

Dear Coalition Members, Donors and Interested Parties,

The lead federal agency that oversees the Atlantic Shores wind turbine project, the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM), just conducted three virtual meetings on the scope of the environmental impact statement (EIS) to be done for the Atlantic Shores wind turbine project, proposed just 9-10 miles off the LBI shoreline.

Please read through this email to see the key points in the Comment Letter we submitted to BOEM, to better understand the catastrophic impact of this proposed project. The full Comment Letter is attached below and is on our website: [saveLBI.org](http://saveLBI.org). under the caption, Coalition Concerns Letter. We urge you to take the time to read it.

Feel free to share this email and the comment letter on social media, with groups you belong to, other organizations, family, friends and neighbors, and to elected representatives to seek their active support to change this project.

We thank all of you who participated in the EIS scoping sessions and made your views known to BOEM. It is critical that we continue to use our collective voices and execute legal strategies to force BOEM to save LBI and move the project to a more appropriate wind energy lease area that is out of sight.

### **Please read on to see the key points we made in our Comment Letter:**

We address the multitude of problems associated with the proposed Atlantic Shores wind turbine project and include important material and information.

**Key issues** we request BOEM to address, including many new, and some very notable ones:

- The extreme closeness and visibility of the turbines, and their local economic impact,
- The blocking of the essential migration path of the critically endangered North Atlantic right whale by operational turbine noise,
- Potential violations of Federal laws, including the Endangered Species Act and the Marine Mammal Protection Act,
- Forcing endangered fin and humpback whales to shore to avoid turbine noise,
- What a "good" EIS would look like, and
- Potential alterations of our local climate, wind speed, air temperature, and wave action, and
- Demands for more clarity and disclosure to the public from the BOEM and Atlantic Shores, a joint venture between two multinational energy companies based in Europe, which is required to comply with US laws and regulations

### **Key Flaws of the Atlantic Shores Wind Turbine Project**

Based on our analysis and described in our Comment Letter, the wind turbines cannot be placed anywhere in the LBI project area because their underwater noise will not allow the critically endangered North Atlantic right whale to migrate and survive.

In addition to the catastrophic impact on endangered species, Atlantic Shores' plan shows that the wind turbines would be the most visible of any modern offshore wind project in the world:

**Atlantic Shores plans to install hundreds of ~1,000 ft. high wind turbines only 9-10 miles off the entire LBI shoreline, which will destroy the pristine views of the horizon and cause untold financial and other harms to LBI businesses, homeowners, residents, visitors and our economy for decades to come.**

Yet there is **NO valid data** that shows the Atlantic Shores wind turbine project will accomplish what is claimed:

- Produce *net* gains in emission reductions and jobs,
- Substantially address energy needs

- Reduce the impact of climate change, or
- Create the other benefits Atlantic Shores and others claim
- And more....

### **Goals of Our Comment Letter**

We hope BOEM and the other agencies will adopt our recommendations, propose a sensible project farther out, properly conduct the EIS process, and ensure adherence to federal laws and regulations.

- If BOEM does not, we will aggressively pursue future legal actions and seek court rulings that will substantially alter Atlantic Shores' plan and timeline.

The Atlantic Shores project is **NOT a "done deal"** as many would have you believe.

**BOEM has stated in Court that the granting of a lease for site study purposes to Atlantic Shores does not obligate them to approve turbine placement there, and the Coalition will hold them to that.**

You may have heard about New Jersey's recent power purchase deal with Atlantic Shores to support its wind turbine project. Please note that BOEM is the federal government decision-maker, not the state of New Jersey:

- BOEM is under no legal obligation to abide by the state's power purchase agreement with Atlantic Shores
- BOEM is required by law to consider reasonable alternatives to this agreement in the EIS it performs

We urge you to keep the faith, stay engaged, and support our mission to save LBI. Our collective fight for sensible wind turbine placement that doesn't destroy the beauty of the horizon and our Island has just begun! We have many legal options and opportunities to pursue and save LBI.

**Please make or continue to donate and support our cause - only together can we save our beautiful island.** Donations are tax-deductible because we are a 501(c)3 organization and can easily be made through our website, [saveLBI.org](http://saveLBI.org). For more information, please visit us at: [saveLBI.org](http://saveLBI.org) and feel free to call or email us via the contact information on our website.

On behalf of the LBI WWI Coalition, thank you very much for your ongoing involvement and support. Stay tuned – there is more to come!

*Bob Stern, President*

*The LBI Coalition for Wind Without Impact*

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