereof.

Sincerely,  
David A. Brunetti  
935 Sherman Farm Road  
Harrisville, RI 02830



**From:** Roberts, J. Timmons <j\_timmons\_roberts@brown.edu>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 15, 2025 5:20 PM  
**To:** cstaff1@crmc.ri.gov  
**Subject:** 2023-02-090 Public Comment from Timmons Roberts

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

Dear CRMC Members and Staff,

As you may remember, I've participated in several key hearings the CRMC has held about offshore wind siting and construction. I appreciate the tough work you have to do, including the hours of hearings and piles of comments you get. I'll try to keep mine short.

SouthCoast Wind has done years of investigations on how to minimize its impacts of this project. However, like any energy infrastructure, there will be impacts. Most will be in construction, but these are exceedingly minor compared to the impacts of continued fossil fuel use (which requires 450 times more mining than renewables).

I know a focus here is on the cables. Underground cables are everywhere, and those buried in the seabed are all over world (<https://www.submarinecablemap.com>) and the Narragansett Bay (as seen on nautical charts, like here <https://www.oceangrafix.com/chart/zoom?chart=13221>). The jet plowing to put these cables under the river and bay and seafloors is very localized, with far lower impacts than bottom trawl fishing.


Climate change is the greatest threat the coasts you all are tasked to protect face. To slow the heating, we have to get off fossil fuels as fast as possible, and our analysis with SEI (<https://www.sei.org/publications/deeper-decarbonization-in-the-ocean-state/>) showed that offshore wind is the main tool we have to do so in the short term, which is the time-frame that matters most. SouthCoast Wind could power over 100,000 homes--that's a major piece of the puzzle.

My 23 years of studying the United National climate negotiations have shown me that if we in the richest nation on earth don't act, no one else will.

Thank you for considering my points in your decision.

Timmons

--

 <p><b>BROWN</b> Institute at Brown for Environment &amp; Society</p>	<p><b>J. Timmons Roberts</b> (he/him) Ittleson Professor of Environment and Society Executive Director, <a href="#">Climate Social Science Network</a> Director, the <a href="#">Climate and Development Lab</a> Phone 401-863-5152 <a href="#">@timmonsroberts</a> <a href="#">Institute at Brown for Environment and Society</a></p> <p><a href="#">Sign up</a> for the IBES Community Newsletter</p>
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**From:** Tom Clemow <tom.clemow@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 14, 2025 4:08 PM  
**To:** cstaff1@crmc.ri.gov  
**Subject:** 2023-02-090 Public Comment

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Coastal Resources Management Council and staff,

To preserve and protect the coastal resources of the state for this and succeeding generations, I strongly support SouthCoast Wind's Category B Assent and Freshwater Wetlands Permit Application.

Our Rhode Island coasts and waters are under severe threat from sea level rise, increased storms, warming, and acidification because of rising global CO2 levels resulting from primary reliance on energy from fossil fuels.

Electricity from renewable sources is the only practical path for RI off of fossil fuels. And RI has an abundant source of energy from offshore wind to help make that transition.

Rhode Island is a participant in the power subscription with Massachusetts. This power will add to the Revolution Wind project and continue, in part, towards meeting mandates of The Act on Climate and the 100 percent renewable grid by 2033. RI will need even more renewable power than what Southcoast will add but with it we will be progressing to meet the goals vs. falling short.

SouthCoast Wind's application demonstrates a commitment to carrying out its proposed activities in a safe and environmentally responsible manner, exceeding typical mitigation requirements. The Southcoast project will use the same processes that have successfully been used during the Revolution Wind project. The one time disruptions are small compared to the longer term environmental losses and economic benefits from development in this coastal resource.

I respectfully encourage the CRMC to grant SouthCoast Wind's Category B Assent and Freshwater Wetlands permit.

Thank you for your considerations.

Tom Clemow  
173 John Dyer Rd.  
Little Compton RI

**From:** Theresa Chapman Krebs <theresa.anne.krebs@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 14, 2025 11:31 AM  
**To:** cstaff1@crmc.ri.gov  
**Subject:** 2023-02-090 Public Comment  
**Attachments:** Krebs\_CRMC\_Letter\_Support\_SouthCoast\_Wind.pdf

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Dear CRMC,

Please find attached a citizen's letter in support of the SouthCoast Wind project advancing in New England. Thank you for this opportunity to express my support.

I carry some expertise as a graduate of the atmospheric sciences. I am hoping that the CRMC might find time to read my letter in full. Thank you for your efforts.

Sincere regards,  
Theresa A. Krebs  
Tiverton, Rhode Island

Theresa A. Krebs  
1 Mill Street Apt 1321  
Tiverton, RI 02878

January 14<sup>th</sup>, 2025

Rhode Island Coastal Resources Management Council  
4808 Tower Hill Road #116  
Wakefield, RI 02879



Dear Coastal Resources Management Council,

I have been asked to write a letter outlining my views on the development of a major wind power resource by South Coast Wind LLC in the state of Rhode Island. Here is my letter.

First, I would like to state who I am. I earned my Bachelor of Science in Geology and Geophysics from Yale University in 1997. I then worked as an environmental consultant for a year before entering graduate school in The Atmospheric Sciences at Colorado State University in Fort Collins, Colorado. I finished my Masters in carbon cycle studies from CSU in 2002 and moved to California where I worked in sustainability as well as in private climate risk management. I am a scientist, and I am assuming in this letter that my audience is made up of fellow scientists. As a person, I am apolitical, and I do not thrive on politics. On a personal note, I am also disabled.

Second, my vote. As a mandatory climate voter, I feel that the Southcoast Wind LLC project is a very good thing for the climate and for Rhode Island and that it should be allowed to go forward.

And third, as to why. When taken on the scientific merits, the proposed Southcoast LLC wind project is an environmentally low impact source of renewable energy to New England. Some of the environmental parameters that measure its impact as benign include the project's fiberglass construction material as well as its concrete foundations. Fiberglass is common: we use it in our bathtubs as well as in the hulls of our boats. The material consists of fiber impregnated with a resin that becomes relatively chemically inert once the resin is cured. As an inert substance, fiberglass should not be very chemically dangerous to ecosystems.

The wind turbines will be built on concrete foundations, that are believed to hold the potential to become new ecological habitat over time, somewhat similar to a coral reef. Concrete foundations of the wind turbine will serve as a new substrate for ocean organisms. Concrete foundations therefore are not necessarily a negative development. In the short term, there will be some disturbance to the ocean's benthic communities (called "benthos") but those disturbances should be transient in nature as the turbines are installed. Benthic communities should recover.

The scientific evidence, taken together with benefits around climate change, overwhelmingly supports the conclusion that offshore wind is a favorable environmental development for Rhode Island's coastal resources. So much so in fact, that local opposition to the project has resorted to making false statements. For example, they claim that fiberglass is "toxic."

Thank you for reading this letter, and for your attention to this important environmental project. I look forward to hearing of the CRMC's decision some time very soon.

Sincere regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Theresa A. Krebs".

Theresa A. Krebs

**From:** Justin Boyan <jboyan@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 13, 2025 5:14 PM  
**To:** cstaff1@crmc.ri.gov  
**Subject:** 2023-02-090 Public Comment

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Dear CRMC,

I am a Rhode Island resident, Ph.D. scientist, and father of two daughters. Like anyone who is paying attention to the rapid degradation of earth's climate system and its attendant weather disasters, I feel an immense sense of urgency to accelerate the transition from fossil fuels to clean energy. We are depending on the power from SouthCoast Wind and similar projects to reduce our reliance on natural gas in New England; to clean our air; and to increase the security and reliability of our energy supply. Please permit this project with no further delay. The animals, places, and people we love depend on it.

Justin Boyan  
10 Jenckes St, Providence, RI 02906

**cstaff1@crmc.ri.gov**

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**From:** Michael Kadish <kadishm@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 13, 2025 4:35 PM  
**To:** cstaff1@crmc.ri.gov  
**Subject:** 2023-02-090 Public Comment  
**Attachments:** CRMC\_Comment\_MK.docx; Untitled attachment 00023.htm

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Dear CMRC

Please find my comments attached in support of South Coast Wind's application.

Thank you

Michael

Michael Kadish  
kadishm@gmail.com  
917-912-5344

## CRMC's Category B Assent and Freshwater Wetlands Permit South Coast Wind

RE: 2023-02-090 Public Comment  
January 10, 2025

Dear CMRC staff,

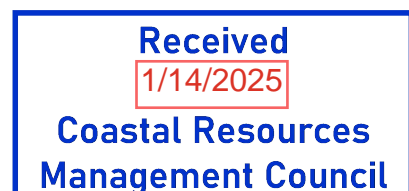
I am writing to submit comments in support of the Category B Assent and Freshwater and Wetlands Permit for the SouthCoast Wind Project. As a resident of Barrington Rhode Island, and the Chair of Barrington's Resilience and Energy Committee, I strongly encourage you to approve this permit and allow the project to move forward.

The Coastal Resources Management Council (CRMC) holds the crucial responsibility of preserving and protecting Rhode Island's coastal resources. With climate change posing the single greatest threat to these resources, transitioning rapidly to renewable energy sources like offshore wind is essential to safeguard our coastlines. SouthCoast Wind's application demonstrates a commitment to carrying out its proposed activities in a safe and environmentally responsible manner, exceeding typical mitigation requirements. While temporary disruptions during construction are inevitable, they pale in comparison to the long-term environmental and economic benefits this project will deliver. Offshore wind energy has been successfully implemented worldwide, with nearly 12,000 turbines operating across almost 300 projects, proving its reliability as a modern energy solution. Rhode Island must now follow suit to secure a sustainable and resilient future.

The proposed infrastructure and activities, including underground and undersea cables, dredging, and horizontal directional drilling (HDD), are neither unprecedented nor unfamiliar to Rhode Island. These well-understood processes have been implemented across the state to provide essential services without issue. SouthCoast Wind's rigorous review through local, state, and federal permitting processes has already resulted in multiple approvals, including a Federal Consistency determination from the CRMC and permits from equivalent agencies in Massachusetts. Rhode Island's recent selection of SouthCoast Wind to negotiate contracts for 200MW of renewable energy—enough to power 125,000 homes—underscores the state's urgent need for this project. With extensive scientific investigations and a carefully designed plan, SouthCoast Wind's proposal reflects the high standards expected by the CRMC for responsible coastal development and should be approved without delay.

Thank you!

Michael Kadish  
58 Bay Rd.  
Barrington, RI 02806  
[kadishm@gmail.com](mailto:kadishm@gmail.com)



**From:** David and Mary Fulton <dhfulton@verizon.net>  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 11, 2025 5:28 PM  
**To:** cstaff1@crmc.ri.gov  
**Subject:** 2023-02-090 Public Comment

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Dear CRMC,

I am writing to submit comments on the Category B Assent and Freshwater and Wetlands permit submitted for the SouthCoast Wind Project, currently under consideration by the Rhode Island Coastal Resource Management Council. As a Rhode Island resident, I strongly urge you to approve the application and continue to move the project forward.

Renewable energy is important to develop as fossil fuels will eventually run out, causing a need to make financial shifts like those that have already occurred due to changing technology. Much of the past and current technology has caused pollution to occur on land and in the air and water. Wind energy seems to have little of these side affects.

I have been to scientific presentations about wind energy that show minimal effects to marine life, both flora and fauna.

As the population continues to grow and use more energy for comfortable lifestyles I think relying on wind and solar energy may be the best way to provide what future generations will need.

Thank you for your consideration.  
Respectfully,

Mary Fulton  
765 Broad Rock Rd.  
Wakefield, RI 02879-1841  
401-633-2524  
[dhfulton@verizon.net](mailto:dhfulton@verizon.net)

All shall be well, and all manner of things shall be well. Julian of Norwich

## Cstaff1

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**From:** Larry Tout <ltout47@verizon.net>  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 9, 2025 4:45 PM  
**To:** cstaff1@crmc.ri.gov  
**Subject:** 2023-02-090 wind farm

Please support off shore wind farms... they help with our energy needs, less pollution, climate.  
Sent from Larry Tout's iPhone

## Cstaff1

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**From:** Hans Scholl <clclt17@mac.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 9, 2025 9:43 AM  
**To:** cstaff1@crmc.ri.gov  
**Subject:** 2023-02-090 Public Comment  
**Attachments:** Testimony Cat B Permits SouthCoast Wind–Hans Scholl.pdf

Dear members of the CRMC,

Please find my comments / testimony attached.

Thank you in advance for considering my input.

Sincerely,  
Hans Scholl

71 Fales Avenue  
Barrington, RI 02806

**Testimony in support of approval of the Category B Assent and Freshwater and Wetlands permits for the SouthCoast Wind Project**

Dr. Hans Scholl, 71 Fales Avenue, Barrington, RI 02806

To the members of the Rhode Island Coastal Resources Management Council,

I'm a Barrington RI resident and member of the Town of Barrington Resilience and Energy Committee.

Our town has just enacted a comprehensive Climate Action Plan. In team with my other committee members, I have been instrumental in providing expertise and in preparing the plan. It supports the greenhouse gas reduction mandates of the RI Act on Climate, and also contains a significant effort to improve resilience against increasing extreme weather and sea level rise, which will have severe impact on Rhode Island, and on Barrington in particular. The Barrington residents are concerned about these impacts, about losing their homes to flooding.

Obvious solutions are readily available: rapid transitioning towards renewable energy and use of solar and offshore wind to replace fossil fuels.

Offshore wind plays a central role in the transition: It is a proven technology that is used globally at scale for more than a decade, and available data from around the world show that the technology is much safer, causes no pollution during operation, and has a minimal footprint and minimal impact on marine life and shoreline, especially when compared to the disastrous pollution and accident record of offshore oil and gas drilling, and the destruction of the ocean floor and marine life from bottom trawling.

The output of the Southcoast Wind Farm will provide clean electricity to power more than 840,000 homes in Massachusetts and Rhode Island, saving an equivalent of fossil fuel burning and its greenhouse gas emissions. Building this, and the other planned offshore wind farms will be amongst the largest contributions New England can make to maintaining planetary warming within the 1.5C increase of the Paris Agreement.

The alternative is unacceptable—we cannot continue with fossil fuel burning and destroy the future of our children and the places we love. And, it's not necessary if we support our state's plan to rapidly move towards offshore wind as a large source of renewable clean electricity.

I hope that the Council will consider this reality and approve the permits for the SouthCoast Wind Project, based on its relatively small impacts on freshwater and wetland areas, which are mostly one-time impacts during the construction phase, and not consider the opposition arguments which parrot misinformation from fossil fuel interest sponsored think tanks, and who act from a "not in my backyard" position which will prolong fossil fuel burning and emitting greenhouse gases until the climate spins irrecoverably out of control.

I urge you to approve the permits.

Thank you very much for considering my input.



Dr. Hans Scholl

January 9, 2025

## Cstaff1

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**From:** George Hasapidis <ghasapidis@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 8, 2025 5:28 PM  
**To:** cstaf1@crmc.ri.gov  
**Subject:** 2023-02-090 Public Comment

Dear CRMC,

I am submitting comments on the Category B Assent and Freshwater and Wetlands permit submitted for the SouthCoast Wind Project, currently under consideration by the Rhode Island Coastal Resource Management Council. As a Rhode Island resident, I strongly urge you to approve the application and continue to move the project forward. Climate change and rising energy demands pose significant challenges for Rhode Islanders, but there is a solution right off our shore: a massive renewable energy resource capable of transforming how we power our region. The SouthCoast Wind project offers an opportunity to reduce our reliance on imported fossil fuels and improve grid reliability by providing a locally produced source of power. By integrating SouthCoast Wind into our energy grid, we can create a more stable system that's capable of meeting the increased demands of our electrified future while supporting the state's ambitious carbon reduction and renewable energy goals. While the short-term, off-season construction may present some inconveniences, it is a small and necessary investment for the significant, long-term benefits this project offers. In light of the long-term climate, reliability and economic benefits offered by major offshore wind projects such as SouthCoast Wind, I hope CRMC will carefully review and appropriately act on the Category B Assent application to move the project forward.

Thank you for your consideration,  
George Hasapidis  
Foster, RI

## Cstaff1

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**From:** David Way <dway@greenvest.eco>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 8, 2025 1:33 PM  
**To:** cstff1@crmc.ri.gov  
**Subject:** 2023-02-090 Public Comment

Dear CRMC,

I am writing to regarding the Category B Assent and Freshwater and Wetlands permit submitted for the SouthCoast Wind Project, currently under consideration by the Rhode Island Coastal Resource Management Council. As a Lincoln Rhode Island resident, I strongly urge you to approve the application! Climate change is the most pressing existential threat of our time and needs to be met with significant changes to our energy infrastructure. The SouthCoast Wind project offers an opportunity to reduce our reliance on fossil fuels and improved grid reliability by providing a renewable source of power. By integrating offshore Wind into our energy grid, we can create a more stable system that's capable of meeting the increased demands of our electrified future while supporting the state's ambitious carbon reduction and renewable energy goals. In my opinion, getting more renewable energy into the grid as quickly as possible is an easy decision which will benefit everyone!

Thank you for your consideration.  
Respectfully,



David Way  
Pronouns: He, Him, His  
Financial Advisor  
Greenvest  
79 Holland Rd  
Brookline, MA 02445  
978-793-2054  
Texting Available After Our Invitation at (857) 688-9022  
dway@greenvest.eco  
www.greenvest.eco  
David Way is a licensed Financial Advisor through Vanderbilt Advisory Services

[Click here to schedule a meeting](#)

Discover your social and environmental values with our [Values Questionnaire](#) powered by YourStake

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Please consider the environment before printing this e-mail.

## Cstaff1

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**From:** Jessie Kingston <potterkingston@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 8, 2025 10:17 AM  
**To:** cstff1@crmc.ri.gov  
**Subject:** offshore wind project critical to New England's clean energy future

Dear CRMC,

I am writing to submit comments on the Category B Assent and Freshwater and Wetlands permit submitted for the SouthCoast Wind Project, currently under consideration by the Rhode Island Coastal Resource Management Council. As a Rhode Island resident, I strongly urge you to approve the application and continue to move the project forward.

