The image shows the top portion of the Maryland state flag, featuring a pattern of yellow, black, and red triangles and a white field with a red and white scroll design.

Maryland Board Of Public Works

**Public Comments Received for the  
November 20, 2024  
Board of Public Works Meeting**

**SEE NEXT PAGE**



Worcester County Administration

One West Market St. Room 1103 | Snow Hill MD 21863 | (410) 632-1194 | [www.co.worcester.md.us](http://www.co.worcester.md.us)

November 12, 2024

Maryland Board of Public Works  
80 Calvert Street, Room 117  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Governor Moore, Comptroller Lierman, and Treasurer Davis:

On behalf of the Worcester County Commissioners, I write today to request that the Board of Public Works delay consideration of US Wind's Tidal Wetlands License application until the Maryland Department of Natural Resources (DNR) develops and makes public a fisheries compensation package.

As far as we know, DNR has had one meeting with local fishermen regarding development of a fisheries compensation package. At that meeting, fishermen shared concerns regarding the reality that US Wind's proposal will eliminate the last two remaining fish packing houses in the West Ocean City Harbor. It is premature for the Board of Public Works to hold a public hearing to consider a wetlands license when details of the compensation proposal and a potential fish packing alternative have not been finalized. Without knowing what is proposed and how it will affect their livelihoods, how can commercial watermen—those impacted most by this proposal—effectively weigh in intelligently?

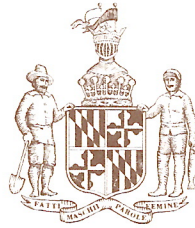
As advocates for Worcester County residents, including those families who have spent generations fishing off our coast, it is our duty to impress upon you our concerns that US Wind's project will endanger our community. We urge you to delay consideration of US Wind's application until adequate information regarding a fisheries compensation package is resolved and the ongoing federal litigation related to the project is decided.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Anthony W. Bertino, Jr." with a stylized flourish at the end.

Anthony W. Bertino, Jr.  
President

MARY BETH CAROZZA  
Legislative District 38  
Somerset, Wicomico,  
and Worcester Counties



Annapolis Office  
James Senate Office Building  
11 Bladen Street, Room 314  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
410-841-3645 · 301-858-3645  
800-492-7122 Ext. 3645  
Fax 410-841-3006 · 301-858-3006  
MaryBeth.Carozza@senate.state.md.us

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs  
Committee

THE SENATE OF MARYLAND  
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

November 12, 2024

Maryland Board of Public Works  
80 Calvert Street, Room 117  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Re: Tidal Wetlands Case No. 23-0813 by US Wind

Dear Governor Moore, Comptroller Lierman, and Treasurer Davis:

As the State Senator representing all of Worcester County which includes the West Ocean City Harbor, I join with Town of Ocean City and Worcester County officials on behalf of our constituents and Marylanders across the state to request that the Maryland Board of Public Works postpone consideration of the US Wind's Tidal Wetlands License Application until a pending fisheries compensation package has been completed and made public and until pending federal litigation issues related to this project have been resolved.

Commercial fishing is a major economic driver for Ocean City and the Eastern Shore region. There are only two locations where commercial vessels can offload their catch in Ocean City which are the same two locations that would be taken over by US Wind's proposed Operations and Maintenance Facility in the West Ocean City Harbor. US Wind's application to reconstruct and widen the existing West Ocean City Pier would effectively eliminate commercial fishing in Ocean City by displacing seafood offload locations currently used by local commercial fishing boats.

The West Ocean City Harbor is the only commercial fishing harbor in Maryland with access to the Atlantic Ocean and should be preserved to protect the many small business owners who depend on it. The elimination of commercial fishing would have a major negative economic impact on Worcester County and the State of Maryland, forcing local commercial fishing families who have lived here and worked here for generations to relocate elsewhere.

