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3        The Ocean Wind 1 Offshore Wind Project

4            Green Acres Scoping Hearing

5

6              Monday, March 7, 2022

7                  7:00 p.m.

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1                    (Time noted: 7:00 p.m.)

2           MR. BELNIAK:  Good evening.  Thanks for

3      joining us.  We're going to be starting at 7:05

4      to get everyone settled in.

5           Once again, thanks for joining.

6           Thank you for joining us this evening.

7      We're going to get started at about 7:05.

8      We're just going to give people more time to

9      filter in.  We'll be starting shortly.

10          Thank you.  If you're just joining us,

11     good evening.  Thanks for spending some time

12     with us tonight.  We're going to give it

13     another minute or so to let people finish

14     filtering in.

15          If you're just joining us, thank you.

16     We're going get started at about 7:05 in just

17     about one more minute.  Just giving people a

18     little more time to filter in.

19          Thank you.

20          Okay, we have about 7:05.  Our join rate

21     is flattening out.  So, with that, I believe we

22     can begin.  I'd like to hand the meeting over

23     to Pilar Patterson who will be our first

24     speaker.  She will kick off the meeting and get

25     us going.

1                  With that, Pilar.

2            MS. PATTERSON:  Great.

3            MR. BELNIAK:  Pilar, your audio was there

4       and then it left.

5            MS. PATTERSON:  -- which is proposed off

6       the coast of New Jersey.  I want to note that

7       the time is now 7:05 and that marks the opening

8       of tonight's public hearing.

9            Next slide.

10           Again, my name is Pilar Patterson and I'm

11      the head of mid-Atlantic permitting for Ørsted.

12      Our moderator for this evening is Alan Belniak

13      from VHB Consulting and he has already been on

14      the line and notifying us as to the start of

15      this hearing tonight.

16           Following my introductory remarks, I'm

17      going to ask Alan to review the format of

18      taking comments both tonight as well as written

19      comments which are accepted up until March 21,

20      which is the close of the public comment

21      period.  Once Alan finishes these logistics,

22      Ocean Wind will present a short PowerPoint

23      that's going to describe the Green Acres

24      diversion, which is the purpose about tonight's

25      hearing.

1        In addition to myself, that PowerPoint

2     presentation will also be given by David

3     Hinchey, who is the Senior Manager of Major

4     Permitting and Environmental Services for PSEG

5     Renewables, who is partnering with Ørsted on

6     the Ocean Wind 1 projecting; as well as

7     Katharine Perry, the Ørsted permit manager for

8     this project; and Tom Suthard, Ørsted's New

9     Jersey Stakeholder Relations Manager.

10        At the conclusion of the PowerPoint

11     presentation, Tom will invite Alan to once

12     again review the process to give public comment

13     and we will then open the hearing to the public

14     comment portion.

15        At this point, I'm going to hand it back

16     over to Alan to cover the logistics for

17     tonight's hearing.

18        MR. BELNIAK:  Thank you, Pilar.

19        So, we are using the Zoom webinar format

20     for tonight's meeting, which means that at the

21     start all participants will be muted during the

22     slide slow presentation.  Following the

23     presentation at the beginning of the public

24     comment portion for tonight's hearing, there

25     will be an opportunity to unmute, and I, as the

1     moderator, will take care of doing so so that

2     you can present your public comment.

3          If you're participating via a computer and

4     you wish to speak or submit a comment, you can

5     indicate that you'd like to do so by raising

6     your hand using the webinar controls in the

7     bottom tray of Zoom.  To raise your hand,

8     simply click on the hand icon and that will

9     send an indicator to me that you'd like to

10     speak.  If you'd prefer, you can also submit a

11     text-based comment using the Q and A function

12     inside the Zoom webinar and I'll read these

13     comments into the record throughout the

14     evening.

15          If you're participating by telephone, and

16     right now we've got ten call-in listeners, you

17     can use the star 9 command and that will raise

18     your hand also similar to using the raise hand

19     command here.  And when the time is right, I'll

20     take you off mute for you to share your

21     comment.

22          We will be limiting the time for about

23     3 minutes to give everyone a fair chance to

24     speak their comments.  When it is your turn,

25     please state and spell your name for the

1          benefit of our court reporter.