We absolutely have the technologies, knowledge and wherewithal to address the increasingly dramatic and destructive effects of climate change caused by too much reliance on fossil fuel as an energy source. The solutions must be multi-faceted; wind is one such source. Our RI/MA waters luckily can provide particularly abundant amounts of wind energy.

Since 2018 SouthCoast Wind has undertaken rigorous scientific investigation and design efforts to ensure the project is developed in the most responsible way. Those efforts are made clear in their application before CRMC. SouthCoast Wind has already undergone extensive review through parallel permitting processes at the local, state, and federal level, and has already been granted permits in many of these proceedings.

Naysayers like to point out the potential disruptions caused by construction (just like any type of construction project anywhere) but these are temporary and pale in comparison to the proven, accumulating harmful effects of climate change to our waters and its inhabitants.

In light of the long-term climate, reliability and economic benefits offered by major offshore wind projects such as SouthCoast Wind, I trust that CRMC will carefully review and appropriately act on the Category B Assent application to move the project forward. Thank you for your consideration.

Thank you for your consideration.  
Respectfully,

Jessie Kingston, Providence

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Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has. **Margaret Mead.**

## Cstaff1

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**From:** John Stevenson <jstevenson@uri.edu>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 7, 2025 9:34 PM  
**To:** cstaff1@crmc.ri.gov  
**Subject:** 2023-02-090 Public Comment

Dear CRMC,

I am writing as a Rhode Island resident and retired URI professor to submit comments on the Category B Assent and Freshwater and Wetlands permit submitted for the SouthCoast Wind Project, currently under consideration by the Rhode Island Coastal Resource Management Council. I strongly urge you to approve the application and continue to move the project forward.

I have been proud and enthusiastic as RI has pioneered off-shore wind in the US. Of course there are issues to resolve and challenges to meet in order to advance the climate-change agenda, but there can be no question that doing so is imperative for our state -- and for my grandchildren to have those lovely beaches on Block Island to return to as I have for many years. There are great forward-looking jobs and economic development potentials to be realized if we can manage to stay committed.

The CRMC is one critical RI agent for keeping the alternative energy future advancing as we all know it must. I believe we can all do our part given our means, and I have a solar roof, two EVs, and heat pump electricity and hot water. I'm now working on installing a Powerwall 3 battery. However, it will take a whole state's worth and beyond of willing and committed individuals and organizations to overcome those inevitable issues and challenges. PLEASE recognize how valuable this is for our state and move expeditiously to keep this essential effort moving forward -- don't let the distractions wreck our future. The SouthCoast Wind project offers an opportunity to reduce our reliance on imported fossil fuels, improve grid reliability, provide a locally produced source of power. I share SouthCoast Wind's belief that economic and environmental progress go hand-in-hand.

In light of the long-term climate, reliability and economic benefits offered by major offshore wind projects such as SouthCoast Wind, I urge CRMC to carefully review and appropriately act on the Category B Assent application to move the project forward.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

John F. Stevenson

145 Modena Ave

Providence, RI 02908

## Cstaff1

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**From:** Barbara Walsh <bw6262@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 7, 2025 6:07 PM  
**To:** Cstaff1  
**Subject:** 2023-02-090 Public Comment

I am writing to submit comments on the Category B Assent and Freshwater and Wetlands permit submitted for the SouthCoast Wind Project, currently under consideration by the Rhode Island Coastal Resource Management Council. As a Rhode Island resident, I strongly urge you to approve the application and continue to move the project forward. Climate change and rising energy demands pose significant challenges for Rhode Islanders, but there is a solution right off our shore- a massive renewable energy resource capable of transforming how we power our region. The SouthCoast Wind project offers an opportunity to reduce our reliance on imported fossil fuels and improve grid reliability by providing a locally produced source of power. By integrating SouthCoast Wind into our energy grid, we can create a more stable system that's capable of meeting the increased demands of our electrified future while supporting the state's ambitious carbon reduction and renewable energy goals. While the short-term, off-season construction may present some inconveniences, it is a small and necessary investment for the significant, long-term benefits this project offers. In light of the long-term climate, reliability and economic benefits offered by major offshore wind projects such as SouthCoast Wind, I trust that CRMC will carefully review and appropriately act on the Category B Assent application to move the project forward.

Barbara Walsh

## Cstaff1

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**From:** Chris Gadbois <christinegadbois75@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 7, 2025 5:39 PM  
**To:** cstaff1@crmc.ri.gov  
**Subject:** 2023-02-090 Public Comment

Please ensure permitting for Southcoast Wind is timely as it is critical that we move towards cleaner, safer energy.

Thank you, Chris Gadbois, 23 Annawamscutt Rd, Barrington, RI, 02806

## Cstaff1

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**From:** Bart Lloyd <wblloyd@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 7, 2025 4:36 PM  
**To:** cstaff1@crmc.ri.gov  
**Subject:** "2023-02-090 Public Comment"

Dear Coastal Resource Management Council (CRMC):

I am a Newport resident and voter, and I am writing in favor of South Coast Winds' application to CRMC for approval of its 1) Category B Assent, and 2) Freshwater Wetlands Permit.

The South Coast Wind project is an essential part of our plan to meet the Act On Climate's requirement that we have 100% renewable electricity by 2033. I do not believe we can meet this requirement without South Coast Wind's 1.2+ GW of renewable electricity.

Moreover - as you know - the timely development of clean electricity as a resource is the linchpin of our climate strategy. Our efforts to electrify everything (cars, homes, buildings, boats) that we can in order to decrease fossil fuel usage will be undermined by a failure to timely develop fossil-free electricity.

Climate change is an existential threat to the continued enjoyment of our wonderful planet. We owe it to our children, and to our grandchildren; to take the steps that we can - now - to preserve its beauty and its habitability.

Please feel free to call if you have questions.

Sincerely,

W. Bart Lloyd  
16 Chestnut St  
Newport, RI

--

Bart  
Cell: 857-231-1042

## Cstaff1

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**From:** Fred Griffith <fffgrif@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 7, 2025 4:05 PM  
**To:** cstaff1@crmc.ri.gov  
**Subject:** 2023-02-090 Public Comment

Dear CRMC,

I am writing to submit comments on the Category B Assent and Freshwater and Wetlands permit submitted for the SouthCoast Wind Project, currently under consideration by the Rhode Island Coastal Resource Management Council. As a Rhode Island resident, I urge you to approve the application and continue to move the project forward.

The SouthCoast Wind project offers an opportunity to improve grid reliability by providing a locally produced source of power. By integrating offshore wind into our energy grid, we create a more stable system that's capable of meeting increasing demands for electricity while supporting the state's renewable energy goals. While the construction may cause some environmental damage, it is a necessary investment for the long-term benefits this project offers.

In light of the long-term climate and economic benefits offered by major offshore wind projects such as SouthCoast Wind, I hope that CRMC will approve the Category B Assent application to move the project forward. SouthCoast Wind has already undergone extensive review through parallel permitting processes at the local, state, and federal level, and has already been granted permits in many of these proceedings. These prior approvals include a Federal Consistency approval granted by the CRMC earlier this year, and several permits from state agencies equivalent to the CRMC in Massachusetts. This is a testament to the quality of their proposal.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Fred Griffith, MD

E. Greenwich, RI

## Cstaff1

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**From:** Scott, Marypatricia (Marypat) <MaryPatricia.Scott@umassmemorial.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 7, 2025 3:55 PM  
**To:** cstff1@crmc.ri.gov  
**Subject:** 2023-02-090 Public Comment

Dear CRMC,

I am writing to submit comments on the Category B Assent and Freshwater and Wetlands permit submitted for the SouthCoast Wind Project, currently under consideration by the Rhode Island Coastal Resource Management Council. As a Rhode Island resident, I strongly urge you to approve the application and continue to move the project forward.

Climate change and rising energy demands pose significant challenges for Rhode Islanders, but there is a solution right off our shore: a massive renewable energy resource capable of transforming how we power our region. The SouthCoast Wind project offers an opportunity to reduce our reliance on imported fossil fuels and improve grid reliability by providing a locally produced source of power. By integrating SouthCoast Wind into our energy grid, we can create a more stable system that's capable of meeting the increased demands of our electrified future while supporting the state's ambitious carbon reduction and renewable energy goals. While the short-term, off-season construction may present some inconveniences, it is a small and necessary investment for the significant, long-term benefits this project offers.

In light of the long-term climate, reliability and economic benefits offered by major offshore wind projects such as SouthCoast Wind, I trust that CRMC will carefully review and appropriately act on the Category B Assent application to move the project forward.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

*Marypat Scott  
194 Pray Hill Rd  
Chepachet, RI 02814*

The information transmitted is intended only for the person or entity to which it is addressed and may contain confidential and/or privileged material. Any review, transmission, re-transmission, dissemination or other use of, or taking of any action in reliance upon this information by persons or entities other than the intended recipient is prohibited. If you received this in error, please contact the sender and delete the material from any computer.

## Cstaff1

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**From:** Harvey Perry <harveyperry2@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 7, 2025 3:25 PM  
**To:** cstaff1@crmc.ri.gov  
**Subject:** Fwd: 2023 - 02 - 090 Public Comment

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

I am writing to support the approval by the Coastal Resources Management Council of the application for the proposed SouthCoast Wind 1287 megawatt wind farm.

Our “Ocean State” is increasingly vulnerable to sea level rise. Any renewable energy project that can delay the inundation of our coast would be a good thing to do.

The fuel for the energy production is free, is not controlled by a cartel, and will not pollute our air, land or water.

Harvey C. Perry  
12 Margin St, Westerly, RI 02891

## Cstaff1

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**From:** Frank Carrano <fmcarrano@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 7, 2025 10:21 AM  
**To:** cstaff1@crmc.ri.gov  
**Subject:** 2023-02-090 Public Comment

Climate change poses a significant challenge for Rhode Islanders. The SouthCoast Wind project will help meet our electrified future while supporting carbon reduction and renewable energy goals.

As a Rhode Island resident, I strongly urge you to approve the Category B Assent and Freshwater and Wetlands permit submitted for the SouthCoast Wind Project.

Thank you for your consideration.

Frank Carrano  
South Kingstown, RI

## Cstaff1

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**From:** Rebecca Gibel <rebeccagibel@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 7, 2025 9:13 AM  
**To:** cstaff1@crmc.ri.gov  
**Subject:** 2023-02-090 Public Comment

Dear CRMC,

I am writing to submit comments on the Category B Assent and Freshwater and Wetlands permit submitted for the SouthCoast Wind Project, currently under consideration by the Rhode Island Coastal Resource Management Council. As a Rhode Island resident, I strongly urge you to approve the application and continue to move the project forward.

Climate change and rising energy demands pose significant challenges for Rhode Islanders, but there is a solution right off our shore- a massive renewable energy resource capable of transforming how we power our region. The SouthCoast Wind project offers an opportunity to reduce our reliance on imported fossil fuels and improve grid reliability by providing a locally produced source of power.

By integrating SouthCoast Wind into our energy grid, we can create a more stable system that's capable of meeting the increased demands of our electrified future while supporting the state's ambitious carbon reduction and renewable energy goals. While the short-term, off-season construction may present some inconveniences, it is a small and necessary investment for the significant, long-term benefits this project offers. In light of the long-term climate, reliability and economic benefits offered by major offshore wind projects such as SouthCoast Wind, I trust that CRMC will carefully review and appropriately act on the Category B Assent application to move the project forward.

Thank you for your consideration.

Rebecca Gibel

Resident Company Member, Trinity Rep  
[www.rebeccagibel.com](http://www.rebeccagibel.com)  
<https://www.IMDb.me/rebeccagibel> =

## Cstaff1

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**From:** Carlos Neves <cneves952@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 7, 2025 9:17 AM  
**To:** cstff1@crmc.ri.gov  
**Subject:** 2023-02-090 Public Comment

Dear CRMC,

I am writing to submit comments on the Category B Assent and Freshwater and Wetlands application submitted for the SouthCoast Wind Project, currently under consideration by the Rhode Island Coastal Resource Management Council. As a Rhode Island resident, I strongly urge you to approve the application and continue to move the project forward.

Offshore wind presents Rhode Island with an opportunity to create thousands of high-quality, well paying jobs that foster economic development, while creating domestically produced clean energy for the region. SouthCoast Wind's project will create approximately 17,400 direct full time equivalent (FTE) job-years over the life of the project, along with significant supply chain opportunities. SouthCoast Wind's commitment to utilizing union labor throughout construction and investing in workforce development in underrepresented communities is tangible progress towards a diverse, local and inclusive workforce that will bring significant benefits to our economy, our environment, and most importantly our local communities.

In light of the long-term benefits offered by major offshore wind projects such as SouthCoast Wind, I trust that CRMC will carefully review and appropriately act on the Category B Assent application to move the project forward.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Carlos Neves

## Cstaff1

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**From:** bill ibelle <bibelle31@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 6, 2025 9:38 PM  
**To:** cstff1@crmc.ri.gov  
**Subject:** 2023-02-090 Public Comment  
**Attachments:** crmc letter.docx; Untitled attachment 00205.htm

### 2023-02-090 Public Comment

### 2023-02-090 Public Comment

As the agency responsible for protecting the health of our state's coastal resources, I hope that you will approve the cable construction permits for Southcoast Wind.

Any temporary disruption to the coastal environment caused by this project pales in comparison to the permanent and dramatic damage caused by failing to take swift action to control climate change. Offshore wind is Rhode Island's biggest opportunity to reduce carbon emissions and meet the requirements of the Act on Climate.

In addition to the massive environmental benefits, offshore wind will create jobs, help satisfy the growing demand for electricity, and promote national security by decreasing our dependence on foreign oil.

Every time we repair a bridge, dredge a channel or expand the wharfs for fishing boats, it disrupts the marine environment. Every action has an impact. The goal isn't to avoid all temporary harm because that would stop all action. The test is to determine the ratio of harm to benefit—and in regard to the Southcoast Wind cable, that cost/benefit ratio falls heavily in favor of approving the project.

Bill Ibelle

Providence, RI

crmc letter

**2023-02-090 Public Comment**

As the agency responsible for protecting the health of our state's coastal resources, I hope that you will approve the cable construction permits for Southcoast Wind.

Any temporary disruption to the coastal environment caused by this project pales in comparison to the permanent and dramatic damage caused by failing to take swift action to control climate change. Offshore wind is Rhode Island's biggest opportunity to reduce carbon emissions and meet the requirements of the Act on Climate.

In addition to the massive environmental benefits, offshore wind will create jobs, help satisfy the growing demand for electricity, and promote national security by decreasing our dependence on foreign oil.

Every time we repair a bridge, dredge a channel or expand the wharfs for fishing boats, it disrupts the marine environment. Every action has an impact. The goal isn't to avoid all temporary harm because that would stop all action. The test is to determine the ratio of harm to benefit—and in regard to the Southcoast Wind cable, that cost/benefit ratio falls heavily in favor of approving the project.

Bill Ibelle  
Providence, RI

## Cstaff1

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**From:** Anthony Cherry <acherry@buildri.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, December 28, 2024 10:49 AM  
**To:** cstaff1@crmc.ri.gov  
**Cc:** Gregory Mancini  
**Subject:** Build Rhode Island in support to SouthCoast Wind's Category B Assent and Freshwater Wetlands permit application.  
**Attachments:** Build Rhode Island letter of support to CRMC Category B Assent and Freshwater Wetlands Permit \_ SouthCoast Wind Project.pdf

Good morning Chairman Coia,

Please see the attached comments on behalf of Build Rhode Island in support to SouthCoast Wind's Category B Assent and Freshwater Wetlands permit application.

Build Rhode Island is the labor-management coalition made up of the construction management associations and the 17 unions that make up the Rhode Island Building and Construction Trades Council.

Please feel free to reach out to me if you have any follow-up questions regarding our written public comment.

Thank you,

Anthony Cherry  
*Assistant Executive Director*  
*Build Rhode Island*  
c: 413-446-1739  
w: 401-553-2100

134 Thurbers Avenue  
Suite 213  
Providence, RI 02905  
P: 401-553-2100  
F: 401-553-5855  
www.Buildri.org



December 23, 2024

Chairman Raymond Coia  
Coastal Resource Management Council  
4808 Tower Hill Road, Suite 116  
Wakefield, RI 02879

**Re: SouthCoast Wind Project and its associated Category B Assent and Freshwater Wetlands Permit.**

Dear Chairman Coia,

On behalf of Build Rhode Island, and our partners, I am writing to express our strong support for the SouthCoast Wind Project and its associated Category B Assent and Freshwater Wetlands Permit. This project is a crucial step forward in advancing both Rhode Island's clean energy future and its commitment to creating good middle-class jobs and supporting a just transition for workers and communities.

Under the Act on Climate legislation passed, Rhode Island has committed to transitioning away from fossil fuels. While our appetite for energy consumption will only increase, the source of our fuel must change. The SouthCoast Wind development will move Rhode Island one step closer to net zero emissions.

During the early phases of the development, SouthCoast wind has engaged in community stakeholders to ensure equitable buy-in. SouthCoast and the Rhode Island Building and Construction Trades Council entered into a project labor agreement, which put thousands of local tradesmen and women to work; all of whom will earn a living wage, while being provide healthcare and investments into their retirements. Beyond have labor as an invested partner in SouthCoast Wind's success, SouthCoast Wind have a "host agreement" with the Town of Portsmouth. Within

this agreement, Portsmouth and SouthCoast have worked together to find the least impactful to the community and the environment.

As previously stated, BuildRI supports SouthCoast Winds' Category B Assent and Freshwater Wetlands Permit application. SouthCoast Wind has already obtained the Massachusetts equivalent to this CRMC application. SouthCoast Wind has already identified measures to mitigate and minimize the environmental and community impact during the construction and the laying of the necessary cables.

