

# STOP THE HIGH-RISK POWER CABLES

## FACT SHEET

### The Project

- To achieve Gov. Murphy's goal of 11,000 MW of offshore wind by 2040, the NJ BPU is proceeding with plans for 700-800, 1000 ft. turbines off the South Jersey coast slated to come onshore via a major infrastructure project in Sea Girt and run through Manasquan and Wall to the Larrabee Collector Station in Howell, NJ.
- Up to 6,400 megawatts—10x the power of the Oyster Creek Nuclear plant – will run a mere 3.5 to 8 feet underground within 35 feet of homes, schools, businesses and recreation areas.
- Construction of the onshore infrastructure will take years and create massive disruption to our communities, putting health, safety, property values and rental income at risk.
- The state removed the [rights of local towns](#) to participate in the decision process, without any public hearings and the project has been fast-tracked without the proper baseline science, a responsible pilot project, or adequate time for public comment.

### Health Concerns

- Despite the BPU's written claims to local mayors that "This type of infrastructure is common," we can find no projects anywhere in the world that are even close to what the BPU is proposing.
- When asked for examples of similar infrastructure projects, BPU officials cited four – all a fraction of the plan for our towns and none in residential neighborhoods. The 6,400 MW cable that lands in Sea Girt far exceeds the 704 MW Revolution Wind and 2,400 MW Mayflower Wind (now SouthCoast Wind) cables cited.
- The Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) 2023 report, [Electromagnetic Frequencies from Offshore Wind Related Buried Transmission Cables](#), states "magnetic fields are able to pass through most materials" and cites short-term exposure effects including vertigo, moderate visual disruption, nausea dizziness and metallic taste.
- The [EPA website](#) advises readers concerned about possible EMF health risks to: "Increase the distance between yourself and the source" -- hard to do when it is 35 feet from our living room.
- Equally concerning is the fact that much of the proposed cable route runs through the existing groundwater contamination plume of the [White Swan/Sun Cleaners Superfund site](#). Digging in this area, still in remediation, may expose cables workers and residents to vapors from the disruption of contaminated water and soil.
- Finally, the potential damage and interference with the existing underground infrastructure -- water, sewer, electrical and natural gas utility lines – in the four towns must be addressed.

### Economic Concerns

- Millions of tax dollars in subsidies are going to the developers, and construction costs continue to rise; All costs (and liabilities) for the project will ultimately fall on the NJ taxpayer.
- A [2023 analysis by Save Long Beach Island, Inc.](#) shows that NJ electric bill payers and taxpayers will bear heavy costs for offshore wind projects -- a 30, 40 and 50% increase in residential, commercial and industrial electric bills respectively for the full 11,000-megawatt program.

### Environmental Concerns

- The Sea Girt military beach, which will be torn up for this project, is home to several species of endangered birds and plant life.
- The offshore wind projects' "unavoidable" and "adverse" impacts on NJ's coastal ecosystem and shore communities are outlined in the BOEM's own Environmental Impact Statement. They include beach closures and "emissions that

may affect air quality...at the Monmouth and Atlantic Landfall Sites, in the onshore cable corridors and at the Larrabee and Cardiff Substations.”

- Other concerns include the extreme heat buried cables produce, stray voltage risk and the complexity of repairing subsurface power lines when malfunctions occur.
- Finally, the potential damage and interference with the existing underground infrastructure -- water, sewer, electrical and natural gas utility lines – in the four towns must be addressed.

***About Stop the High-Risk Power Cables***

*Stop the High-Risk Power Cables.org is a bipartisan, grassroots, self-funded group of concerned citizens. We support safe, smart alternative energy, but oppose plans that make us human guinea pigs in a high-risk experiment that threatens to do irreparable harm. We demand a halt to this project until the risks are objectively evaluated, and health, well-being and safety can be ensured. <https://www.stopthehighriskpowercables.org/>*

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