2               You'll see a clock on our screen for those

3          3 minutes for those of you that have the

4          benefit of seeing the screen.  For those on

5          telephone, we'll call out when your time is

6          nearly expired.

7               We do ask that commenters be respectful of

8          the time limit to enable everyone a chance to

9          speak.  We do have over 170 people in the

10         audience of total participants with hands

11         raised and comments ready, so we want to make

12         sure everyone has the opportunity.

13              We will be alternating between hands

14         raised from telephone, hands raised inside

15         Zoom, and typed comments as well.

16              One more item.  Because we have an active

17         group here, we want to make sure everyone who

18         wishes to submit comments do so and has the

19         opportunity.  So, please do limit those

20         comments to the proposed Green Acres diversion.

21         You may also submit your written comments

22         during the public comment period which ends on

23         March 21, 2022 to Ocean Wind 1.  A copy of your

24         comments must also be sent to the Green Acres

25         Program.  The contact information for Ocean

1    Wind 1 and the Green Acres Program will be

2    provided on the last slide of the presentation

3    and also available in the outgoing chat for you

4    to copy down.  This information was also

5    included in the public notice that can be found

6    at Ocean Wind's website at www.OceanWind.com.

7         Please make a note of the phone numbers on

8    the screen in the event that you are

9    disconnected with internet connectivity and

10   need to dial in to listen.

11        This hearing is being recorded and its

12   transcript will be prepared.  A copy of the

13   hearing transcript will be available as part of

14   the Green Acres application.  That will be

15   submitted to the New Jersey Department of

16   Environmental Protection Green Acres Program.

17        Please note that Ocean 1 will not provide

18   responses to questions presented during the

19   hearing, so everyone who wishes to make a

20   comment has the ability to do so.  Once the

21   post hearing comment period ends on March 21,

22   Ocean Wind will prepare and post a response to

23   comments document during the post hearing

24   comment period to the project website, again,

25   www.OceanWind.com.

1           With that, I'd like to hand it back to

2      Pilar.

3           MS. PATTERSON:  Thanks very much, Alan.

4           We're going repeat those instructions

5      following this PowerPoint presentation and just

6      prior to opening the public comment period, so

7      you'll have another chance to go through those

8      if you missed anything.

9           Now, the purpose of tonight's hearing is

10      to describe a provided description of the Ocean

11      Wind project which is requesting the diversion

12      of the parkland as well as the description of

13      the parkland itself.

14           And we understand that while tonight's

15      hearing is limited to accepting comments

16      specifically on the proposed parkland division,

17      it may be beneficial to learn a little more

18      about the project itself and this way to better

19      understand how that parkland diversion fits

20      into the bigger picture of the project.

21           We will also provide an explanation of the

22      compelling public need that this project will

23      fulfill.  And, finally, we will present the

24      alternative to the parkland diversion and the

25      proposed compensation for the diversion.  After

1        the presentation, we will then open the hearing

2        for the public comments.

3              In this figure, you can see the wind farm

4        area in light yellow with the blue border and

5        that's Ocean Wind 1 wind farm area that's off

6        the coast of southern New Jersey with the

7        closest turbines approximately 15 miles from

8        Atlantic City.

9              Ocean Wind was going to consist of up to

10       98 turbines generating 1100 megawatts, which is

11       sufficient to power over half a million homes

12       and we are anticipating commercial operations

13       by the end of 2024.

14             Ocean Wind is a joint venture with PSEG, a

15       New Jersey-based diversified energy company

16       with both state and regional experience.

17             Now, the project has two separate points

18       of interconnection.  In the upper part of the

19       figure shown by a small red for is the Oyster

20       Creek point of interconnection and that's in

21       Lacy Township and further south is the BL

22       England point of interconnection and that's

23       located in upper township.

24             For tonight's hearing, we are focusing

25       only on that shorter cable which is shown on

1          the bottom of the figure and specifically where

2          it comes on shore in Ocean City, where it

3          involves the less than 1 acre of Green Acres

4          parkland diversion in Ocean City itself.

5              So, I do want to emphasize that the

6          purpose of tonight's hearing and the public

7          comments themselves should be focused

8          specifically on the Green Acres diversion.