The construction SouthCoast Wind looks to endure is not unprecedented in Rhode Island. There are already numerous underground and undersea energy cables existing in Rhode Island waters. While the dredging and horizontal directional drilling is a common process in the construction for offshore wind projects. And with the partnership with the RIBCTC, SouthCoast Wind will have highly skilled tradesmen and women performing the work who have already worked on Rhode Island's existing offshore wind projects.

For these reasons, BuildRI, and our partners, urge the CRMC to approve the Category B Assent and Freshwater Wetlands Permit, allowing the SouthCoast Wind Project to move forward. By approving this application, CRMC will be taking a critical step towards ensuring Rhode Island's transition to a renewable and greener economy works for all.

Thank you for your opportunity to provide these comments. Please contact the signature below if you have any further questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Anthony J. Cherry". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "J" and "C".

**Anthony Cherry**

*Assistant Executive Director*

*Build Rhode Island*

## Cstaff1

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**From:** James Boyd <jrboyd130@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 26, 2024 8:52 AM  
**To:** cstff1@crmc.ri.gov  
**Cc:** Mike McGiveney; Dave Ghigliotty; Rhodelsland Shellfisherman; James Boyd  
**Subject:** RISA comments inre SouthCoast Wind 2023-02-090  
**Attachments:** RISA-comments\_final\_SCW\_2023-02-090.pdf; Untitled attachment 00923.htm

Dear CRMC,

Attached are the Rhode Island Shellfisherman's Association (RISA) comments concerning SouthCoast Wind's (SCW) application to install and maintain two (2) new submarine high voltage direct current power cables within Rhode Island state waters. RISA's primary concern is the negative impacts to documented shellfish resources that exist within the Sakonnet River and Mount Hope Bay from the proposed dredging, side casting of dredged materials, anchoring, and associated construction activity. We are requesting the following specific conditions contained within our comments for CRMC to include in any Assent issued to SCW to reduce and mitigate impacts to known shellfish resources.

1. Require SouthCoast Wind to conduct shellfish surveys within the cable corridor in both the upper Sakonnet River (GA4 and GA4-2) and Mount Hope Bay (GA17-2) up to and including the horizontal directional drilling exit pits and surrounding areas adjacent to Island Park Beach and the Montaup Country Club. Shellfish surveys shall be coordinated and in consultation with RIDEM Division of Marine Fisheries (DMF) to include real-time harvesting by commercial shellfishermen.
2. Require SouthCoast Wind to pay all expenses for the transplant of shellfish from impacted areas of GA4 within the cable corridor to open waters of the Sakonnet River available for harvest, as may be deemed appropriate and necessary by RIDEM DMF. And, all shellfish removed from project impacted areas within closed waters (i.e., GA4-2 or GA17-2) shall be transplanted to a suitable shellfish management area within the East Bay (e.g., Bristol Harbor) for winter harvest, as deemed appropriate and necessary by RIDEM DMF.
3. Require SouthCoast Wind to develop and establish a dedicated Rhode Island shellfish transplant fund to support future shellfish transplants within the waters of Narragansett Bay to mitigate for the SCW project's impact on the State's shellfish resources. Said transplant funds shall be developed in collaboration and coordination with RIDEM DMF and RISA, and shall be funded at a satisfactory level for a period of 20 years to be negotiated between SCW, RIDEM DMF and RISA.

Please contact me with any questions at the email or telephone number below and add me to the SCW file (2023-02-090) email list to be notified of any CRMC public meetings concerning this matter. In addition, please send any hardcopy notices directly to:

Rhode Island Shellfisherman's Association  
P.O.Box 1802  
East Greenwich, RI 02818-1802

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Michael McGiveney  
RISA President

Email: [mclamdigger@aol.com](mailto:mclamdigger@aol.com)

Telephone: 401-573-7244

**Rhode Island Shellfisherman's Association**  
**P.O.Box 1802**  
**East Greenwich, RI 02818-1802**

December 26, 2024

RI Coastal Resources Management Council  
O. S. Stedman Government Center  
4808 Tower Hill Road, Rm 116  
Wakefield, RI 02879

Re: SouthCoast Wind - 2023-02-090

Dear CRMC,

The Rhode Island Shellfisherman's Association (RISA) is responding to the CRMC Public Notice dated November 13, 2024 regarding the SouthCoast Wind Energy LLC (SCW) application to install and maintain two (2) new submarine high voltage direct current (HVDC) power cables within a proposed export cable corridor (ECC) in State waters of the Sakonnet River and Mount Hope Bay to a point of interconnection at Brayton Point in Somerset, Massachusetts. The proposed HVDC power cables and ECC are to support the Phase 1 SCW 1200MW offshore wind project (South Coast Wind 1) located approximately 30 miles south of Marthas Vineyard. The South Coast Wind 1 project consists of up to 85 wind turbine generators (WTGs), while a combined total of 149 WTGs may be constructed for Phase 1 and Phase 2 to generate 2400MW of electricity. Potentially there may be as many as six (6) new submarine HVDC power cables installed within the Sakonnet River and Mount Hope Bay ECC.

The ECC length within State waters is approximately 11 miles in the Sakonnet River and 4 miles in Mount Hope Bay. The width of the ECC within these waters will be between 1,640 feet to 2,300 feet to allow for maneuverability of construction vessels during installation and maintenance of the HVDC power cables. See SCW RI CRMC Category B Assent Application ("Application") at 2-4. In addition, eight horizontal directional drilling (HDD) offshore pits in total; four HDD pits at each of two (2) cable landfalls will be constructed; one on the Sakonnet River shoreline and one on the Mount Hope Bay shoreline of Portsmouth. These eight pits will require dredging/excavation to facilitate HDD of the cable landfalls, and each pit will be approximately 150 feet by 60 feet in size (0.207 acres). See Application Appendix F3 at 4-2. Each offshore HDD pit will be located approximately 1,000 feet from the Portsmouth shoreline. See Application at 2-1. The installation of the HVDC power cables within Rhode Island state waters is anticipated to commence during Q4 of 2026.

## Shellfish Resources

The Bay Quahog (*Mercenaria mercenaria*) is found throughout the Sakonnet River and Mount Hope Bay and is documented through RIDEM shellfish dredge surveys and shellfish landings data. Commercial harvesting occurs within the upper Sakonnet River in RIDEM shellfish growing area GA4, but is prohibited (due to water quality impairment) along the Island Park shoreline of Portsmouth as bounded by a line from the Old Stone Bridge in Tiverton to Morningside Lane in Portsmouth. This closed area is identified by RIDEM as shellfish growing area GA4-2. The proposed SCW ECC traverses directly up the Sakonnet River from offshore waters through shellfish growing area G4 and will make landfall in the vicinity of Boyd's Lane in Portsmouth at Island Park, travel overland and re-enter waters of Mount Hope Bay at the Montaup Country Club. While shellfish harvesting is presently prohibited adjacent to this section of the Portsmouth shoreline within Mount Hope Bay, there are shellfish resources reported by RIDEM in their long-term shellfish dredge surveys for this particular area identified by RIDEM as shellfish growing area GA17-2. We note, however, that any RIDEM dredge survey information cannot be solely relied upon to quantify the current shellfish resource due to dredge survey spatial and temporal inaccuracies. Therefore, the RIDEM shellfish dredge survey data needs to be supplemented and corroborated with real-time shellfish harvesting conducted directly by shellfishermen to accurately assess the shellfish resources in the Sakonnet River and Mount Hope Bay areas that will be impacted by the project.

## Likely Impacts to Shellfish Resources

It is expected that shellfish resources will be impacted due to the proposed installation methods for the HVDC cable (for both Phases 1 and 2) within relatively shallow waters of the Sakonnet River and Mount Hope Bay, which may include the use of a Jetting Sled/Plow and a Vertical Injector. The jetting sled creates a trench by water jetting through unconsolidated, softer seabed material, while the vertical injector uses water propelled from jet nozzles to fluidize the seabed material, which allows the cable to sink into the seabed. See Application at 2-8 and 2-9. In addition, there may be anchoring of barges and other vessels along the ECC and in and around the HDD pits that will damage or smother shellfish in the immediate vicinity. In fact, the SCW CRMC application specifically states that "benthic habitat will also be impacted by short-term displacement during cable installation and anchoring" and "shellfish resources within the ECC and the offshore HDD construction areas will be disturbed during cable installation." See Application at 3-43 and 3-44.

We believe that SWC application's characterization of the potential impacts to shellfish resources considerably understates the extent of likely impacts to these resources given the proposed installation methods. The HVDC cable installation will also include the excavation of

four (4) horizontal directional drilling pits at each site offshore of Island Park (Sakonnet River) and the Montaup Country Club (Mount Hope Bay) for a total of eight (8) pits. This will result in approximately 15,000 cubic yards of excavated material that will be side cast and re-used for back filling once cable installation is complete. See Application at 2-11 and 2-12. This activity will also result in the damage, relocation, and likely smothering of shellfish resources in the vicinity of construction. Furthermore, when the current water quality impairments for GA4-2 and GA17-2 are corrected, these areas would become available to commercial shellfish harvesting in the future. The cable installation and HDD pits, including all future SCW maintenance activities on these facilities, will preclude any shellfish harvesting in the immediate area of the cables and HDD pits.

We note that Condition 11 of the RIDEM Water Quality Certification (Section 401 permit) issued to SCW on March 14, 2024 requires that “Prior to commencement of dredging, the Applicant is required to conduct a shellfish survey of the proposed exit pit area to be dredged and if deemed necessary by DEM, relocate shellfish from the area prior to dredging in accordance with the process described in the DMF ‘Guidance for Conducting Shellfish Surveys for Dredging Projects’ document.” See RIDEM WQC at 5. While we agree with the RIDEM imposed condition, we argue that it is insufficient to protect the known shellfish resources within the project areas of the Sakonnet River and in Mount Hope Bay. RISA contends that additional shellfish surveys are necessary to properly identify the resource throughout the entire proposed disturbed areas within the ECC and the HDD pits. Additional shellfish survey data needs to include real-time shellfish harvesting by commercial shellfishermen, as noted above.

We also note that in January 2024 SCW entered into a Community Host Agreement with the Town of Portsmouth in the amount of \$23,224,674 million over 33 years (\$13,487,337 for Phase 1 and \$9,737,337 for Phase 2), essentially the projected life of the SCW project. Given the likely magnitude of shellfish resource impacts from the proposed cable installation activity within the Sakonnet River and Mount Hope Bay, which contain RIDEM documented shellfish resources, RISA requests that the following proposed conditions be included in any permit issued by CRMC to SCW for application 2023-02-090 to reduce and mitigate for impacts to the State’s shellfish resources.

1. Require SouthCoast Wind to conduct shellfish surveys within the cable corridor in both the upper Sakonnet River (GA4 and GA4-2) and Mount Hope Bay (GA17-2) up to and including the exit pits and surrounding areas adjacent to Island Park Beach and the Montaup Country Club. Shellfish surveys shall be coordinated and in consultation with RIDEM Division of Marine Fisheries (DMF) to include real-time harvesting by commercial shellfishermen.

2. Require SouthCoast Wind to pay all expenses for the transplant of shellfish from impacted areas of GA4 within the cable corridor to open waters of the Sakonnet River available for harvest, as may be deemed appropriate and necessary by RIDEM DMF. And, all shellfish removed from project impacted areas within closed waters (i.e., GA4-2 or GA17-2) shall be transplanted to a suitable shellfish management area within the East Bay (e.g., Bristol Harbor) for winter harvest, as deemed appropriate and necessary by RIDEM DMF.
  
3. Require SouthCoast Wind to develop and establish a dedicated Rhode Island shellfish transplant fund to support future shellfish transplants within the waters of Narragansett Bay to mitigate for the SCW project's impact on the State's shellfish resources. Said transplant funds shall be developed in collaboration and coordination with RIDEM DMF and RISA, and shall be funded at a satisfactory level for a period of 20 years to be negotiated between SCW, RIDEM DMF and RISA.

Sincerely,

Michael McGiveney, President  
RI Shellfisherman's Association

Email: [mclamdigger@aol.com](mailto:mclamdigger@aol.com)  
Telephone: 401-573-7244

## Cstaff1

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**From:** Christian Roselund <c.roselund@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 24, 2024 2:48 PM  
**To:** cstff1@crmc.ri.gov  
**Subject:** 2023-02-090 Public Comment

Dear CRMC staff,

Thank you for considering my comments on the Category B Assent and Freshwater Wetlands Permit for the SouthCoast Wind offshore wind project, which follow. As a resident of Rhode Island, a member of Climate Action Rhode Island, an outdoorsman and recreational sailor, and most importantly a parent, I strongly urge CRMC to grant this permit.

I have three reasons for my position. First, SouthCoast Wind and other offshore wind projects are essential to Rhode Island's near-term plans to mitigate our contribution to the climate crisis, which is easily the greatest environmental and economic threat to our state and our nation over the next few decades.

The critical importance of our state's participation in climate mitigation was recognized by Rhode Island's 2021 Act on Climate. As a state agency, CRMC is obligated to comply with state targets. These include a mandate to reduce economy-wide greenhouse gas emissions 45% by 2030 through the Act on Climate and to procure 100% of our electricity from renewable energy sources by no later than 2033.

Offshore wind provides electricity in the evening and the winter, which can complement our state's buildout of solar power. Unlike nuclear power plants which take a decade or more to build, offshore wind can be built in 7 years or less, including the 3 1/2 to 4 1/2 years of federal and state permitting that must be concluded before construction can begin. Since SouthCoast Wind is already nearly done with federal permitting, it could be online in time to help meet our state's critical 2030 target.

Second, while all electricity generation sources have some environmental impact, offshore wind projects including SouthCoast Wind have extremely limited environmental externalities, especially when compared to other forms of electricity generation.

Contrary to misinformation that is being spread as part of a fear, uncertainty and doubt campaign being waged against offshore wind, this is a proven technology. The first offshore wind farm was installed 23 years ago in Denmark, and we have yet to see significant negative environmental impacts from that wind farm or any of the subsequent wind farms installed.

The Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, US Fish and Wildlife Service, other federal agencies and third-party experts have conducted exhaustive analyses of the potential effects of offshore wind farms in the Atlantic Ocean, and have similarly found a very low level of impacts to our coast, aquatic life, and seabirds.

It is important to consider that this cannot be said of our other options for evening and winter electricity generation. The system of pipelines and gas-fired power plants that are New England's default power source leak CH<sub>4</sub>, an extremely potent greenhouse gas, and emit CO<sub>2</sub>, SO<sub>x</sub>, NO<sub>x</sub>, and particulate matter pollution. Nuclear power plants bring substantial risks in the event of accidents, an unsolved issue of long-term waste, and local impacts on aquatic life from heated cooling water. For hydroelectric power, there are significant alterations to riparian ecosystems, impacts to aquatic species and a need to flood large areas.

In reading SouthCoast Wind's permit application and the opinions of biologists studying this project, I see no impacts that are anywhere near those described above. And unlike the impacts from these other forms of

electricity generation, the environmental effects of offshore wind are almost all temporary and confined to the construction phase.

Finally, there are the significant employment and economic development aspects to consider. While the well-heeled opponents of this project may not value these, offshore wind projects have been tremendously beneficial in terms of bringing both jobs and economic activity to struggling port communities.

The construction of each offshore wind farm brings a thousand or more construction jobs, mobilizing many different trades and businesses, but also dozens of long-term jobs in operational and maintenance. And there is a reason why Rhode Island's unions support these projects - these are good-paying, family-supporting union jobs. Instead of sending our money out of state for natural gas, the building of offshore wind projects injects money into local communities.

But what is most important for me is that I want to see a livable planet for my son and for future generations. Offshore wind is a critical component of that future for Rhode Island and all of New England.

Best,  
Christian Roselund  
842 Hope Street Apt 3  
Providence, RI 02906

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Christian Roselund  
[c.roselund@gmail.com](mailto:c.roselund@gmail.com)

## Cstaff1

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**From:** Chris Gadbois <christinegadbois75@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 24, 2024 10:05 AM  
**To:** cstaff1@crmc.ri.gov  
**Subject:** 2023-02-090 Public Comment

As a long time RI resident and advance practice public health nurse, I am writing in support of Southcoast Winds project to bring additional alternative energy to RI and SE Massachusetts. While the development may cause some disruption, this pales in comparison to existing threats to our environment from existing deteriorating petroleum product infrastructure. We cannot let short term interests prevent us from developing sustainable systems for future generations.

Thank you,

Chris Gadbois

23 Annawamscutt Rd, Barrington, RI, 02806

## Cstaff1

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**From:** Sandra Craig <mmesandracruz@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 24, 2024 2:09 AM  
**To:** cstff1@crmc.ri.gov  
**Subject:** Permit File Number: 2023-02-090 Application for SouthCoast Wind Energy LLC – State of Rhode Island Assent and Freshwater Wetlands Permit @ SouthCoast

Attention CRMC staff

PLEASE ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT of this email.

Re: SouthCoast Wind 1's proposed Project: Joint Application for a Category B Assent and a Freshwater Wetlands Permit September 2024 Submitted to: Rhode Island Coastal Resources Management Council. Location: Rhode Island State Waters and Onshore Project Components in Portsmouth, Rhode Island Project Proponent: SouthCoast Wind Energy LLC

SouthCoast Wind's application violates the the Federal Clean Water Act, the Federal National Environmental Protection Act as well as The Rhode Island Coastal Resources Management Program, Rhode Island Water Quality Regulations, the Rhode Island Freshwater Wetlands Act and Rhode Island Fisheries Statutes, and Middletown's Comprehensive Community Plan.

Dear CRMC Staff,

I am commenting as a member of the community and owner of a home on the Sakonnet River, in Middletown, RI.