I understand that Maryland Department of Natural Resources (DNR) officials have met with local watermen to develop a fisheries compensation package to address the reality that US Wind's proposed O&M facility at the West Ocean City Harbor would eliminate the last two remaining fish packing houses in the West Ocean City Harbor.



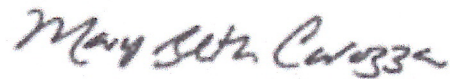
However, the fisheries compensation package is far from complete and will require additional time to finalize a comprehensive and fair package that would be made public and allow for appropriate time for review to ensure it addresses the needs of our local watermen and their families.

It only makes sense that the DNR fisheries compensation package be finalized and made public BEFORE the Maryland Board of Public Works considers the US Wind application that would make permanent changes to the West Ocean City Harbor and devastate our local fishing industry.

Given the significant negative impact of the US Wind's proposed O&M facility on the commercial fishing industry and the dramatic and permanent change to the legacy and iconic West Ocean City Harbor, I respectfully urge you, as Members of the Maryland Board of Public Works, to postpone consideration of US Wind's Tidal Wetlands License Application until the DNR fisheries compensation package has been completed and made public, and until pending federal litigation related to the project has been resolved.

Thank you for your kind consideration of this reasonable request made by Ocean City and Worcester County officials on behalf of our constituents, local watermen and their families, and concerned citizens across the State of Maryland.

In Service,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mary Beth Carozza". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

MARY BETH CAROZZA  
State Senator – District 38  
Worcester, Wicomico, and  
Somerset



WAYNE HARTMAN  
Legislative District 38C  
Worcester and Wicomico Counties

CHIEF DEPUTY MINORITY WHIP

Ways and Means Committee

*Subcommittees*

Racing and Gaming

Revenues



The Maryland House of Delegates  
6 Bladen Street, Room 213  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
410-841-3356 · 301-858-3356  
800-492-7122 Ext. 3356  
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Wayne.Hartman@house.state.md.us

THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES  
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

Maryland Board of Public Works  
Goldstein Treasury Building, Room 117  
80 Calvert St. Annapolis, Maryland 21401-1991

RE: Tidal Wetlands License Application No. 23-WL-0813

November 14, 2024

Dear Governor Moore, Comptroller Lierman, and Treasurer Davis,

I am writing you to respectfully request that the Board of Public Works postpones consideration of the Tidal Wetlands License Application No. 23-WL-0813 submitted by US Wind, Inc. This proposed project is a major cause for concern among the commercial watermen and residents of Worcester County as it will eliminate the only two locations where commercial vessels can offload their catch in Ocean City.

Aside from my previously expressed opposition to this application, I believe that the Maryland Department of Natural Resources must finalize the proposed fisheries compensation package, in agreement with our local commercial watermen, prior to the consideration of this license application. The fisheries compensation package should then be made public for review so that we can ensure that all of the needs of our local watermen have been adequately met. Additionally, the ongoing federal litigation concerning this project should be resolved before the Board of Public Works makes any determinations about this application.

Our local watermen have spent generations building their livelihoods around commercial fishing in the Atlantic Ocean; it is only fair that a determination is made on these matters before we drastically change the established operations of the West Ocean City Harbor. Thank you for your time and consideration. Please do not hesitate to contact me at [wayne.hartman@house.state.md.us](mailto:wayne.hartman@house.state.md.us) or call 410-841-3356 if you would like to discuss this further.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Wayne A. Hartman'.