9              Thank you.  I'm now going to turn the

10         presentation over to David Hinchey from PSEG

11         and he's going to provide some specific

12         information on the activities planned in Ocean

13         City.

14             Thank you.

15             MR. HINCHEY:  Thank you, Pilar, and good

16         evening, everyone.  As Pilar mentioned, my name

17         is David Hinchey.  I am the senior manager of

18         major permitting for PSEG renewables.

19             Because the parcels proposed for diversion

20         will be crossed by horizontal direction drill

21         method, I thought I would start out with the

22         description of this method which is also

23         referred to as HDD.

24             There are two areas in Ocean City that

25         will require a Green Acres diversion.  In both

1   of these areas, cables will be buried

2   underground using insulation known as

3   horizontal directional drilling or HDD.  The

4   HDD method is being proposed for the cable

5   installation where it makes landfall in Ocean

6   City at 35 Street and a second parcel in Ocean

7   City where the cables cross below Peck Bay.

8   The schematic here shows a typical HDD set

9   up that will be used make landfall and is

10  similar to what will be set up and look like

11  during the 35 Street landfall.

12  During the HDD process, a smaller diameter

13  bore hole will be drilled and subsequently

14  enlarged along the design drill path between

15  the on-shore TJB, which stands for transition

16  joint bay, and the offshore HDD platform.

17  Following the drilling, an HDD duct will

18  be poked through the bore hole and finally the

19  offshore cable will be pulled through the HDD

20  duct and fused with the onshore cable in the

21  TJB.

22  On this next slide, we're taking a closer

23  look at the work that will be conducted inside

24  Ocean City.  Once the cable makes landfall at

25  35th Street, work in Ocean City will mostly be

1       limited to public roads and rights-of-way.

2           We are planning to do the onshore

3       construction in Ocean City outside of peak

4       summer tourist season to limit impact for

5       tourism, recreational opportunities, traffic,

6       and residents.  There will be no construction

7       on the beach or in the Green Acres parcel along

8       Roosevelt Road Boulevard, which we are

9       proposing for a diversion.  Following

10      construction, the roads and all construction

11      work will be restored to preexisting or better

12      conditions.  There will be no aboveground

13      impacts except the manhole, which will be

14      installed to access the transition joint bay.

15          Again, there will be no changes to use of

16      the beach or the diverted parcels after

17      construction.

18          Finally, there is no planned maintenance

19      inside of the diverted parcels.  In the event

20      of maintenance is required, most likely it will

21      take place within the TJB which will leave

22      access via the manhole within the roadway.

23          With this, I am going to turn the

24      presentation over now to Katharine Perry who

25      will take you through more information on the

1          Green Acres diversion being proposed.

2                  MS. PERRY:  Thanks, Dave.

3                  Good evening.  My name is Katharine Perry.

4          I'm the Ocean Wind 1 permit manager.  I'm going

5          to turn now to the purpose of the Green Acres

6          diversion that's being proposed, and forgive me

7          for this text-heavy slide we have here.

8                  So, on February 3, 2022, Ocean Wind 1

9          petitioned the New Jersey Board of Public

10         Utilities under NJSA 48:3-87.1(f)(2) to acquire

11         the permanent rights-of-way and easements which

12         are needed to install the underground cables

13         for the Ocean Wind 1 offshore wind project

14         across the Green Acres encumbered parcels owned

15         by Ocean City.  Ocean Wind 1 will apply to the

16         New Jersey Department of Environmental

17         Protection or the NJ DEP and the New Jersey

18         State House Commission for the diversion of a

19         portion of Green Acres encumbered parcels owned

20         by Ocean City in accordance with the Green

21         Acres regulations.  These can be found at

22         N.J.A.C. 7:36-1.1.

23                 For additional clarity, I just wanted to

24         let everybody know the meaning of a diversion

25         that's being used in this scoping hearing is to

1    use or allow the use of controlled parkland for

2    purposes other than recreation and

3    conservation.

4         This public scoping hearing is being held

5    to obtain public comment on the proposed

6    diversion of approximately .838 acres of Ocean

7    City-owned parkland.

8         The law requires that Ocean Wind provide

9    funds for the replacement of 3 times the total

10   acreage to be diverted and compensate Ocean

11   City for the value of the necessary easements.

12   Previously, Ocean Wind offered Ocean City 10

13   times the appraised value of the diverted

14   parcels.