SouthCoast Wind proposes Installation of HDD underground transmission cables and two offshore export power cables in RI waters (RI Sound and Sakonnet River) plus associated communications cabling, together in a bundled configuration where practicable, to minimize seabed impacts from installation. SouthCoast proposes each HVDC offshore export power cable will be a single-core (one power core) armored submarine cable; the power core will be either aluminum or copper stranded conductor, with cross-linked polyethylene insulation, a lead sheath, and a polyethylene over sheath. The cable will be covered with galvanized, stainless-steel wire armor, and an outer serving of polypropylene yarns soaked in bitumen. The proposed Cable Diameter (per cable) is 6.9 in (175.0 mm), with Nominal Cable Voltage  $\pm 320$  kilovolt (kV). The Length of the Cable Corridor (RI State Waters) is 20.4 mi (32.8 km) Cable Corridor Width 1,640 ft to 2,300 ft (500 m to 700 m). Typical Width of Seabed Disturbance During Construction is proposed to be 6.0 m (19.7 ft), and 3 Cable / Pipeline Crossings are anticipated. The anticipated Cable Burial Depth (below level seabed) is 3.2 to 13.1 ft (1.0 to 4.0 m). The maximum cable bundle width will be twice the maximum cable diameter.

The cumulative damage to the environment occasioned by these activities will be permanent and irreversible.

I urge you to deny SouthCoast Wind's application and thereby "protect, restore, and promote our environment to ensure Rhode Island remains a wonderful place to live, visit, and raise a family."

### 1. Water Pollution

I am concerned about the impact of the installation and the subsequent operation of HVDC cables-- on the waters of the Sakonnet, in particular the Sakonnet River, Mt Hope Bay, coastal waters off Aquidneck Island, including Portsmouth, Middletown, Newport—Island Park Beach, Third Beach, Peabody Beach, Sachuest Point National Wildlife Refuge, Sandy Point Beach, Second and First Beach and beyond. Thousands of people flock annually to these beaches for recreational purposes. Hundreds of recreational and commercial fishermen use shore access points all along the Sakonnet and Narragansett Bay. As it abuts my property, I can attest to the year round use of Taggart's Ferry Lane by individuals seeking access to these coastal waters to fish, collect shellfish, swim, kayak, paddle boat, windsurf, sail, motor boat, etc.

### — Resuspension of toxic matter & PFAS in dredged up sediment

During the industrial revolution, toxic compounds and heavy metals were discharged in RI waters, including waters in proximity to where SouthCoast's cables will be laid in the Sakonnet River and will run to and from the shore in

Portsmouth, RI and into Mt Hope Bay. An EcoRI article, “*Rhode Island’s Pollution Problems Long in the Making*” - ecoRI News, <https://www.energylivenews.com/2023/09/22/subsea-cable-failures-pose-global-threat-to-offshore-wind/> graphically describes the history of industrial pollution in Narragansett Bay: “Heavy metals, such as lead, silver and cadmium, are toxic to aquatic organisms even in minuscule amounts. High levels of toxic metals from historic inputs still lie buried in deeper sediments.” The article further notes that these legacy metal and other toxic deposits, “ have been collecting there for centuries and can be stirred up by severe storms or dredging. “

I am concerned my family, neighbors and any person who enjoys these coastal areas, plus myriad sea creatures that inhabit these waters will be subjected to toxic material, including “**forever chemicals**”, when industrial pollution accumulated in the sediment will be disturbed by SouthCoast’s activities. During construction and installation ( jet plows, HDD, impact pile driving, etc), currents flowing- up or down stream -across the underwater and benthic portion of this project (including during and after installation of the off shore wind turbines, OSPs, and transmission and inter-array cables), will **resuspend toxic** heavy metals (Chen, 2022), introducing them into the marine food supply chain and threatening marine organisms (Huang, 2022).

### — Testing

From the the smallest to the largest, organisms “breathing” or ingesting the material resuspended and dispersed in the Sakonnet will be affected by the introduction of this material along the entire length of the Sakonnet and Mount Hope Bay and out to the ocean: shell fish, finfish, myriad seabirds, mammals (otters, raccoons, voles, rabbits, foxes, etc.), including humans.

What testing has been done to determine the content of sediment and its potential impacts on the health and well being of not only sea creatures, but on humans who will come into contact with this material? It is important that this testing be done *before sediments are disturbed* since **bioaccumulation and biomagnification** can increase the potential harm these compounds can cause.

SouthCoast and the CRMC have failed to adequately consider the implications or the significant health consequences of re-suspending toxic compounds in this area or to incorporate the latest scientific findings.

### —Cumulative impact

In addition to failing to consider the impacts of the resuspension of sediment, toxic compounds and heavy metals, SouthCoast and the CRMC have failed to consider the **cumulative impact** of other interactions between aspects of the project that may degrade water quality.

For just a couple of examples, the anti-corrosive coating on the wind turbines may leach significant levels of toxic heavy metals (lead and cadmium) (Reese, 2020) into the water. “Leading edge erosion” emits microplastics containing Bisphenol A (BPA) and per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), also known as “forever chemicals” into the water, which can then contaminate the marine food chain.

— **Contaminating water in an area essential to fishing** would violate the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C §§ 1251 et seq.) and Seafood Safety Regulations (21 C.F.R. § 123). The CRMC has not adequately addressed this significant impact on the marine environment and on human health. ([https://docs.wind-watch.org/Leading-Edge-erosion-and-pollution-from-wind-turbine-blades\\_5\\_july\\_English.pdf](https://docs.wind-watch.org/Leading-Edge-erosion-and-pollution-from-wind-turbine-blades_5_july_English.pdf)).

### — Beach Closures

Aquidneck Island already suffers numerous beach closures due to pollution in Narragansett Bay. How many more beach closures will this dredging necessitate ? Will people become ill from the chemicals disbursed in the water from dredging? Beach closures negatively impact tourism and the local economy.

Are there plans to mitigate water pollution caused by this project, for example, creating oyster reefs such as is part of the Rhode Island Oyster Restoration Initiative? <https://www.nracs.usda.gov/sites/default/files/2024-01/2024-NRCS-RI-Oyster-Initiative-Brochure.pdf>

## 2. Cables:

### —Risk of damage due to insufficient depth of buried cable

Mid-channel, in front of my house, the Sakonnet is around 20 feet deep. On average the River is generally 16 feet deep, but the depth varies and some areas have pockets of 5–7 feet and uncharted shoaling near Gould Island and Island Park. Storms and hurricanes propel ferocious waves up -and down- the Sakonnet. I am concerned that it is “assumed” —but no tests have been done to determine if in fact —“natural” infilling of sediment over the length of the transmission cable post dredging will effectively and permanently re-cover the cables. To my knowledge, no *in situ* tests have been

performed to determine the optimal “safe” and “secure” burial depth during storms or hurricanes, or whether sediment will infill over dredged cable “on its own”; this is particularly concerning given the ever increasing intensity of waves and storm surges. The disturbance of sediment will in turn disturb organisms that may have made the redistributed sediment along cable path their “new” home. CRMC has not adequately accounted for the possibility of *constant re-disturbance* of fauna or flora along the cable route/ in the ECC.

Moreover, I am concerned installing cables to depths of up to 6 feet will not adequately prevent **movement of the cables themselves** which could cause damage or breakage. Experts in Barnstable, MA., at a public town meeting, testified that transmission cables should be buried to at least a **depth of 10 feet or more** below the sea bed.

What modeling has CRMC required from SouthCoast that there will be no movement or damage or breakage of transmission cable? ..no further disturbance of the sea floor or harm to organisms in the ECC / or near the cable's path? Due to my home's location, I know only too well the intensity of storm surges and waves in the Sakonnet. What assurance has CRMC required from SouthCoast in this regard?

### —Cable Inspection and Monitoring

Notably, as a condition to receiving approval from the DEM for New Dredging and Transmission Line Installation, Dredge Permit Application No DP-23-198, and RI Water Quality Certificate File No 23-044, under Section 401 of the Federal Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. Sec. 1341), RI DEM has required SouthCoast to comply with no fewer than 38 conditions.

Included is the requirement SouthCoast create and submit a long term monitoring, operations and maintenance plan, including surveying entire length of cable route -using a multi beam survey- after the 1st and 2nd years, and then every 5 years of operation, unless the cable poses a hazard to public safety which then would require annual surveys until the situation is rectified and the regular schedule can be resumed. *Importantly, criteria must be developed for additional cable route surveys following severe weather.*

While the aforementioned schedule may seem on paper an adequate monitoring schedule, storms in the Sakonnet are frequent and cable may become exposed, presenting a real risk of being damaged, or presenting a risk to other marine users or resources. There is research aplenty about the “*usually unmentioned*” need for cable repairs. Plus, there are and may be chemicals in the cables or equipment at any point along the offshore and on shore / sea to shore cable route that are toxic and would require a costly special process for clean up if/ when they leak? *Subsea cable repairs account for 85% of insurance claims.* Repairs will presumably require more digging and disturbing of the sea bed. Cable failures will disrupt transmission to the already fragile electric grid and cause huge disturbances and cost increases. Undoubtedly, these costs will be passed on to ratepayers. <https://www.energylivenews.com/2023/09/22/subsea-cable-failures-pose-global-threat-to-offshore-wind/>

There must be tighter requirements imposed on SouthCoast namely —to bury the cable deeper and to create a monitoring plan that will *proactively* prevent damage to the cables—damage that is evidently likely since RI DEM has mandated more frequent monitoring in the event the cable poses a public hazard. Damage “mitigated” after the fact may in fact be permanent and irreversible.

### —EMFs:

Crabs, clams, scallops, sand dollars, starfish, worms, insects and microorganisms -and many more species- live in / near / rely on the soft substrate / sand in the Sakonnet/ near & beneath the rocky beaches or in tidal zones. Various rays, skates and sharks feed over sand bottoms in between rocks. Some use electrical sensing capabilities to find animals hidden in sand between and beneath the rocky sea bottom to eat.

I must ask, have *in situ* tests been conducted to determine if these and other creatures will be impeded in any way by the electrical charge emitted due to the massive amount of electricity passing through the cable, and as well by the heat generated by the cables ?

I look to NOAA as an authority.

In March 2023, in its **Technical Memorandum NMFS-NE-291 (several citations below are to this 388 page document)**, it was noted, that regardless of an electric transmission cable's position in the marine environment and the cable type (i.e., AC, DC), the transmission of energy through the cable generates an electric and magnetic field (Gill et al. 2014).1.2.1.2.2 Electromagnetic Fields – Components of Emissions). NOAA, acknowledges, that since “there are presently no thresholds indicating acceptable or unacceptable levels of EMF emissions in the marine environment (Hutchison et al. 2020a) (p48/388),” *cable protections which increase the distance from source- thereby providing a*

physical barrier and reducing the maximum intensity that animals are exposed to- are often promoted as a “**mitigative measure.**”

However, notably, NOAA goes on to point out, “**burial does not eliminate the EMF, and the burial depth is a variable entity, even along a single cable route** (Hutchison et al. 2021).” Moreover, it is possible that a “lower intensity brings emissions into a more perceivable range to the receptive species” (Hutchison et al. 2020a), and “some cable protections provide habitats to species which may **inadvertently increase exposure durations and reduce distances to the source**” (Taormina et al. 2020; Hutchison et al. 2021). (P 44/388)” .

Hence, “when analyzing the impacts of EMFs emitted from SouthCoast’s subsea cables, SouthCoast must be required to take the vantage point of receptive species (Hutchison et al. 2020a). This approach requires consideration of the species’ sensory ecology, life stage, and, importantly, their movement ecology to fully understand the encounter with the cable EMF, as well as the characteristics that define the EMF in the marine environment. (P44/388)”. “Species that are magneto- and/or electro-receptive may be directly or indirectly responsive to the different components of the EMF (e.g., emitted magnetic field, induced electric field, motionally induced electric field; Formicki et al. 2019; Newton et al. 2019; Hutchison et al. 2020a).” [P 51/ 388.)

...See also, “Assessing the effects of electromagnetic fields generated by submarine power cables on the soft-bottom community: An ecological in-situ study”, December 2024, [Environmental Research](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.envres.2024.120573) 266(1):120573, DOI: [10.1016/j.envres.2024.120573](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.envres.2024.120573); <https://www.researchgate.net/publication/386586383> [Assessing the effects of electromagnetic fields generated by submarine power cables on the soft-bottom community An ecological in-situ study](https://www.researchgate.net/publication/386586383). ..”The magnetic field generated by a submarine power cable depends on several factors, such as the power transmission system, capacity, distance from the cable, and burial depth (Albert et al., 2020; Ardelean and Minnebo, 2015; Chapman et al., 2023)... Results revealed that the magnetic field generated by the cables is detectable despite being buried in the first meters.”

Given the variable depths at which cables may be buried due to benthic constraints and crossings that will necessitate laying the cable on the surface of the seafloor and under “mattress” cable protections, *SouthCoast must be made to account for any inadvertent increased exposure to EMFs and possible reactions of -and impacts to -all the species that will occur along the cable route.*

Furthermore, it is generally accepted that OSW development including **EMFs can impact the fishing industry**. The fishing industry has identified crustaceans, clams, scallops, and squid as understudied populations of particular concern in the context of OSW development (p24/388).

Just as EMFs “Magnetic fields” (MFs) have been shown to induce responses or changes in distribution in crabs and lobsters. (P 24/388), *changes in fish behavior caused by EMF will also impact the fishing industry*. It is unclear what *impact EMFs from subsea cables will have on fishery species at various life stages*. Comparability of responses to AC and DC type EMFs are not clear. ...however, *the propagation of the induced electric field is dependent on the conductivity of the environment (i.e., more saline water will propagate further; CMACS 2003; Gill et al. 2012)*. (I would like to point out that the Sakonnet has a high saline content.) Furthermore, in both the AC and DC scenarios, a motionally induced electric field arises from a water body or animal moving through the magnetic field (Gill et al. 2014). (23/388)”.

Species such as *skates and rays, as well as sturgeon*, appear to be most receptive to EMF and therefore have the greatest potential for impacts” Fishermen are also (p48/388) concerned about potential impacts on inshore/offshore migration of *demersal species, such as summer flounder (Paralichthys dentatus)*, and behavioral and physiological effects on invertebrate species. Even *small pelagic finfish* (which are a functionally important species group since they provide an essential forage base for upper trophic levels and thus play a critical role in overall ecosystem function and dynamics) “because of their diverse living habitats throughout life history, may be sensitive to impact producing factors (IPFs) during each stage of OSW development, *including EMFs...*” ( p 23/ 388).”

The sensitivities of small pelagic species to EMFs and the potential for them to disrupt migration patterns is simply not well understood. Impacts on migratory patterns could have long-term implications for species that develop migratory routes early in life and maintain those patterns even after the environmental stimulus no longer exists (p23/388).” “*As many marine organisms, especially migrating fish, are able to perceive the natural geomagnetic field and use it for orientation, navigation and homing, (Kirschvink et al, 2001), the presence of artificial magnetic fields in the environment may interfere with this ability* (Kiley et al., 2021)” And, **both static magnetic and electromagnetic fields may be harmful for living organisms** \*Zhadin, 2001; GGhodbane et al., 2013; Otremba et al., 2019).”

While research shows much is unclear, and further study is needed, it is of interest to note, “according to existing data based on the theoretical considerations and *research conducted at the cellular level* and on model organisms, *low frequency EMF is considered to be particularly hazardous for biological structure, which is also reflected by the*

*international evaluations of risks to human health* (Suzki et al, 2006; EC2013).” Science Direct, “Do magnetic fields related to submarine power cables affect the functioning of a common bivalve?” \* July 2022 [Marine Environmental Research](#) 179(1):105700, DOI:[10.1016/j.marenvres.2022.105700](#).

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Footnote: \* [The aim of the latter 2022 study was “to determine the effect of static magnetic field (SMF) and electromagnetic field (EMF), of values usually recorded near submarine cables, on the bioenergetics, oxidative stress, and neurotoxicity in the cockle *Cerastoderma glaucum*. The study found that Bivalves maintained a positive energy balance, but the filtration rate and energy available for individual production were significantly lower in SMF-exposed animals compared to the control treatment. No changes in the respiration were noted but ammonia excretion rate was significantly lower after exposure to EMF. Changes in the activities of antioxidant enzymes and the lipid peroxidation were not observed however, exposure to both fields resulted in increased protein carbonylation. After exposure to EMF a significant inhibition of acetylcholinesterase activity was observed. **As this study for the first time revealed the oxidative damage and neurotoxicity in marine invertebrate after exposure to artificial magnetic fields, the authors highlighted and expressed the need for further research.**]  
[https://www.researchgate.net/publication/361906214\\_Do\\_magnetic\\_fields\\_related\\_to\\_submarine\\_power\\_cables\\_affect\\_the\\_functioning\\_of\\_a\\_common\\_bivalve](https://www.researchgate.net/publication/361906214_Do_magnetic_fields_related_to_submarine_power_cables_affect_the_functioning_of_a_common_bivalve)

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On the basis of my review of research and studies, I am concerned and thus constrained to suggest that it would be critically beneficial before CRMC issues any permit to provide increased clarity—and not just to the fishing industry—on the EMF emissions and if population-level effects and impacts are likely.

If impacts of EMF to the availability of species may result in negative socioeconomic impacts to the fishing industry, if, [for example] they cannot safely harvest species attracted to turbines, cables, and the associated scour/mattress protection methods, due to the risk posed by gear hanging up”, (p48/388)] ....*what other impacts will there be?*

NOAA also has pointed out (p44/388), that “*models are most frequently used to understand EMF emissions from cables and less frequently EMFs are measured in situ* (CMACS 2003; Normandeau Exponent et al. 2011). Models can help by using the cable properties (type, core configuration, layers of shielding, amperage, voltage [V]) and ideally incorporating the 3-dimensional (3D) local geomagnetic field to determine expected emissions for the modeled scenario (i.e., specific burial depth, power level; Kavet et al. 2016; Hutchison et al. 2020b). However, NOAA noted, models are often based on single point scenarios and omit the interaction with the local geomagnetic field.(p45/388)”. “Recent advances in technology have facilitated the measurement of EMFs *in situ* which now allows cable EMFs to be characterized in the marine environment. (NB: please see NOAA’s references to a preliminary trial of a bespoke instrument—completed at Belgian OSW farms; also where the EMF from the sea2shore cable of BIWF was measured (p45/388).)