Delegate Wayne Hartman  
District 38C  
Worcester & Wicomico Counties



# TOWN OF OCEAN CITY

*The White Marlin Capital of the World*

November 13, 2024

Maryland Board of Public Works  
80 Calvert St, Room 117  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Re: Tidal Wetlands Case No. 23-0813 by US Wind

Dear Governor Moore, Comptroller Lierman, and Treasurer Davis:

On behalf of the Ocean City Council, as well as our businesses, residents, and visitors, I am writing to express opposition to the proposed Wetlands License No. 23-0813 by US Wind, scheduled for review by the Board on November 20, 2024. This license would permit US Wind to construct an industrial pier in the West Ocean City Fishing Harbor. As previously conveyed by our City Manager, our opposition is based on several concerns, including:

- Incomplete application
- Potential environmental and property damage from pile driving
- Water quality impacts from pier coverage
- Navigational safety risks due to increased congestion

Most critically, the pier and the associated industrial development by US Wind will displace the only two locations where Maryland's Atlantic Fishing Fleet can offload their catch. The elimination of these facilities would devastate our fishing industry, eliminating jobs and harming local restaurants that rely on fresh, locally caught seafood. While the State has proposed a fund to compensate our commercial fishers for this loss, we believe that it is more important to our local area, and to the state, that our fishing fleet remain a vibrant part of our economy rather than being displaced for a foreign developer's project—one that we also believe would significantly impact tourism and property values. However, we also believe that if such a proposal is to be presented to our local waterman, they should be afforded the time necessary to review and respond to before this license application is scheduled before the BPW.

**MAYOR**

Richard W. Meehan

**CITY COUNCIL**

Matthew M. James  
*President*

Anthony J. DeLuca  
*Secretary*

John F. Gehrig, Jr.  
Jacob H. Mitrecic  
Carol Proctor  
Will Savage  
Larry R. Yates

**CITY MANAGER**

Terence J. McGean, PE

**CITY CLERK**

Diana L. Chavis, MMC

Since the primary purpose of this permit is contingent upon both federal approval of the offshore wind turbines, which is subject to ongoing litigation, and a compensation package that may or may not meet the needs of our local watermen, the Board of Public Works should refrain from authorizing potentially unnecessary major impacts on our wetlands. Furthermore, the public and our watermen cannot fully assess this project without knowing the details of the proposed compensation. Therefore, we respectfully request that any hearing on this matter be postponed until a formal fisheries compensation proposal is publicly available and the federal litigation surrounding the project is resolved.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of this request. As I have stated repeatedly, you have only one chance to get this right. Now is not the time to approve this potentially harmful and, hopefully, unnecessary project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard W. Meehan". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial "R".

Richard W. Meehan  
Mayor





email bpw -BPW- &lt;email.bpw@maryland.gov&gt;

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**Fwd: OCMD Pier - No to Windmills!**

1 message

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**Eileen Dudley** <e.dudley7180@gmail.com>  
To: "email.bpw@maryland.gov" <email.bpw@maryland.gov>

Mon, Nov 18, 2024 at 7:28 PM

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

From: **Eileen Dudley** <e.dudley7180@gmail.com>  
Date: Mon, Nov 18, 2024, 12:41 PM  
Subject: OCMD Pier - No to Windmills!  
To: <bpw@maryland.gov>

Good afternoon to our highest administrative authority, Comptroller Brooke Lierman, Governor. Wes Moore and Treasurer Mr. Dereck Davis. I am writing as a life-long visitor and 29 year home owner in Ocean City, MD. My dream has always been to retire here. It is soon to be a reality as I am 58.