15        This slide provides a high-level overview

16   of the proposed diversion areas that are

17   located in Ocean City.

18        The figure on the right depicts the

19   onshore BL England export cable route and

20   circled in red are the proposed diversion areas

21   in Ocean City.

22        Again, the total area we're proposing to

23   divert is .838 acres.  The .838 acres includes

24   a .39-acre portion of block 611, lots 137 and

25   145 and Block 3500, Lot 1, including a riparian

1      grant.  Together, this comprises .38 acres.

2      These parcels are identified in the red circled

3      area in the lower right-hand side of the

4      figure.  Those are the beach landfall area.

5      The remaining areas to be diverted include the

6      .068-acre portion of Block 3350.01, Lot 17

7      along Roosevelt Boulevard in the lower middle

8      area of the figure.

9           So, this slide focuses in on the portion

10     of beach parcels are proposed to be diverted

11     east of 35th Street in Ocean City.  Ocean Wind

12     1 proposes to install the cable under the beach

13     at 35 Street using the horizontal directional

14     drill method, which Dave Hinchey described

15     previously.  The cable is shown in red on the

16     right edge of the figure and travels west along

17     the areas to be diverted which are shown in

18     orange.  The cable will be buried approximately

19     50 feet below grade and there will be no

20     aboveground impacts before, during, or after

21     construction.  The surface use at the beach

22     will remain the same.

23          There is two parcels and riparian grant

24     owned by Ocean City and shown in orange include

25     Block 611.11, Lots 137 and 145, that's the .39

1       acres area, and then Block 3500, Lot 1

2       including the riparian grant which is .38

3       acres.  Ocean Wind will be seeking a 30-foot

4       wide permanent easement across these parcels

5       and that subtotals .77 acres.  The easement is

6       going to be a subsurface or belowground

7       non-exclusive easement.  So, that means Ocean

8       City obtains ownership of the parcels and

9       public access to the beach remain undisturbed.

10       This next slide focuses in on the second

11       area proposed for diversion which is shown in

12       orange both in the larger overview image as

13       well as in the inset or detail map in the upper

14       right-hand corner of the figure.  Ocean Wind

15       proposes to install underground cables via

16       horizontal direction drill under this parcel

17       just north of Roosevelt Boulevard.  Following

18       construction, again, there will be no

19       aboveground impact to the diverted area and the

20       surface use will remain the same.

21       The parcel owned by Ocean City is Block

22       3350.01, Lot 17, and the area proposed for

23       diversion is .068 acres.  Again, this is

24       depicted clearly in the inset map in the upper

25       right-hand corner of the figure.

1          Ocean Wind will be seeking, again, a

2     30-foot wide permanent easement across this

3     parcel, which subtotals .068 acres.  This

4     easement will be, again, a subsurface

5     non-exclusive easement and Ocean City will

6     retain ownership of the parcel and surface use

7     will remain the same.

8          I'm going to turn our focus now to the

9     compelling public need for the project.

10          As part of Ocean Wind 1's Green Acres

11     diversion application, the project must

12     demonstrate the compelling public need for the

13     diversion.  On June 21, 2019, the New Jersey

14     board of public utilities selected Ocean Wind 1

15     to deliver a minimum of 1100 megawatts of

16     offshore wind resources.  This can be found at

17     NJBPU Docket Number QO18121289, in order to

18     fulfill the requirements of the requirements of

19     the State's Offshore Wind Economic Development

20     Act.

21          The project will also contribute to the

22     objectives which are outlined at Executive

23     Order 8 from 2018, which set a goal of

24     obtaining 3500 megawatts of renewable energy by

25     2030 as well as Executive Order 92, which in

1    November of 2019 increased the goal to 7500

2    megawatts by 2035.  By providing 1100 megawatts

3    of renewable offshore wind energy, the project

4    helped fulfill the requirements of both the

5    Offshore Wind Economic Development Act as well

6    as Executive Order 892 and thereby satisfies

7    the compelling public need.