To a layperson, it is not clear whether SouthCoast has performed such detailed testing *in situ* or is relying on desk top or even laboratory modeling; if these tests have not been done, the CRMC should require SouthCoast to use the most up-to-date testing and modeling methodology.

Notwithstanding, in its COP, the CRMC should require SouthCoast to evaluate “activities that result in changes to ambient EMF, including testing, operations, and decommissioning, and then insist they report the type, duration, and intensity of EMF-producing activities and their potential impacts on biological resources. (P 45/388)”. More study and testing is required. There are too many unknowns.

To grant a permit before this all happens is premature and flies in the face of the letter and spirit of the laws and regulations enacted to protect our coastal waters. SouthCoast should be required to do all the above, before applying for or granted a permit.

**Lastly, will Continued Monitoring of EMFs be required during the life of the cables' operation?** As this is an area of ongoing research and study, it is premature to assume there will be no long term deleterious effects, as we simply don't yet know conclusively which and how or to what extent various sea creatures, and humans, are impacted by EMF's from high frequency transmission cable.

### 3. Fisheries monitoring plan

The RI DEM required as one of the conditions (New Dredging and Transmission Line Installation, Dredge Permit Application No DP-23-198, and RI Water Quality Certificate File No 23-044, under Section 401 of the Federal Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. Sec. 1341)) that SouthCoast must meet to obtain DEM's dredging permit approval, that SouthCoast *create and submit a Fisheries Monitoring plan for state waters* that includes at a minimum, a whelk pot survey along the cable route. see #27 RIDEM Permit. **This plan must be implemented in order to obtain the data DEM requires for a**

**minimum of 2 full years prior to cable installation.** The monitoring must continue through the entirety of the construction period and for 2 full years following commencement of cable activation and operation.

Has this plan been implemented?... When was monitoring begun? ..And if so, where can the data be seen?

#### 4. Cumulative and Cascading consequences

Related to WTG and subsea cable installation, in addition to concern re EMFs, I note other specific topics of concern raised by fishermen include ecosystem-level impacts, predator-prey interactions, and the specific effects of installation noise, and **heat** on shellfish, finfish, as well as the influence of upwelling on the larval dispersion and **plankton** production and potential **cascading consequences** through the food web.

##### — Sea Temperature rise due to OSP discharge and heat emission from subsea transmission cables

It is well known that Oxygen (O<sub>2</sub>) is vital to life in the ocean, and as the sea temperature rises oxygen becomes less soluble, via a process known as deoxygenation ([Gao et al., 2019](#)). Caused by runoff of nutrients- such as fertilizers and sewage- from land to sea, reduced oxygen levels in coastal areas has long been associated with eutrophication or increased Hypoxia — sometimes described as the ocean running out of breath.

Middletown literally sits atop four major and two minor watersheds that serve Aquidneck Island. See [Middletown's 2014 Comprehensive Community Plan](#).\*\* <chrome-extension://efaidnbmnnnibpcajpcglclefindmkaj/https://www.middletownri.gov/DocumentCenter/View/254/III-Natural-and-Ecological-Resources-PDF>

The four watersheds, Bailey Brook, Paradise Brook, Maidford River, and Nelson Pond are served by the major brooks for which they are named. The watersheds, some of which extend into Portsmouth to the north, naturally drain the basins in a southerly direction where they feed three large ponds - Easton's / Green End, Gardiner and Nelson Ponds. The two minor drainage basins are the eastern Narragansett Bay and eastern Little Creek areas. The area of West Main Road drains from the east to the west into Narragansett Bay.

*Little Creek drains its basin in a west to east direction directly into the Sakonnet River very near Taggart's Ferry, in close proximity to Peabody Beach, Third Beach and Second Beach.* At times of heavy rainfall, Little Creek becomes a raging torrent, carrying run off —including fertilizers, such as nitrogen and phosphorous, and biomass from agriculture, all of which stimulates algae growth.

*Not just Little Creek, but all of Middletown's rivers, brooks and streams are subject to periodic flooding at low elevations surrounding the waterways.* Development in the flood plains of these streams may-and does - exacerbate flooding due to increased runoff. This in turn impacts the quality of the coastal water.

The Rhode Island Coastal Resources Management Program has classified the water adjacent to each beach area as Type I (Conservation Area) water. Map N-7 CRMC Water Type Classification shows water type classifications adjacent to Middletown. *These waters are designated by the state for preservation and protection from activities and uses that have the potential to degrade scenic, wildlife, and plant habitat values, or that may adversely impact water quality and the diversity of natural shoreline types.*

*Thus, the increased sea water temperatures all along the length of the Sakonnet River caused by SouthCoast's transmission cables, coupled with the cumulative effect of the discharge of 10 million gallons per day of chlorinated water from SouthCoast's OSP -off shore converters stations' "open loop cooling system" (which will also kill by impingement and entrainment billions of zooplankton and NARW's preferred food source, copepods) -will adversely impact the protected values classified by the CRMC and hence SouthCoast's activities may -indeed- will violate CRMC's own designated protections and should not be permitted.*

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Footnote: \*\*Middletown's 2014 Comprehensive Community Plan.\* IN RECOGNITION THAT THE HEALTH OF OUR CITIZENS AND OUR LOCAL ECONOMY ARE DEPENDENT ON THE HEALTH OF OUR ENVIRONMENT, THE TOWN OF MIDDLETOWN WILL REFLECT GOOD STEWARDSHIP OF THE WATER, LAND AND AIR THROUGH LOCAL GOVERNMENT PRACTICES. THE TOWN AND ITS RESIDENTS WILL CHOOSE TO ACT COLLECTIVELY AND INDIVIDUALLY TO PRESERVE, PROTECT, AND RESTORE OUR ENVIRONMENT FOR THIS AND FUTURE GENERATIONS.

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## —Re Heat production

In its March 2023 *Technical Memorandum NMFS-NE-291: 1.2.1.3 Heat Production*, NOAA affirms that thermal radiation occurs as an emission from subsea power cables and has the potential to increase the temperature of the surrounding environment (Boehlert and Gill 2010; Taormina et al. 2018)..(P 49/ 388). NOAA goes on to state that *thermal radiation from cables will affect the marine environment to varying degrees.* (P51/388).

In general, propagation or emission rates for these heat stressors decrease with distance from the source but are intrinsically dependent on the marine environmental conditions (such as temperature, salinity, and sediment/substrate type). **Thus, potential effects on the surrounding sediment habitat where heat emissions occur** may include changes of physico-chemical conditions, such as the alteration of redox profiles (oxygen, sulfide), nutrient profiles, bacterial activity, and distribution of infauna (Meißner et al. 2006; Emeana et al. 2016; Taormina et al. 2018). However, these aspects cannot be considered without better characterization of heat signatures (intensity and spatial extent) around the cables based on the cable characteristics and surrounding medium (e.g., permeability of sediment type, water velocity).

Although SouthCoast suggests thermal impacts would likely be minimized with buried cables or cables covered with concrete mattresses to potentially only a few feet, **SouthCoast's subsea cables will extend for many miles, significantly raising the temperature of the sea.**

**Moreover, heat transfer and thus temperature fields generated from miles of submarine HV cables buried within a range of sediments are highly variable.** Coarse silts are shown to be purely conductive, producing temperature increases of >10 °C up to 40 cm from the source of 60 °C above ambient; fine sands demonstrate a transition from conductive to convective heat transfer between *cf.* 20 and 36 °C above ambient, with >10 °C heat increases occurring over a metre from the source of 55 °C above ambient; and very coarse sands exhibit dominantly convective heat transfer even at very low (*cf.* 7 °C) operating temperatures and reaching temperatures of up to 18 °C above ambient at a meter from the source at surface temperatures of only 18 °C.

**These findings are important for the surrounding near-surface environments experiencing such high temperatures and may have significant implications** for chemical and physical processes operating at the grain and subgrain scale; biological activity at both microfaunal and macrofaunal levels; and indeed the operational performance of the cables themselves, as convective heat transport would increase cable current ratings, something neglected in existing standards. [https://www.researchgate.net/publication/303369638\\_The\\_thermal\\_regime\\_around\\_buried\\_submarine\\_high\\_voltage\\_cables](https://www.researchgate.net/publication/303369638_The_thermal_regime_around_buried_submarine_high_voltage_cables)

Fishermen have noted some attraction by invertebrates, such as lobsters, to cables, but it is unknown whether the attraction is due to EMF, warmth produced by the cables, combined effects, or other factors. If such an attraction exists, it could concentrate resources along a cable route, which could expose the population to increased harvest or natural predation. *Additional in situ measurements are needed to better understand spatiotemporal variability in different conditions, EMF and thermal radiation along cable routes.*

*Conclusions provided by SouthCoast that are based on modeling to investigate how these stressors will propagate around turbines and cables must be tested against additional in situ measurements to better understand spatiotemporal variability in different conditions, EMF and thermal radiation along cable routes. (p51 / 388 EMF).*

## — Plankton and Algal Bloom Alteration:

Because the Sakonnet is a salt water strait, that is, it is an inlet of the Atlantic Ocean, increased stratification and temperature changes will alter both the amount and the timing of **plankton blooms in the ocean and in RI coastal waters, including the Sakonnet. Plankton blooms** can have downstream effects on migratory species that arrive in exquisite timing with seasonal blooms. Studies from both China and the North Sea demonstrate that offshore wind projects can reduce plankton counts (Daewel, 2022), decrease biodiversity (Wang, 2022), and alter the distribution of plankton blooms (Slavik, 2018).

*A mere 1% decrease in phytoplankton will cause an increase in CO2 emissions that outweighs any possible benefit from renewable energy sources* (Malerba, 2019). In fact, SouthCoast's DEIS calculates the construction and installation of SouthCoast's project will kill billions of plankton. CRMC has not adequately considered the cumulative effect on the entire project, including in the Sakonnet and Mt Hope Bay, the interactions between primary production and other species, the impact of primary production on CO2 emissions and O2 production (Falkowski, 2012), nor does it incorporate the latest scientific findings from the North Sea and China.

Also of note, given the cumulative effects of this entire project (and others), invasive species on the monopiles or cable route can decrease water oxygenation levels, as demonstrated in the North Sea (Daewel, 2022). Deoxygenation can cause dead zones—fish die-offs and harmful algal blooms.

The North Sea has experienced an increase in harmful and costly **algal blooms** in recent years. The timing coincides with offshore wind installations. Harmful algal blooms carry an approximate financial burden to the economy of over \$8 billion per year (Brown, 2019). A toxic algal bloom caused an unusual and “catastrophic” die-off of crabs and lobsters in the late fall/early winter of 2021 along England’s North Sea coast (Beament, 2022), soon after the construction of the largest offshore wind farm in the world, Hornsea 1 and 2. Similarly, in the year after the Block Island wind farm construction, a harmful algal bloom contaminated shellfish in Narragansett Bay with the deadly neurotoxin, domoic acid. Changes in nutrient levels correlated with toxicity (Sterling, 2022). Although an association with the Block Island Wind Farm was not considered, the timing and geographic pattern of the bloom suggest invasive filter feeders on the “artificial reefs” -created anywhere within the wind farm -may have prompted this harmful bloom. As a result of harmful algal blooms, this project could violate the Seafood Safety Regulations (21 C.F.R. § 123). CRMC does not adequately consider the cost, both financial and from a public health concern, of the project’s propensity to induce harmful algal blooms.

—**Deoxygenation:** Deoxygenation -also discussed above- in the lower-level water layer occurs in wind farms (Daewel, 2022). Deoxygenation can cause large-scale fish die-offs. CRMC does not adequately consider the impact of deoxygenation on fisheries. This project is not consistent with the conservation of biodiversity and marine life implied in the Executive Order promoting renewable energy.

### **Conclusion:**

Review of research suggests that additional field studies should be conducted, including those exploring the sensitivity to sound pressure, particle motion, and substrate vibration; the physical and behavioral impacts of sound; changes in movement, migration pattern, dwell or stopover time; behaviors during stopovers, diel vertical migrations, and distribution and usage of small pelagic fish species in OSW areas. Additional studies should include impacts caused by localized and variable spatial scale predator-prey dynamics, and hydrodynamic patterns on the distribution and abundance of pelagic fish, as well as their larvae and food resources, and studies on the effect of *sediment deposition* from construction on benthic egg survival. (P23/388).

Adequate consideration of these and all above mentioned aspects of SouthCoast’s proposed activities has not been taken heretofore in this process. This should be rectified prior to any permit being issued by the CRMC.

Thank you and respectfully submitted, December 24, 2024

Sandra Craig,

Indian Ave, Middletown RI

## Cstaff1

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**From:** Sam Kipper <skipper@uri.edu>  
**Sent:** Saturday, December 21, 2024 11:16 AM  
**To:** cstaff1@crmc.ri.gov  
**Subject:** Written Comment about South Coast Wind  
**Attachments:** Samantha Kipper Comment.pdf

My name is Samantha Kipper and I am a URI student submitting my comment on the SouthCoast Wind project. It is attached below. Thank you very much.

--

Regards,

Sam Kipper  
Ocean Engineering  
[skipper@uri.edu](mailto:skipper@uri.edu)  
(714)673-5076

Subject: 2023-02-090 Public Comment

Dear CRMC,

I am writing to submit comments on the Category B Assent and Freshwater and Wetlands application submitted for the SouthCoast Wind Project, currently under consideration by the Rhode Island Coastal Resources Management Council. As a Rhode Island student, I strongly urge you to approve the application and continue to move the project forward.

We share SouthCoast Wind's belief that economic and environmental progress go hand-in-hand. Offshore wind presents Rhode Island with an opportunity to create thousands of high-quality, well-paying jobs that foster economic development, while creating domestically produced clean energy for the region. SouthCoast Wind's project will create approximately 17,400 direct full time-equivalent (FTE) job-years over the life of the project, along with significant supply chain opportunities. SouthCoast Wind's commitment to utilizing union labor throughout construction and investing in workforce development in underrepresented communities is tangible progress towards a diverse, local and inclusive workforce that will bring significant benefits to our economy, our environment, and most importantly our local communities.

In light of the long-term benefits offered by major offshore wind projects such as SouthCoast Wind, I trust that CRMC will carefully review and appropriately act on the Category B Assent application to move the project forward.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Samantha Kipper

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Samantha Kipper". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

## Cstaff1

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**From:** Barbara Watts <bsullivanwatts@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, December 21, 2024 10:10 PM  
**To:** cstaff1@crmc.ri.gov  
**Subject:** 2023-02-090 Public Comment

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to urge the Rhode Island CRMC to approve the application of SouthCoast Wind Energy LLC for a State of Rhode Island Assent and Freshwater Wetlands Permit Application to construct and maintain: Two new 20.4-mile submarine high-voltage direct current (HVDC) power cable within state waters, including crossing locations at the Town of Portsmouth, RI

As a Senior Marine Research Scientist Emerita at the University of Rhode Island Graduate School of Oceanography I have over 40 years of experience working to protect the marine environment in Rhode Island (Narragansett Bay). This work involved the measurement of responses of marine plankton to climate change, resulting in numerous publications. I also taught climate change science as an adjunct professor at Providence College from 2006-2020. And I have a publication on zooplankton and dredging.

I provide this information to establish my credentials to speak both about Narragansett Bay plankton and climate change. While there will be disturbances created by South Coast Wind operations to bring power lines from the offshore windmills through the Sakonnet River and to shore in Portsmouth, they are temporary and affect relatively small proportions of the marine populations. Certainly plankton will recover from these temporary impacts due to their great numbers and short times to replacement via reproduction.

It is the impact of climate change on these and other marine species that hold a much greater and permanent threat. In addition, the State of Rhode Island is obligated by law (the Act on Climate) to reduce carbon emissions and to do this via renewable energy. Offshore wind energy is extremely abundant off our coast making it a critically important resource. We must bring the power produced by the turbines to shore in a manner that protects the environment from temporary impact and with any mitigation necessary, but it must be recognized these are processes and impacts for which there is a great deal of prior experience from other marine construction projects. They are not unique to the Offshore Wind.

South Coast Wind has already undergone extensive review of its plans by federal and at the state level by the CRMC, including a dredge permit in March of this year attesting to the caliber of the work of South Coast Wind.

Based on my expertise in the area of plankton studies and my understanding of the science of climate change, an expertise in every oceanographer's "wheelhouse", I urge you to make rapid work of approving the remaining permits for South Coast Wind's operations to bring power ashore.

I have spent a lifetime protecting marine species. I have their welfare clearly in mind. I do not take lightly the potential impacts of bringing power from offshore wind to land. But I weigh them against the certain impacts of unabated climate change.

Reference: Sullivan, B. K and Danil Hancock, 1977. Zooplankton and Dredging: Research perspectives from a Critical Review. Water Resources Bulletin. Journal of the American Water Resources Association. <https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1752-1688.1977.tb05558.x>

Respectfully

Barbara K. Sullivan-Watts

Barbara K. Sullivan-Watts, Ph.D.  
Senior Marine Research Scientist, Emerita  
Graduate School of Oceanography, University of Rhode Island  
2 Locust Drive  
Kingston, RI 02881

## Cstaff1

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**From:** Helene B van Beuren <hbvanb@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, December 22, 2024 5:18 PM  
**To:** cstff1@crmc.ri.gov  
**Subject:** Re: Permit File Number: 2023-02-090 Application for SouthCoast Wind Energy LLC – State of Rhode Island Assent and Freshwater Wetlands Permit @ SouthCoast

TO THE CRMC STAFF:

SouthCoast's application violates the the Federal Clean Water Act, the Federal National Environmental Protection Act as well as The Rhode Island Coastal Resources Management Program, Rhode Island Water Quality Regulations, the Rhode Island Freshwater Wetlands Act and Rhode Island Fisheries Statutes.