As a volunteer for the Baltimore Aquarium, I have to tell you how blessed I am to be able to protect the marine life that find refuge on our beaches. I also need to make you aware of the large difference in beach strandings I have witnessed. Also, the euthanized mamals since our closest rescue facility is 3 miles away. I also love boating and fishing. I love photography. I notice things, especially changes in nature. As a volunteer for MD Coastal bays and a Scoutmaster for the Boy Scouts, I notice things. Here are a few. DE bay is the largest nesting sight for horshoecrabs. Md coastal beaches also see large numbers. The existence of a majority of small marine is vital to sea grasses. Erosion happens quicker without the protection of sea grasses. I personally, as recent as Sunday 11.17.24 am finding windmill turbine debris on OCMD and Chincoteague beaches. I can only imagine it is from the MA Windmill failure from March 2024, unless more have occurred that I am unaware of. I have samples and pictures. As a frequent beach volunteer cleaner, I can tell the difference between a balloon string or fishing line. Luckily, the beach stranding response crews have been talking monthly up and down the coast because the occurrence of beached whales is very concerning. Those are the result of sonar disturbances due to their windmill farms. Since 2016, all along the Eastern coast we have seen a major uptick in marine strandings. As I know you have seen some odd occurrences in your Baltimore harbor and Chesapeake bays, especially this past summer. Sonar. Imagine getting a new roof while you sit inside. For months. For months. Those bangs travel. I believe we are into over 2000 mamals. Many of them are endangered. Right whales, Minke, humpback, dolphins, pilot whales, seals, 4 types of sea turtles and more. This count does not include birds or smaller crustaceans like the horshoecrab. We all know how amazing the only creature closest to human blood and used in all vaccines. All botox, all vaccines!!

Please stop the windmill pier. Stop the destruction of our marinelife. Stop selling our Ocean rights. Sonar - banging causes vertigo, etc.

Thank you,  
Eileen Dudley

**Public Comments Received via Web Form**

<b>First Name:</b>	<b>Last Name:</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Agenda Category:</b>	<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Position:</b>	<b>Comment</b>
John	Collins	Resident	Secretary	Item 6	Oppose	This area is becoming overwhelmed with recreational boater and I see this heavy industrial use as being a serious danger. Every year there are more n more boats many of whom are not very qualified. I have a nephew that is ready to start boating on his own and these big industrial boats will be a hazard to navigation
Cindy	Barnes	OC property owner	Secretary	Item 6	Oppose	Complete waste of money and inefficient
Craig	Barnes	Ocean City property owner	Secretary	Item 6	Oppose	This project is a waste of taxpayers money to be used for a inefficient power source. It will destroy the entire tourist industry. It must be stopped
Rick	Carney	Ocean City Marlin Club	Secretary	Item 6	Oppose	The risks outweigh the benefits many times over. Someone will make a tremendous amount of money at the expense of the marine environment.
Maggie	Ostdahl		Secretary	Item 6	Support	<p>As a Maryland resident, I strongly encourage approval of US Wind's wetlands permit application (23-WL-0813) for the construction of a pier and bulkhead in West Ocean City. Understanding that misinformation has led to opposition, it is however crucial to focus on the facts:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Offshore wind is a key component of Maryland's strategy to combat climate change, improve air quality, and reduce our reliance on fossil fuels.</li> <li>2. The proposed facility will create jobs, boost our local economy, and help Maryland meet its ambitious climate goals.</li> <li>3. This facility is critically important for Maryland's offshore wind industry and our state's clean energy transition.</li> <li>4. The Maryland Department of Environment has thoroughly reviewed this application and issued a favorable recommendation.</li> </ol> <p>This permit application is based on sound science and thorough review. Please vote to approve this wetlands permit and support Maryland's clean energy future.</p> <p>Thank you for your consideration.</p>
Laurie	Jodziewicz	US Wind, Inc.	Secretary	Item 6	Support	<p>US Wind applied for a Tidal Wetlands License to replace an existing, aged pier and bulkhead on properties in the West Ocean City commercial harbor. The proposed work would support a potential Operations and Maintenance Facility for US Wind's offshore wind projects off the coast of Maryland. US Wind, the state of Maryland, fishermen, and other stakeholders are working to mitigate impacts associated with the development of the offshore wind projects so that US Wind can deliver clean renewable energy to the state and the significant economic and environmental benefits from offshore wind. The issue before the Board of Public Works is the application to replace an existing pier and bulkhead on properties in a commercial harbor, which has been recommended for approval with conditions by the Maryland Department of the Environment to the Board of Public Works. US Wind supports MDE's recommendation and is available to answer questions.</p>