8         Turning focus now to the alternative that

9    Ocean Wind 1 has identified and evaluated the

10   proposed diversion, the project has identified

11   the following:

12        First and foremost, the no action

13   alternative in which Ocean Wind would not

14   construct the project.  This alternative is not

15   feasible because it would not fulfill the

16   compelling public need established by the BPU

17   order and executive orders described on the

18   prior slide.

19        The second alternative evaluated is a

20   construction alternative to the proposed

21   installation method of horizontal directional

22   drill, which we described previously.  Under

23   this alternative for the HDD method, we would

24   use the open cut construction method in which a

25   trench would be excavated along the surface of

1      the diverted parcels in which the cable would

2      be laid and then backfilled.  This open cut

3      installation method would result in greater

4      environmental and surface impacts, and was

5      therefore not carried forward by the project.

6           Finally, Ocean Wind 1 identified a number

7      of landfall and ground alternatives which are

8      described further on the following slides.  I'm

9      going to get into those now.

10           Ocean Wind 1 identified several

11      alternatives to the proposed landfall at 35

12      Street.  The first alternative would make

13      landfall with the cable at 34 Street.  This

14      alternative was not carried forward because the

15      presence of a public restroom could conflict

16      with the HDD work space required and the

17      underground cabling.  The next alternative

18      includes the Fifth Street and 13 Street

19      alternatives.  These would require longer

20      onshore routes along West Ave. resulting in

21      increased traffic impacts.  These alternatives

22      would also affect Green Acres beach lots owned

23      by Ocean City and were, therefore, not carried

24      forward.

25           Finally, Ocean Wind identified an

1      alternative at 35 Street, which would entail

2      placing a cable in the adjacent privately owned

3      parcels identified as Block 611.11, Lots 126

4      and 136.  However, this parcel was unavailable

5      and was, therefore, not carried forward as an

6      alternative.

7           In accordance with the Green Acres

8      regulations, as just discussed, there is no

9      feasible, reasonable, or available alternative

10     landfall location to the proposed landfall at

11     35 Street across the Ocean City-owned parcels.

12           Turning now towards the Roosevelt

13     Boulevard Bridge Crossing, Ocean Wind

14     identified a number of alternatives to the

15     posed Roosevelt Boulevard Crossing.  The first

16     alternative is depicted in the purple line at

17     it crosses Peck Bay south of the Roosevelt

18     Boulevard Bridge with HDD entry points within

19     Nautilus Drive.  This alternative would be

20     longer than the proposed route.  It would

21     require multiple crossings of Roosevelt

22     Boulevard and would be immediately adjacent to

23     the residential development resulting in

24     greater impacts to residents.  Additionally,

25     the crossing would require an increased curve

1           of the HDD which prevents greater technical

2           risks.  The second alternative is shown in the

3           green line and this crosses Peck Bay south of

4           the Roosevelt Boulevard Bridge with HDD entry

5           points within a parking lot at the end of

6           Nautilus Drive.  While thing alternative would

7           be longer than the proposed route, the Ocean

8           Wind 1 project is continuing to evaluate this

9           alternative technical feasibility.

10               Finally, the third alternative is shown in

11          red and would involve the export cable being

12          attached to the Roosevelt Boulevard Bridge.

13          This alternative was not carried forward as

14          it's not available to the project.

15               In accordance with Green Acres

16          regulations, other than alternative 2, there is

17          no feasible, reasonable, and available

18          alternative route to the proposed route.

19               I'm now going to discuss the compensation

20          for these parcels which under the law, N.J.S.A.

21          48:3-87.1(f)(2), Ocean Wind 1 would be required

22          TO provide the following:  One, provide funds

23          for the acquisition of three times the area

24          proposed for diversion for additional land for

25          recreation conservation purposes within Cape

1      May County.  These funds can be provided to the

2      NJ DEP, to the Green Acres program, a local

3      government unit, or a qualifying tax-exempt

4      nonprofit organization.  Since the total area

5      for the diversion is .838 acres, Ocean Wind

6      would need to provide funds for the acquisition

7      of 2.514 acres of property in Cape May County.

8      Additionally, Ocean Wind will compensate Ocean

9      City for the fair market value of the

10     easements.  Ocean Wind 1 has previously offered

11     Ocean City 10 times the appraised value of the

12     parcels.