When the pogies go up the river with the stripers following them along, recreational fishermen cast their lines along the Sakonnet River. The fluke lie at the bottom and go up the river to spawn. What impact will this dredging have on the recreational fisherfolk, plus the swimmers, boaters, kayakers, sailors and all the people who have homes on both sides of the river or in the Portsmouth neighborhoods where the cable cuts underground to connect to Mount Hope Bay? And let's not forget the sea life!

We can only imagine what has been dumped into Narragansett Bay over the last 100 years by the jewelry, chemical and textile industries and the Navy. Heavy metal poisons have sunk to the ocean floor and should remain there. With this dredging, high pressure water plows will blast the sediment, spewing up pollutants toxic to aquatic life, damaging or destroying critical marine habitats including our beloved shellfish beds.

There are many concerns regarding this cable laying route. Perhaps the most compelling is that the government agencies charged with approving these permits have concluded that more studies are needed. Below are some links to studies regarding the potential impacts of these types of cables:

- [The Effects of Anthropogenic Electromagnetic Fields \(EMF\) on the Early Development of Two Commercially Important Crustaceans, European Lobster, \*Homarus gammarus\* \(L.\) and Edible Crab, \*Cancer pagurus\* \(L.\)](#)
- [A review of potential impacts of submarine power cables on the marine environment: Knowledge gaps, recommendations and future directions](#)

Electromagnetic fields (EMF's) emanating from buried cables are known to impact sea life, disrupting migration patterns, feeding and spawning behaviors. SouthCoast's own Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) states that EMF's will be detected if buried less than 10 feet deep. Yet they plan to bury the cables at depths ranging from 3.2 to 13 feet. In addition, cables heat up the seabed and surrounding water. Their DEIS says further studies need to be completed to accurately assess long-term impacts of the heat on surrounding ecosystems. Waves are powerful. Cables are going to rock and roll unless buried at 10 feet or more. What will the movement of the cables do to the seabed and to the marine life that make their homes nearby? So much uncertainty!

Cables require constant maintenance. Repairs will cause seabed disruption. Subsea cables make up just 10% of the initial cost of building an offshore wind farm but account for 75-80% of wind energy insurance claims. Cables contain Pipe-Type Cable Transmission Fluid (PTC) which wreaks havoc on the environment when leaked. There is no plan to contain or mitigate this hazard.

I urge you to deny this application and allow time for more study of the impact of these plans on our precious coastal resources.

Best,

Helene van Beuren

Helene van Beuren  
340 Wapping Road  
Portsmouth, RI  
02871

## Lisa Turner

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**From:** Katrina Hamilton Gewirz <kgewirz@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, December 20, 2024 6:36 PM  
**To:** Lisa Turner  
**Subject:** Permit File Number: 2023-02-090 Application for SouthCoast Wind Energy LLC – State of Rhode Island Assent and Freshwater Wetlands Permit

Dear Ms. Turner:

I have submitted "comments" for the permit sited in the subject line now on 2 occasions. I am working on additional comments as the deadline for these comments is December 28, 2024 AND a string of emails between us will show that the 900+ page full project materials document was unavailable until only days ago due to a glitch on the part of CRMC. Even prior to this "glitch" email exchanges will show that while the comment period opened November 13m 2024, CRMC only made available on December 10, 2024 the full document on it's (then glitchy) site.

NOW: Below please see the approval of the VERY project for which the aforementioned comment are still being formulated.

How can this project be approved when there is still the opportunity for comments being submitted? This is not due process and is arguably illegal.

Please note my vehement objection to the above permit for a host of reasons, but in this case specifically because the order in which permitting is being done negates the opportunity for any considerations or relevance of the comments.

Sincerely,  
Katrina Hamilton Gewirz  
225 Indian Avenue  
Middletown RI 02842

A property whose boundary is the Sakonnet river where these cables are being proposed.

----- Forwarded Message -----

**From:** Bureau of Ocean Energy Management <boempubaffairs@boem.gov>  
**To:** "kgewirz@aol.com" <kgewirz@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, December 20, 2024 at 01:52:55 PM EST  
**Subject:** Biden-Harris Administration Approves Eleventh Offshore Wind Project



## **Biden-Harris Administration Approves Eleventh Offshore Wind Project**

*Interior Department has now approved more than 19 gigawatts of offshore wind energy.*

**WASHINGTON** – The Biden-Harris administration today announced the approval of the SouthCoast Wind Project – the nation’s largest offshore wind project to date – under President Biden’s leadership. With today’s approval, the Department and its Bureau of Ocean Energy Management have approved a record number of offshore wind energy projects – enough to power more than 6 million homes.

“When we walked in the door of this Administration, there were zero approved, commercial-scale offshore wind projects in federal waters. Today’s approval is a testament to the commitment and enduring progress made by the hardworking public servants at the Department of the Interior under President Biden’s leadership through the Investing in America agenda, we are addressing the climate crisis, creating jobs, and building a more resilient future for all Americans.”

## About the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management

The Department of the Interior's Bureau of Ocean Energy Management manages development of U.S. Outer Continental Shelf energy, mineral, and geological resources in an environmentally and economically responsible manner.

For More Information:

Alison Ferris | BOEM Office of Communications | (202) 230-3849

Bureau of Ocean Energy Management | 45600 Woodland Road | Ste 1000 | Houston, TX 77060

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## Cstaff1

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**From:** Nicole DiPaolo <nicole@roots2empower.org>  
**Sent:** Friday, December 20, 2024 2:09 PM  
**To:** cstff1@crmc.ri.gov  
**Subject:** 2023-02-090 Public Comment  
**Attachments:** Roots 2Empower Comment 2023-02-090.pdf

Hi there,

Please accept the attached written comment for docket 2023-02-090 regarding the Category B Assent and Freshwater and Wetlands permit for the SouthCoast Wind Project.

Thank you and happy holidays,  
Nicole

--

**Nicole DiPaolo (she/her)**



Program Director

**Roots 2Empower**

[www.Roots2Empower.org](http://www.Roots2Empower.org)



# Roots 2Empower

*Fostering an equitable, regenerative future.*

+1 (401) 440-0665

contact@roots2empower.org

166 Valley Street, Providence, RI 02909

Coastal Resources Management Council  
Stedman Government Center, Suite 3  
4808 Tower Hill Road  
Wakefield, RI 02879-1900

December 20, 2024

## **RE: 2023-02-090 Public Comment**

Chair Coia, Director Gray, and members of the Council,

I am writing on behalf of Roots 2Empower in regard to the Category B Assent and Freshwater and Wetlands permit for the SouthCoast Wind Project, currently under consideration by the Rhode Island Coastal Resource Management Council.

Roots 2Empower is a community-based organization with the mission of fostering economic empowerment for low-income, justice-impacted, and marginalized people in Rhode Island through civic engagement, workforce training, environmental connection, and public education. We see the transition to a regenerative economy as a monumental opportunity to redress economic, health, environmental, and racial disparities inextricably linked to the fossil-based economy. As our state and region work to meet the urgent goals set out in state and federal climate policy, offshore wind energy is necessary to drive decarbonization while maximizing economic benefits for Rhode Islanders. The SouthCoast Wind project will bring thousands of high-quality, family-sustaining jobs to our region and has already made meaningful financial contributions to local initiatives.

Communities of color and low-wealth communities are disproportionately impacted by pollution, rising temperatures, extreme weather, and environmental degradation. Industrial activities like those described in this permit application occur frequently in urban communities like Washington Park, where ProvPort facilitates domestic and international trade on a daily basis, housing numerous toxic facilities on its 42-acre campus located in a residential area. The activities being proposed to construct the SouthCoast Wind Project include stringent environmental mitigation strategies that go beyond what is required to ensure impacts are avoided, minimized, and mitigated at every turn. The environmental benefits this project will deliver by providing clean, local, and reliable energy to the regional grid will far outweigh the costs. This project will lessen our reliance on fossil fuels that cause significant harm to the environment and our communities while stabilizing energy prices and creating savings for ratepayers over the course of its operation.



# Roots 2Empower

*Fostering an equitable, regenerative future.*

+1 (401) 440-0665

[contact@roots2empower.org](mailto:contact@roots2empower.org)

166 Valley Street, Providence, RI 02909

To meet the urgent goals of the Act on Climate and redress historic and ongoing injustices, we must build an equitable and environmentally responsible offshore wind industry in Rhode Island. The transition to a regenerative economy relies on a shift to localized clean energy developed with community involvement and oversight. Fully permitting the SouthCoast Wind Project is a crucial step in that direction. With all this in mind, we urge you to issue the Category B Assent and Freshwater and Wetlands permit.

Sincerely,

Nicole DiPaolo  
Program Director  
Roots 2Empower



## Cstaff1

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**From:** Erica Hammond <Erica@riaflcio.org>  
**Sent:** Friday, December 20, 2024 12:32 PM  
**To:** cstaf1@crmc.ri.gov  
**Cc:** Patrick Crowley  
**Subject:** 2023-02-090 Public Comment  
**Attachments:** RIAFL-CIO Support CBAFW Permit 12\_2024.pdf

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

To whom it may concern,

Please see the attached comments on behalf of the Rhode Island AFL-CIO in support to SouthCoast Wind's Category B Assent and Freshwater Wetlands permit application.

Please contact Patrick Crowley (cc'd), if you have any further questions.

Many thanks,  
Erica

### ***Erica A. Hammond***

*pronouns: she/hers* ([why pronouns matter](#))

Legislative Director | **Rhode Island AFL-CIO**

401-490-1599 | erica@riaflcio.org

[rhodeislandaflcio.org](http://rhodeislandaflcio.org) | @riaflcio



state's dependence on imported fossil fuels, strengthening Rhode Island's energy security and resilience in the face of global energy disruptions.

In addition to these critical economic and environmental benefits, the SouthCoast Wind Project will provide tangible support to local businesses and communities, particularly those that have been historically dependent on fossil fuel industries. The project's focus on workforce development and local hiring will ensure that the green economy is an inclusive and accessible opportunity for all Rhode Islanders.

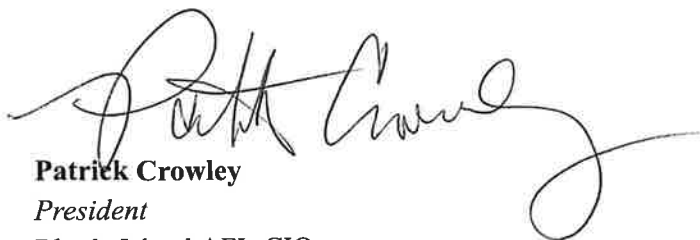
While there may be temporary disruptions during construction, the long-term benefits far outweigh these short-term challenges. The mitigation measures outlined in the application demonstrate SouthCoast Wind's commitment to minimizing environmental and community impacts throughout the construction process. The infrastructure and activities involved, including undersea cables and directional drilling, are common and well-understood processes that have been successfully implemented in Rhode Island infrastructure projects time and time again.

Finally, SouthCoast Wind has already received essential state and federal approvals, reflecting the thoroughness of its planning and commitment to delivering a high-quality project. These approvals, including the Federal Consistency determination from the CRMC and several Massachusetts permits, underscore the project's readiness to move forward and its importance to Rhode Island's energy future.

For these reasons, I urge the CRMC to approve the Category B Assent and Freshwater Wetlands Permit, enabling the SouthCoast Wind Project to proceed. This approval will mark a pivotal step toward achieving a just, sustainable, and economically vibrant green economy in Rhode Island.

Thank you for considering these comments. Please do not hesitate to contact me at 401-751-7100 if you have any questions.

Respectfully submitted,



**Patrick Crowley**  
*President*  
Rhode Island AFL-CIO

## Cstaff1

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**From:** Cam Blain <cblain@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, December 20, 2024 9:26 AM  
**To:** cstaff1@crmc.ri.gov  
**Subject:** 2023-02-090

Hi, This is a letter in support of the application 2023-02-090 which revolves around an offshore wind turbine permit.

Please allow this project to proceed as we are facing the horrible consequence of not backing safe alternative energies to fossil fuels. Our planet will perish if we don't choose to find clean alternative energies.

There have been a lot of naysayers claiming all kinds of bad things associated with offshore wind, but, they have been debunked and, now, we are faced with doing the real work of creating safe energy alternatives.

Please allow wind turbines to be installed offshore in order to produce clean alternative energies for the sake of protecting our planet from climate change.

Thanks very much,  
Camille Nixon  
70 Bradford St.,  
Warren, RI 02885  
Phone: (508) 222-3824

## Cstaff1

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**From:** Opoola, Umar <umar\_opoola@brown.edu>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 18, 2024 2:00 PM  
**To:** cstaf1@crmc.ri.gov  
**Subject:** Public Comment for SouthCoast Wind

Dear CMRC,

My name is Umar Farouq Opoola and I am a student at Brown University. I recently learned about SouthCoast Wind and the work they are doing to help us reach a clean energy future. I am writing to submit comments on the Category B Assent and Freshwater and Wetlands permit submitted for the SouthCoast Wind Project, currently under consideration by the Rhode Island Coastal Resources Management Council. As a Rhode Island student, I strongly urge you to approve the application and continue to move the project forward.

Climate change and rising energy demands pose significant challenges for Rhode Islanders, but there is a solution right off our shore- a massive renewable energy resource capable of transforming how we power our region. The SouthCoast Wind project offers an opportunity to reduce our reliance on imported fossil fuels and improve grid reliability by providing a locally produced source of power. By integrating SouthCoast Wind into our energy grid, we can create a more stable system that's capable of meeting the increased demands of our electrified future while supporting the state's ambitious carbon reduction and renewable energy goals. While, the short-term, off-season construction may present some inconveniences, it is a small and necessary investment for the significant, long-term benefits this project offers.

In light of the long-term climate, reliability and economic benefits offered by major offshore wind projects such as SouthCoast Wind, I trust that CRMC will carefully review and appropriately act on the Category B Assent application to move the project forward.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,  
Umar

## Cstaff1

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**From:** Stephen Porder <stephenporder@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 18, 2024 8:28 PM  
**To:** cstaf1@crmc.ri.gov  
**Subject:** 2023-02-090 Public Comment

Hello,

I am writing in strong support of the issuance of CRMC's Category B Assent and Freshwater Wetlands Permit to SouthCoast Wind, allowing the power from offshore wind to be used in Rhode Island. Although I am writing as a citizen of Rhode Island, my opinion on this issue is informed by my work as a global change/sustainability scientist and Associate Provost for Sustainability at Brown University.

This role means I am deeply involved in helping Brown decarbonize its campus, and working with the city and state to reach the goals of the Act on Climate. As someone who studies these issues full time, **I can confidently say our climate goals simply cannot be reached without offshore wind, Rhode Island's most effective weapon in the global fight to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and keep climate change in check.** Rhode Island's coastlines, economy and heritage face no greater threat than global warming-driven sea level rise, and the only thing we can do (other than adapt) is our part in eliminating fossil fuel use from the state. **Offshore wind is the single most important tool in our toolbox!**

Given the minimal environmental impact of putting cables in place, and the unparalleled benefits that come with having offshore wind to power our homes and businesses, I urge you to issue the permit so that this vital project can proceed.

Many thanks for your work on this critically important issue.

Best  
Stephen Porder

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Stephen Porder  
[www.porderlab.org](http://www.porderlab.org)

## Cstaff1

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**From:** Sandra Craig <mmesandracruz@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 10, 2024 6:16 AM  
**To:** cstff1@crmc.ri.gov  
**Subject:** Request for copy of application and plans of SouthCoast File # 2023-02-090

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

Dear CRMC,

I am writing to request the application and plans for the proposed work relating to the application of SouthCoast Wind Energy LLC, File Number: 2023-02-090. ( Date: November 13, 2024.)

I am temporarily outside of the USA (in France) and will be for the next month or more. Because of this, when I try to access the document link provided in your Public Notice (see below), I am blocked by a sonic wall.

Since 1992 I have owned a home in-Middletown, RI, on the Sakonnet River. I am interested to learn more about SouthCoast's proposed offshore wind project, particularly since they plan to lay transmission cable the length of the Sakonnet river. I hope to submit comments on or before Dec 28, 2024, and I would like to attend a hearing, in person or remotely. As per your instructions, I must review the documents in advance.

*Kindly send, by email to me at the above email address, the pertinent documents, as attachments in a format that I can download.*

Many thanks in advance for your kind consideration of my request.  
— Also, please kindly confirm receipt of this email request.

Sandra CRAIG , Indian Ave, Middletown, RI

From your public notice: Plans for the proposed work can be requested at [cstaff1@crmc.ri.gov](mailto:cstaff1@crmc.ri.gov). The application for an Assent and the Freshwater Wetlands Permit Application can be viewed here:

<http://www.crmc.ri.gov/windenergy/southcoast.html>

## Brittany Spurlock

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**From:** Justin Skenyon <[jskenyon@crmc.ri.gov](mailto:jskenyon@crmc.ri.gov)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 10, 2024 11:48 AM  
**To:** Brittany Spurlock; [oallamby@crmc.ri.gov](mailto:oallamby@crmc.ri.gov)  
**Subject:** Fwd: FW: April 2024 Offshore Wind turbine Magnetic field increasing and it also warms the ocean impact the ocean's wildlife and weather!!!!

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

Hello,

I think this was another comment received for SouthCoast. If so, can you add to the email thread.