13          With that, I'm going to now turn the

14     presentation over to Tom Suthard who is going

15     to discuss how to submit written comments

16     following tonight's hearing.

17          Take it away, Tom.

18          MR. SUTHARD:  Good evening, I'm Tom

19     Suthard, New Jersey Stakeholder Relations

20     Manager, and I'm going to share with you some

21     procedural information and next steps.  We will

22     also put the following information in the chat.

23          You may provide written comments on the

24     proposed Green Acres diversion no later than

25     March 21, 2022 to Ørsted Ocean Wind 1, 600

1       Atlantic Avenue, Suite 2, Atlantic City, New

2       Jersey 08401 or Info@OceanWind.com.  A copy of

3       any written comments on the proposed Green

4       Acres diversion must also be submitted to the

5       Green Acres Program at

6       BLSSpubliccomments@dep.nj.gov.  Please include

7       Ocean Wind 1 in the subject line.  Please note

8       that e-mail comments are preferred but comment

9       may also be mailed to the New Jersey Department

10      of Environmental Protection, Green Acres

11      program, Bureau of Legal Services and

12      Stewardship, 401 East State Street, 7th Floor,

13      Mail Code 401-07B, P.O. Box 420, Trenton, New

14      Jersey 08625-0420 Attention: Ocean Wind

15      Application.

16          Additionally, information on the project

17      is available at www.OceanWind.com.

18          This PowerPoint presentation will be

19      posted on our website tomorrow.  We are at the

20      end of our PowerPoint presentation, but we'll

21      soon welcome your comments on the proposed

22      Green Acres diversion in Ocean City.

23          I'm now going to ask Alan to quickly

24      review how you may share your comment and then

25      the floor will be open for your comment.

1           Alan, next slide.

2           MR. BELNIAK:  Thanks, everyone.  Once

3      again, my name is Alan Belniak and I'm here to

4      moderate the comment portion of tonight's

5      presentation.  As a reminder, this meeting is

6      being recorded and transcribed.  If you're

7      planning to provide comments tonight, we ask

8      you once again to limit your comments to 3

9      minutes to provide all those who wish to

10     provide comment the opportunity to do so.

11          Once again, to provide comment during this

12     scoping meeting, you have two options.  If

13     you're at a computer, you can your raise hand

14     button below.  You can also press star 9 if

15     you're on the telephone.  Both of those are the

16     raise hand function and indicate to me that

17     you'd like to express a verbal comment.  We

18     would then selectively unmute you.  You have

19     the opportunity -- your 3 minutes to share your

20     comment, and we'll enter it into the record.

21          You may also submit your comments through

22     the Q and A function down below.  You simply

23     tap that, enter your comment, and press enter,

24     and it gets submitted to us in text form.

25          Regardless of the format, please state

1 your name and clearly spell your last name for

2 the benefit of the court reporter. We do have

3 some folks here in Zoom who are just using a

4 first name or something like so I may ask you

5 to clarify your name.

6  On behalf of the whole Ocean Wind 1

7 project team here and the extended team, thank

8 you again very much for attending tonight's

9 meeting and I will now open the floor for

10 public comment.

11  Just before we start, to give everyone

12 some context at 7:32 p.m., we have 199 people

13 in attendance, of those 8 people are calling in

14 on the telephone. At this moment, we have six

15 hands raised and we have nine items in the Q

16 and A. I will share what those numbers look

17 like periodically as we go throughout so you'll

18 have a sense of what the comment queue is

19 looking like.

20  I will alternate roughly back and forth

21 between text-based comments, and telephone

22 comments, and hand raises as well. I'm going

23 to start with a few text-based comments because

24 the two of them go to together and then I will

25 take my first telephone comment or my

1         firsthand -- excuse me.  The firsthand raise,

2         just to get you ready, is going to be Suzan

3         Hornick and after that will be Nathan

4         Brightbill.  In just a moment, I'll call you to

5         take yourself off mute.  Right now, I will go

6         into the first text-based comment and that is

7         from Robert Moss.  And Robert comments:  I

8         don't believe participants being muted meets

9         the regulatory requirements for a scoping

10        meeting.  Meanwhile, I will have comments I

11        anticipate making.  Robert then followed up

12        with okay, it was just announced that people

13        can be unmuted during the comments period.