-Justin

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** Cstaff1 <[cstaff1@crmc.ri.gov](mailto:cstaff1@crmc.ri.gov)>  
**Date:** Mon, Nov 18, 2024 at 9:49 AM  
**Subject:** FW: April 2024 Offshore Wind turbine Magnetic field increasing and it also warms the ocean impact the ocean's wildlife and weather!!!!  
**To:** David Ciochetto <[dciochetto@crmc.ri.gov](mailto:dciochetto@crmc.ri.gov)>, Jeff Willis <[jwillis@crmc.ri.gov](mailto:jwillis@crmc.ri.gov)>, Justin Skenyon <[jskenyon@crmc.ri.gov](mailto:jskenyon@crmc.ri.gov)>, Kevin Sloan <[ksloan@crmc.ri.gov](mailto:ksloan@crmc.ri.gov)>, Laura Miguel <[lmiguel@crmc.ri.gov](mailto:lmiguel@crmc.ri.gov)>  
**Cc:** <[cstaff1@crmc.ri.gov](mailto:cstaff1@crmc.ri.gov)>

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**From:** Deborah Vine-Smith <[deborahvinesmith@gmail.com](mailto:deborahvinesmith@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Saturday, November 16, 2024 10:44 AM  
**To:** Capt. David Monti <[dmontifish@verizon.net](mailto:dmontifish@verizon.net)>; [lema@risaa.org](mailto:lema@risaa.org); [hittinger@risaa.org](mailto:hittinger@risaa.org); [wood@risaa.org](mailto:wood@risaa.org); [travers@risaa.org](mailto:travers@risaa.org); Karen M. Kortz <[kkortz@ccri.edu](mailto:kkortz@ccri.edu)>; [cstaff1@crmc.ri.gov](mailto:cstaff1@crmc.ri.gov); [DEM.MarineFisheries@dem.ri.gov](mailto:DEM.MarineFisheries@dem.ri.gov); [%20nesdis.pa@noaa.gov](mailto:%20nesdis.pa@noaa.gov); [jaddison@usgs.gov](mailto:jaddison@usgs.gov); [kalexander@usgs.gov](mailto:kalexander@usgs.gov); [malvarez@usgs.gov](mailto:malvarez@usgs.gov); [zancona@usgs.gov](mailto:zancona@usgs.gov); [ericanderson@usgs.gov](mailto:ericanderson@usgs.gov); [landerson@usgs.gov](mailto:landerson@usgs.gov); [bandrews@usgs.gov](mailto:bandrews@usgs.gov); [mavery@usgs.gov](mailto:mavery@usgs.gov); [cworley@usgs.gov](mailto:cworley@usgs.gov); [hwalsh@usgs.gov](mailto:hwalsh@usgs.gov); [dvaranka@usgs.gov](mailto:dvaranka@usgs.gov); [jvazquez@usgs.gov](mailto:jvazquez@usgs.gov); [nwintzer@usgs.gov](mailto:nwintzer@usgs.gov); [swelsh@usgs.gov](mailto:swelsh@usgs.gov); [mwatson@usgs.gov](mailto:mwatson@usgs.gov); [dawalter@usgs.gov](mailto:dawalter@usgs.gov); [evarelaminder@usgs.gov](mailto:evarelaminder@usgs.gov); [furban@usgs.gov](mailto:furban@usgs.gov); [tappan@usgs.gov](mailto:tappan@usgs.gov); [jspritzer@usgs.gov](mailto:jspritzer@usgs.gov); [jskinner@usgs.gov](mailto:jskinner@usgs.gov); [dskulski@usgs.gov](mailto:dskulski@usgs.gov); [tcsargen@usgs.gov](mailto:tcsargen@usgs.gov); [sryker@usgs.gov](mailto:sryker@usgs.gov); [kweber@usgs.gov](mailto:kweber@usgs.gov); [secook@usgs.gov](mailto:secook@usgs.gov); [zdefne@usgs.gov](mailto:zdefne@usgs.gov); [jcwarner@usgs.gov](mailto:jcwarner@usgs.gov); [sdrovetski@usgs.gov](mailto:sdrovetski@usgs.gov); [jmckay@usgs.gov](mailto:jmckay@usgs.gov); [lewalker@usgs.gov](mailto:lewalker@usgs.gov); [mrogosky@usgs.gov](mailto:mrogosky@usgs.gov)  
**Subject:** April 2024 Offshore Wind turbine Magnetic field increasing and it also warms the ocean impact the ocean's wildlife and weather!!!!

[Deeper-Dive -EMFs FINAL-1.pdf](#) notes,

Where hardbottom seafloor conditions or existing infrastructure is encountered during offshore wind cable installation, the power cables are often covered with 6- to 12-inch-thick concrete rock berms, or other measures such as cable insulation, grounded metallic sheaths, conductive sheathing, and steel armoring to protect the cable. While this covering does not achieve the same level of EMF reduction as burial and distance, EMF levels and the rate of dissipation for buried and mattress-covered cables are quite similar at a distance beyond 10 feet from the cable. Power cables can also be installed with conductive sheathing. The undersea cables produce a 60-Hz AC magnetic field around each cable. The 60-Hz AC magnetic field induces a weak electric field in the surrounding ocean that is unrelated to the voltage of the cable, but instead is related to the amount of current flowing through the cable (Snyder et al., 2019). However, previous research has found that as the conductivity of the sheath and armor increased, the resultant EMF strength outside the cable decreased (CMACS, 2003). This indicates that using thicker sheaths or materials with higher conductivity for the sheathing and armoring power cables can help reduce the strength of EMFs generated.

Buried subsea cables can warm the surrounding sediment and could affect benthic organisms that serve as prey for benthic-feeding sea turtles.

For marine invertebrates, a synthesis by Albert et al. (2020) reported that temporary behavioral and physiological effects from both AC and DC EMF exposure can occur in crustaceans, echinoderms, molluscs, and polychaetes, but any impacts from these changes at the population level are unidentified.

As can be learned from studies in the Dutch North Sea, where some offshore wind farms have been in operation for the last two decades, the calculated magnetic field levels have been steadily increasing due to the increasing magnitude and size of offshore wind farms (Hermans & Schilt, 2022).


# i have been warning people about Offshore Wind turbines since the year 2017!

[Earth's Magnetosphere: Protecting Our Planet from Harmful Space Energy - NASA Science](#) notes, "Earth is surrounded by an immense magnetic field called the magnetosphere. Generated by powerful, dynamic forces at the center of our world, our magnetosphere shields us from erosion of our atmosphere by the solar wind..... " We **sure had a lot of [Solar storm bombarding Earth now may reach 'extreme' levels, sparking auroras down to Alabama and straining hurricane-weakened power grids | Space](#) this year!!!!**

[Magnetospheres - NASA Science](#) notes too, "Earth's magnetosphere is part of a dynamic, **interconnected system that responds** to solar, planetary, and interstellar conditions. The side of the magnetosphere facing away from the sun - the nightside - stretches out into an immense magnetotail, which fluctuates in length and can measure hundreds of Earth radii, far past the moon's orbit at 60 Earth radii." **Are the Offshore Wind Turbine cables interfering with this process considering their impact on migration??? And at what capacity might they be impacting the natural changes of the magnetic poles?**

When I took Geology at CCRI, I learned that Mother Earth's magnetic poles naturally change. [Tracking Changes in Earth's Magnetic Poles | News | National Centers for Environmental Information \(NCEI\)](#)

[Geomagnetism Program | U.S. Geological Survey](#) **One has to wonder if they are studying the impact of Offshore Wind Turbines.** [NCEI Geomagnetic Calculators](#)

**Observatories**  ACTIVE [Fredericksburg \(FRD\) | U.S. Geological Survey](#) from [Observatories | U.S. Geological Survey](#)

[Transformation of Coordinate](#)

# Transformation of Coordinate Geographic $\Leftrightarrow$ Geomagnetic (IGRF)

Deborah Vine-Smith

On Fri, Nov 1, 2024 at 4:29 PM Deborah Vine-Smith <[deborahvinesmith@gmail.com](mailto:deborahvinesmith@gmail.com)> wrote:

[New England Aquarium](#)

"In her talk, Fernandez will examine how these innovative entrepreneurs are driving systemic change across five impact areas: blue carbon, ecosystem preservation, ocean pollution, sustainable fisheries, and ocean data and literacy—and why it matters."

**Innovating for Impact: The Future of Ocean Entrepreneurship with Daniela V. Fernandez**

**Date:**

Wednesday, November 13, 2024

**Time:**

6:30 PM - 7:30 PM

**Location:**

Simons Theatre

1 Central Wharf

Boston, MA 02110

On Sat, Oct 26, 2024 at 12:04 PM Deborah Vine-Smith <[deborahvinesmith@gmail.com](mailto:deborahvinesmith@gmail.com)> wrote:

[Could Fertilizing the Oceans Reduce Global Warming? | Live Science](#)

[New research uncovers potential benefits, consequences of ocean iron fertilization](#) notes, "Their results showed a five percent decline in the biomass of fish and marine species in the tropics, including economically important coastal areas, due to large-scale iron fertilization. This was on top of a 15 percent decline expected due to climate change as warming temperatures stratify the ocean, depriving the surface of critical nutrients."

\*I read about the 5% reduction in fish in the Ocean in the Projo!!!

As for the Charlestown Breachway, my family went there not too long ago for the first time. I loved the sound of the waves as they retreated over the pebbled beach! The 2024 image looks like a sandbar that needs to be dredged. The sand can then be used in the creation of the west side dunes, but much further back in anticipation of sea level rise. Place sand as far back as a Category 4 Hurricane Surge inundation in anticipation of a Category 2 to protect the Piping Plover habitat. See image. Anything less would sadly be a waste of effort. Combating Sea level rise.

[Charlestown web.pdf](#)

2023-02-090

## Cstaff1

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**From:** Gary Mataronas <lobster2@cox.net>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 27, 2023 2:19 PM  
**To:** CRMC Staff  
**Subject:** Souht Coast Wind Hearing  
**Attachments:** Resolution .doc; Wind Doc.doc; Windfarm Letter.doc

Dear Staff,

I am writing as a fishermen that has fished Cox Ledge for the last fifty years. I can tell you it is one of the most productive fishing areas along the Eastern Seaboard. It is a crime to allow wind farms to destroy this significant fisheries habitat area.

The pile driving will disperse all marine life and I'm sure it will be destructive to the hearing and navigation capabilities of all marine mammals.

I have also attached a resolution from the little Compton Town council against wind farms being built of our coast which was adopted and signed on April 6, 2023.

Can't imagine what this sounds like underwater.

<https://www.youtube.com/shorts/4Q14n94WF5o>

Gary Mataronas  
22 California Road  
Sakonnet Point  
Little Compton, RI 02837  
[lobster2@cox.net](mailto:lobster2@cox.net)  
401-573-0942

## **A Resolution in Opposition to Offshore Wind Turbines Sited Off Little Compton**

WHEREAS, the Little Compton Town Council supports the development of clean, renewable energy, including solar power, waste to energy, and geothermal; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council recognizes the need for renewable energy infrastructure, including wind power, and has demonstrated support for clean energy through the implementation of initiatives including the installation of solar panels on municipal buildings; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council has the duty to protect and promote the physical, economic, mental, and emotional well-being of town residents, and to protect and promote the livelihoods of those who work on and off our shores; and

WHEREAS, the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) is considering applications from private energy companies to construct offshore wind facilities in a vital marine habitat beginning 12.9 miles off the coast of Little Compton which will include over 100 wind turbines, each nearly 900 feet tall, constructed on 30-40 foot diameter piles driven deep into the seabed; and

WHEREAS, the construction and operation of the offshore wind facilities will hinder marine navigation, disturb fish stocks and fishermen, marine environments and habitats, pelagics, groundfish, shellfish, and marine mammals, commercial and recreational boaters, and the myriad values provided by the ocean; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council believes that the construction and operation of the proposed wind facilities represent a significant threat to the welfare and livelihoods of the citizens, property owners, and visitors of Little Compton;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Council is opposed to the construction and operation of offshore wind facilities (including the projects surrounding Coxes Ledge, "Revolution Wind," "SouthCoast Wind," "South Fork Wind," and "Sunrise Wind") in the proposed location, a vital marine habitat near the coast of Little Compton.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of the Resolution shall be sent to the Governor of Rhode Island and to our Congressional Representatives.

RESOLVED AND EFFECTIVE this \_\_\_ day of April, 2023.

Robert L. Mushen  
Little Compton Town Council President

\_\_\_\_\_

**GARY MATARONAS  
22 CALIFORNIA ROAD  
LITTLE COMPTON, RI 02837  
401-573-0942**

Dear CRMC:

I started fishing Cox Ledge in the summer of 1973 for lobster and in the winters I gill netted for cod fish which continued until 2014 when I started fishing closer to home. I always did quite well fishing on top of the ledge and also around the edges of it.

The noise and driving of the platform poles into the seabed are certainly going to disperse any and all marine life and the mud plumes generated are going to kill marine life when ingested into their gills. It certainly is going to be a challenge to navigate in bad weather, at night, and in the fog because the blades come back as big blocks on the radar screen, so it's definitely a hazard to navigation. Another very big concern I have is all these wind mills are going to be installed by foreign companies and when they leave, what companies are going to maintain them. After their useful life what happens to them, are they going to be left there as derelicts? Are the poles going to be removed from the sea bed leaving huge holes or are the bases going to be left to create hazards to fishing gear. I don't think the wind proponents understand how much oil, gas, and energy is going to be used/consumed/expended in the placement and maintenance of wind mills. The energy costs to install and maintain the wind mills and the electricity they generate will be a wash. What about whales and marine mammal strikes that will certainly occur by supply ships to and from the farms. The fishermen are having to jump through some pretty onerous hoops to avoid any interactions with marine mammals and it seems the wind farm companies are getting a pass.

Cox Ledge is one of the most productive fishing areas on the East Coast. It supports Cod, Black Sea Bass, Lobsters, Crabs, Scallops, and a myriad of other Sea Life. The ledge itself shoals up to 105 feet while around the edges it drops down to 120 to 180 feet which creates an upwelling of various nutrients that sustain all the marine life that inhabit Cox Ledge. The pounding of the poles will certainly disrupt the migration of fish and whales that transit the area and driving any kind of poles into the sea bed will definitely disperse all sea life and make Cox Ledge become a dead zone. Most all fishermen from Rhode island have either fished on Cox Ledge or around the perimeter and we hope to continue to do so. Commercial Charter boats and Recreational Boaters also rely heavily on Cox Ledge for income and fish for food. Please don't be short sighted and allow wind farms to decimate and disperse sea life on one of the most productive fishing areas on the East Coast.

Sincerely,

Gary Mataronas

lobster2@cox.net

**Sakonnet Point Fishermen's Association**  
**22 California Road**  
**Little Compton, R.I.**  
**02837-0998**  
**(401) 635-2143**

March 11, 2008

To Whom It May Concern:

The Sakonnet Point Fishermen have grave concerns with a wind farm off Sakonnet Point. The concerns we have are with the negative impacts that these wind farms will create on the fish and lobster populations that inhabit our shoreline, such as: underwater vibrations from the towers and propellers, underwater noise emitted by the towers and propellers, and magnetic fields or electrical currents emitted from the underwater electrical transfer cables. We also feel the construction of these towers will devastate the fertile fisheries habitat that is necessary for the RIDEM fisheries stock rebuilding program to come to fruition.

Sincerely,

Gary Mataronas, President  
Sakonnet Point Fishermen's Association

## Cstaff1

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**From:** joshua soares <hoosh8388@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 25, 2023 5:05 PM  
**To:** cstff1@crmc.ri.gov  
**Subject:** South Coast Wind Cable Route Witten Comment

My name is Joshua Soares( RI Multipurpose #00001314) and I am opposed to the South Coast Wind cable route through the Sakonnet River / Mount Hope Bay . I have house, wife and two young children to support . I am involved in multiple fisheries in these areas including conch , scup , sea bass and fluke . I make 95 % of my yearly income in the Sakonnet River and the Mount Hope Bay . My primary fishery is conch . I also hold a Massachusetts Conch Permit and fish the Mount Hope Bay and Taunton River area in the fall . After listening to Conner McManus and also a scientist from Umass Dartmouth I cannot understand why the State of Rhode Island is willing to gamble such a valuable and thriving ecosystem. This cable route will be devastating for our state and marine ecosystem. The only people that will benefit are the politicians who are lining are pockets . There is also an extremely valuable mantis shrimp fishery in the Mount Hope Bay that will be affected. It is disgusting to me that we would be so careless to make a decision like this with out the proper data and research. Im hoping that CRMC for once would show some sort of backbone and make the right decision for are marine ecosystem in Rhode Island State Waters . Unfortunately it seems CRMC has have already made there careless decision . This whole process is a joke !! It appears are politicians have been bought by wind companies to go against the very people they represent ! CRMC is I'm assuming is bowing down to political pressure. I plead with you to please make the right decision and oppose this cable route through a valuable marine estuary! Thanks you for your time . - Joshua Soares

Sent from my iPhone

## Cstaff1

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**From:** adam lotz <lotzzo1@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 24, 2023 9:26 AM  
**To:** cstaff1@crmc.ri.gov  
**Subject:** Wind farm

We do not want a cable running down skonnet River

We don't want wind farm towers Installed On some of the best fishing grounds on the East Coast it will devastate the fishing community

Adam Lotz

## Cstaff1

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**From:** lessie <lessie@richardhumphreylaw.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, May 5, 2023 3:16 PM  
**To:** cstaff1@crmc.ri.gov  
**Cc:** jwillis@crmc.ri.gov  
**Subject:** Revolution Wind  
**Attachments:** Alan Wheeler CRMC\_05052023151300.PDF

Good afternoon

Attached is a letter from Alan Wheeler. Alan had asked this office to email this on his behalf.

Thank you

*Lessie M. Bourne*

Bookkeeper

Law Office of Richard S. Humphrey

3852 Main Road

Tiverton, RI 02878

(401)624-6152

Alan Wheeler  
611 Boyds Lane  
Portsmouth, RI 02871

May 4, 2023

Coastal Resources Management Council  
4808 Tower Hill Road, Suite 116  
Wakefield, RI 02879-1900

RE: Offshore Wind Farm/Revolution Wind Farm/Other Proposed Wind Farms

Dear CRMC:

I have been a licensed commercial fisherman for over fifty (50) years. I own Point Trap Company, a floating fish trap company, that operates out of Sakonnet Point. In addition, my family is the majority shareholder in Tallman & Mack, another floating fish trap company that works out of Sakonnet Point.