14        Greg Cudnik commented did you just say 10

15        call-in listeners?  A moment ago I just shared

16        what the current status was at the moment.

17        With that, I'm going move over to our

18        first raised hand.

19        Suzan, I'm going to send the command for

20        you to unmute your line, and when you do that,

21        the floor will be yours.  And let me pull up my

22        timer.

23        All right, Suzan, I believe we can hear

24        you.

25        MS. HORNICK:  Let me begin by saying that

1        I am the representative of Protect Our Coast

2        NJ, and our group, although centered in Ocean

3        City, is inclusive of other areas as well.

4            We do not want any part of this project.

5        The reasonable, feasible, alternatives to

6        landfall would be no landfall.

7            It's disgusting to me that our New Jersey

8        Assembly and Senate were willing to write new

9        laws taking away our rights without any

10       meaningful public comment in just a few days.

11       Then, Governor Murphy quickly gave our rights

12       aware to a foreign country and a foreign

13       company because Ørsted told him to.  That's

14       un-American and a complete abuse of power.

15           The BPU's mission statement is, and I

16       quote, to ensure the safe, adequate, and proper

17       utility services are provided at reasonable

18       nondiscriminatory rates to all members of the

19       public who desire such services to develop and

20       regulate a competitive, economical,

21       cost-effective energy policy that promotes

22       responsible growth and clean renewable energy

23       sources while maintaining a high quality of

24       life in New Jersey.

25           These cable bundles as well as the

1          turbines are absolutely not safe.  For one

2          thing, in this case, they emit EMS, which has

3          been linked to several types of cancers,

4          miscarriages, dementia, and more.  Nobody is

5          studying the cumulative effects of the

6          additional radiation emitted by these cables

7          with all the 4 and 5G notes recently installed

8          here, the EMS of our overhead power lines, and

9          all the other emissions that we have.

10              In addition, this entire plan of 7 lease

11         areas still with nearly 1,000 gigantic turbines

12         is experimental.  No company has ever built

13         them this high or this wide.  We, in Ocean

14         City, are not your guinea pigs and our children

15         are not going to be collateral damage.  They're

16         only supplemental energy supplies and certainly

17         not adequate.  They are more expensive than

18         most -- than all other energy options at this

19         point.

20              We demand extensive scientific local

21         environmental impact studies be done prior to

22         putting anything in the sea or on land.  It's

23         abundantly clear to me that the BPU and

24         President Joseph whatever his last name is, are

25         biased in favor of Ørsted and not in any way

1    looking out for the best interest of the people

2    of Ocean City or New Jersey as evidenced by the

3    silver lapel pin depicting a turbine he often

4    wears, which I suspect was a gift from Ørsted.

5         We are a very small island and the

6    proposed area in which Ørsted wants to lay the

7    cable is a very densely-packed residential area

8    with a few small stores.  The only thing we

9    have in Ocean City to support our community and

10   our quality of life is tourism.  I imagine

11   millions of people come to the beached between

12   34 to 36 Street between April and October.  We

13   cannot risk the health and welfare of our

14   visitors, friends, and family, as well as the

15   much endangered species in our ocean and bay

16   because it's more convenient for Ørsted lay

17   their cables there than to actually go around

18   our island.

19        MR. BELNIAK:  I just want to let you know,

20   you're at 3 minutes if you could please wrap it

21   up.

22        MS. HORNICK:  Yup.

23        We cannot afford to give up any beach or

24   land for this.  I hope the BPU will not approve

25   this.  If you do, we will know you are putting

1          the greed of New Jersey politicians over the

2          lives of New Jersey's people.

3              Thank you.

4              MR. BELNIAK:  Thank you for that, Suzan.

5              MS. PERRY:  Thank you for your comment.

6              Alan, please move on to the next

7          participant.

8              MR. BELNIAK:  The next participant --

9          first, next up is Nathan Brightbill.  On deck

10          is Kim, no last name given, and on deck after

11          that is Ed.

12              Nathan Brightbill, you should have the

13          command to your device to unmute your line or

14          your mic.  With that, you have 3 minutes to

15          make your comment.