I have attached aerial photographs. The Point Trap floating fish traps are primarily located at the Sakonnet Point breakwater, West Island and the Sakonnet Lighthouse.

In addition, Tallman & Mack has floating fish traps located off Lands End, Newport, RI. Those fish traps are staggered... 1, 2, 3. Each floating fish trap (together with its fish trap leader), are approximately one-quarter of a mile long.

There is an upcoming meeting of the CRMC. Because the Cox Ledge area will be impacted, the fish that would have likely migrated to the Sakonnet Point/Lands End areas, will likely not reach our floating fish traps.

The underground cable that will be necessary for the offshore wind farms will certainly disturb the bottom of the ocean and cause other problems. Moreover, the location of the turbines will greatly interrupt the

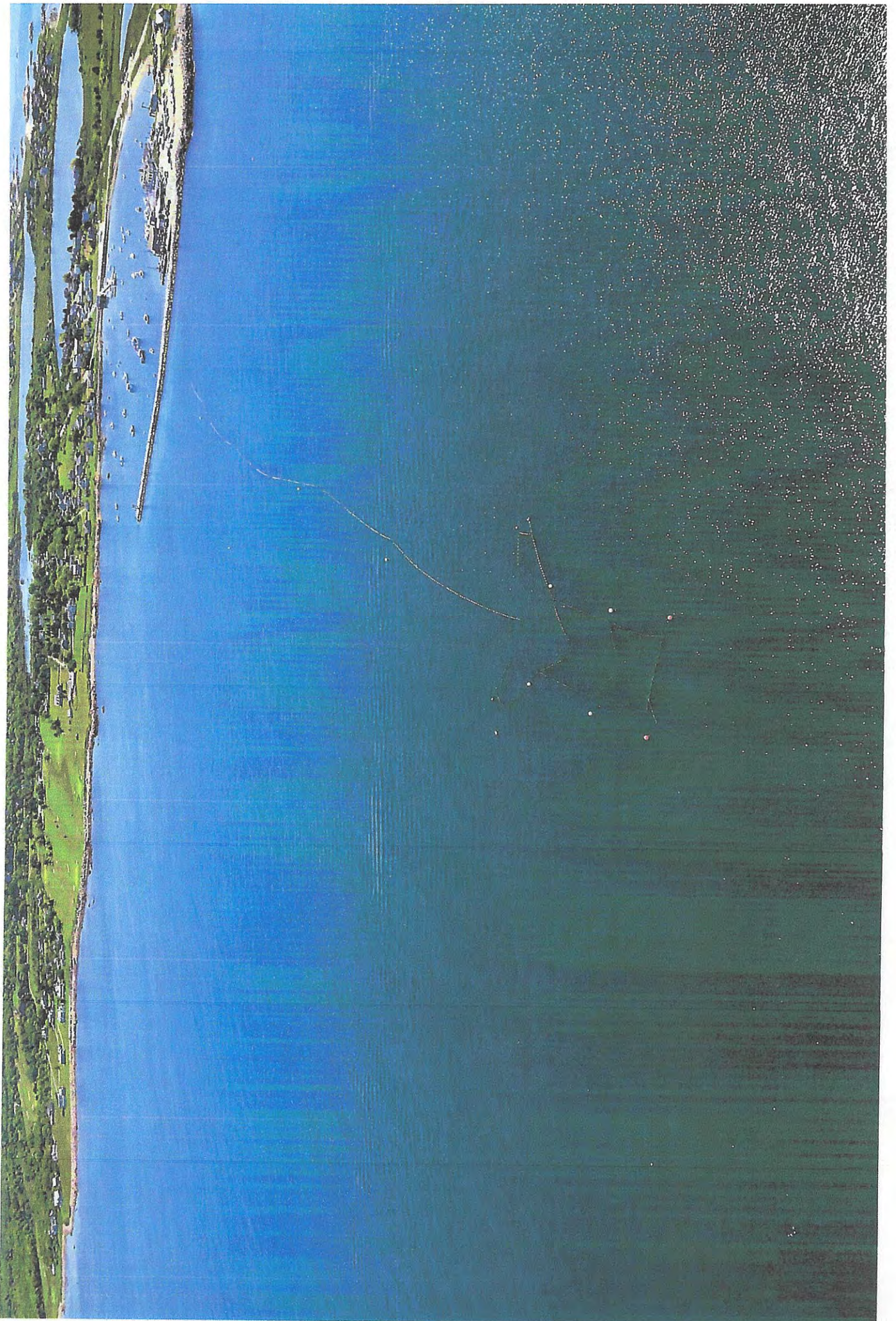
ocean floor and change the migratory patterns of fish. In addition, the wind farms will cause navigation problems.

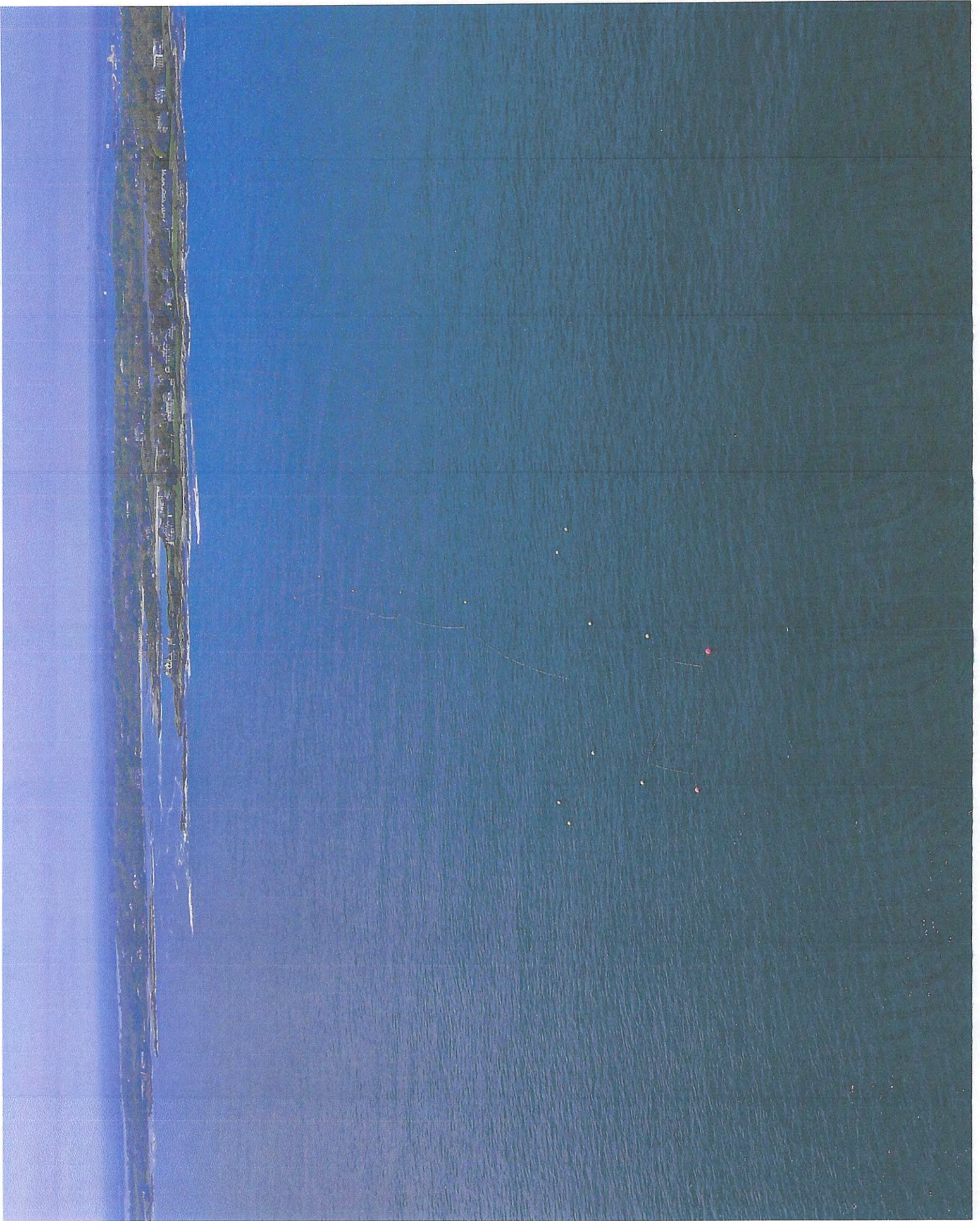
According to the newspaper, one of the Wind offshore companies has agreed to a \$12.9 million dollar mitigation fund. This is woefully inadequate and should be in the range of \$100 million dollars. I urge the CRMC to deny permission to all of the offshore wind farms that could have any impact whatsoever on Rhode Island and on the Rhode Island fisheries.

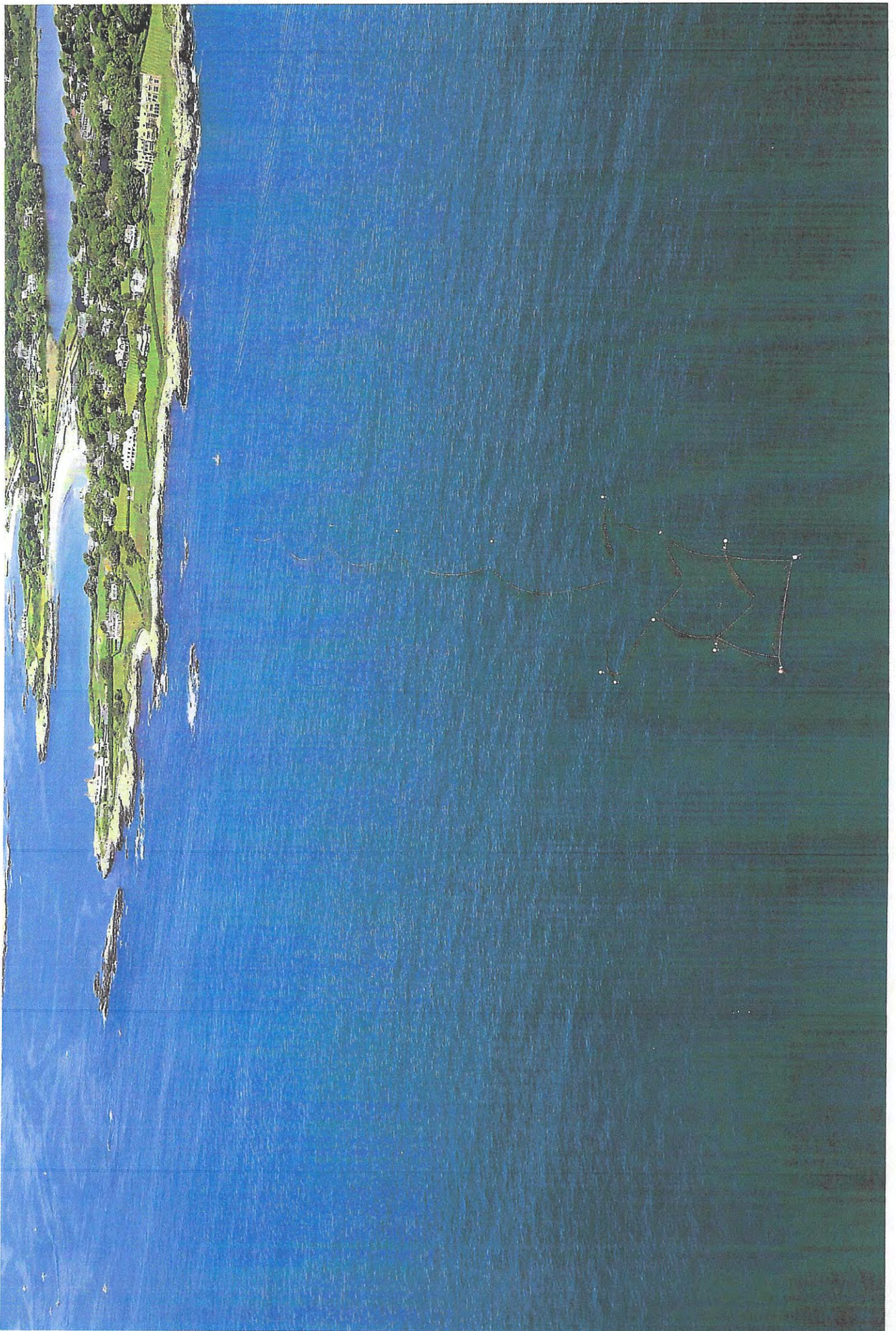


Alan Wheeler

*Via email & USPS*







## Cstaff1

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**From:** Erica Hammond <Erica@riaflcio.org>  
**Sent:** Friday, December 20, 2024 12:32 PM  
**To:** cstaff1@crmc.ri.gov  
**Cc:** Patrick Crowley  
**Subject:** 2023-02-090 Public Comment  
**Attachments:** RIAFL-CIO Support CBAFW Permit 12\_2024.pdf

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

To whom it may concern,

Please see the attached comments on behalf of the Rhode Island AFL-CIO in support to SouthCoast Wind's Category B Assent and Freshwater Wetlands permit application.

Please contact Patrick Crowley (cc'd), if you have any further questions.

Many thanks,  
Erica

### ***Erica A. Hammond***

*pronouns: she/hers* ([why pronouns matter](#))  
Legislative Director | **Rhode Island AFL-CIO**  
401-490-1599 | erica@riaflcio.org  
[rhodeislandaflcio.org](http://rhodeislandaflcio.org) | @riaflcio





194 Smith Street, Providence, Rhode Island 02908-4914  
Telephone: (401) 751-7100 Fax: (401) 331-8533  
[www.RhodeIslandAFLCIO.org](http://www.RhodeIslandAFLCIO.org) • [info@RIAFLCIO.com](mailto:info@RIAFLCIO.com)

**Rhode Island Works Best When We Say UNION YES.**

December 20, 2024

ATTN: Raymond C. Coia  
Coastal Resource Management Council  
4808 Tower Hill Road, Suite 116  
Wakefield, RI 02879

RE: 2023-02-090 Public Comment - Support for the Approval of a Category B Assent and Freshwater Wetlands Permit for the SouthCoast Wind Project

Dear Chairman Coia,

On behalf of the Rhode Island AFL-CIO, I write in support of the approval of the Category B Assent and Freshwater Wetlands Permit application submitted for the SouthCoast Wind Project. This project represents a critical step forward in advancing Rhode Island's green energy future while creating local jobs, reducing carbon emissions, and securing our energy independence.

The Rhode Island AFL-CIO represents over 80,000 working people across the state. We are committed to creating good jobs in Rhode Island, spanning public and private sectors, including the growing green economy. We recognize that economic and environmental progress must go hand in hand, and the SouthCoast Wind Project is a prime example of how these objectives can be realized together.

As Rhode Island transitions to a clean energy future, the SouthCoast Wind Project will play a vital role in strengthening our local economy. With the potential to generate over 17,000 direct full-time equivalent job-years throughout its lifecycle, the project will create jobs in construction, operations, and maintenance, as well as in the broader supply chain.

The SouthCoast Wind Project is integral to reducing Rhode Island's carbon footprint and mitigating the worst effects of climate change. By providing 200 MW of renewable energy, the project will help power more than 125,000 homes and significantly reduce our reliance on fossil fuels. This transition is critical for addressing the urgent need to lower carbon emissions, protect our environment, and combat climate change, benefiting not only Rhode Island but future generations as well.

The SouthCoast Wind Project is a key component of Rhode Island's strategy to advance clean energy generation and secure our energy independence. With renewable energy capacity growing at a rapid pace, the project aligns perfectly with the state's renewable energy goals, ensuring reliable, affordable, and clean power for Rhode Island residents. By securing our energy independence, this project reduces the

Patrick Crowley [President](#) • Karen Hazard [Secretary-Treasurer](#)  
Cheryl Masciarelli [Office Manager](#) • Autumn Guillotte [Political Director](#) • Erica Hammond [Legislative Director](#)



state's dependence on imported fossil fuels, strengthening Rhode Island's energy security and resilience in the face of global energy disruptions.

In addition to these critical economic and environmental benefits, the SouthCoast Wind Project will provide tangible support to local businesses and communities, particularly those that have been historically dependent on fossil fuel industries. The project's focus on workforce development and local hiring will ensure that the green economy is an inclusive and accessible opportunity for all Rhode Islanders.

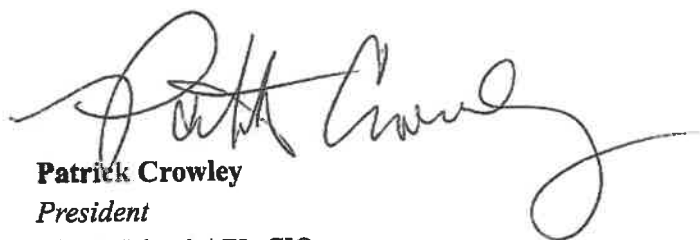
While there may be temporary disruptions during construction, the long-term benefits far outweigh these short-term challenges. The mitigation measures outlined in the application demonstrate SouthCoast Wind's commitment to minimizing environmental and community impacts throughout the construction process. The infrastructure and activities involved, including undersea cables and directional drilling, are common and well-understood processes that have been successfully implemented in Rhode Island infrastructure projects time and time again.

Finally, SouthCoast Wind has already received essential state and federal approvals, reflecting the thoroughness of its planning and commitment to delivering a high-quality project. These approvals, including the Federal Consistency determination from the CRMC and several Massachusetts permits, underscore the project's readiness to move forward and its importance to Rhode Island's energy future.

For these reasons, I urge the CRMC to approve the Category B Assent and Freshwater Wetlands Permit, enabling the SouthCoast Wind Project to proceed. This approval will mark a pivotal step toward achieving a just, sustainable, and economically vibrant green economy in Rhode Island.

Thank you for considering these comments. Please do not hesitate to contact me at 401-751-7100 if you have any questions.

Respectfully submitted,



**Patrick Crowley**  
*President*  
Rhode Island AFL-CIO