16              MR. BRIGHTBILL:  This is Nathan

17          Brightbill.  I wanted to say a few things.

18              I was at the last public meeting there on

19          the boardwalk.  It seems like most of the

20          prop5, especially these younger, people some

21          older too, are so worried about they call it

22          claimant change and they even seem scared.  And

23          I think they have been duped into this thing.

24          It's like a religion for a lot of people.  A

25          lot of the younger people don't even remember

1    Al Gore, which he made all these predictions

2    back in the '90s that none of it came true.  He

3    tried to scare people with all these

4    predictions, which never came true.  And he

5    made billions of dollars.

6         It seems like a lot of this stuff is all

7    about money.  It makes a lot of people scared

8    that aren't really knowledgeable and don't do

9    any research.  They don't do any critical

10   thinking on both sides.

11        And I want to recommend a couple of books.

12   The best one is called Green Fraud by Marc

13   Morano.  Apocalypse Never is a pretty good book

14   too by Michael Shellenberger.

15        I just want people to know that if the

16   earth is truly warm, it's not manmade.  I don't

17   know how many people think that there's a --

18   the climate is just going to stay the same year

19   after year for decades and centuries, it's

20   always going to be changing.  That's why when

21   it came over, it was called global warming,

22   then all of the scientists said it was

23   debunked, so what do they call it?  Climate

24   change.  Well, we could use climate change for

25   anything.  So, that is the main thing.

1        People have to realize that this is like a

2     religion to a lot of people and it's not

3     working over in Europe.  Electricity bills are

4     doubling and tripling, which hurts a lot of the

5     elderly and it really hurts a lot of people,

6     period.

7        If you see what's going on right now with

8     the federal government and Joe Biden's

9     administration blaming all these gas prices on

10    the Ukraine war, it's because right when he got

11    into office he declared war on fossil fuels,

12    and that's the problem.  We have the best

13    intelligence and the best ways of doing things

14    that are so efficient and cost effective for

15    people.

16        MR. BELNIAK:  We're at about 3 minutes.

17        MR. BRIGHTBILL:  I want to say one quick

18    thing though.  I want people to go out to the

19    boardwalk in Ocean City, look out into the

20    ocean.  God created that.  God does not want us

21    bringing tons of stinking windmills out there

22    for no reason.  It's almost immoral what they

23    want to do.  So, reject it, it's a big waste,

24    and if they get this through, it's going to

25    keep going and going.  Don't think that it's

1          just going to stop there.  They will keep going

2          all up through the east coast.

3                Thank you very much.

4                MS. PERRY:  Thanks your comment.

5                Alan, next comment, please.

6                MR. BELNIAK:  I'm going to take one

7          comment in the Q and A because I think it

8          applies to everyone here.  The comment is from

9          Maddie, no last name given.  And Maddie

10         comments could people please spell their last

11         names.  Maddie is coming from OCNJdaily.com.

12               MS. PERRY:  Sorry, Alan.

13               I just want to thank Maddie for that

14         comment.

15               I just want to provide a quick reminder.

16         So, for tonight's hearing, we are focusing only

17         on the proposed Green Acres parkland diversion

18         in Ocean City.  So, please do try to focus your

19         comments specifically on the Green Acres

20         diversion.

21               Alan, you can go ahead and introduce the

22         commenter.

23               MR. BELNIAK:  Coming up next is Tim and

24         then on deck is Ed.

25               Tim, I'm going to send a command.  Please

1        state your full first and last name for the

2        court reporter.

3              MR. FLYNN:  Tim Flynn.

4              I want to thank the other two people that

5        have commented so far.  I tend to agree with

6        pretty much everything they said.  I don't

7        think that we have had the environmental

8        studies for Ocean City and the ocean as a whole

9        offshore.  I mean, if we're only talking about

10       the Green Acres portion, that wouldn't happen

11       if we didn't build the offshore portion.  So,

12       if we were to decide not to do the offshore,

13       then we wouldn't even have to worry about the

14       Green Acres portion.

15             There's a lot of risks posed by the wind

16       turbines offshore as well to migratory birds,

17       fish, wildlife.  There's nothing that's been

18       mentioned on studies that have been done about

19       things that could leak from the wind turbines,

20       any environmental impact.

21             We have a history of hurricanes in this

22       area.  Is there any studies that are done when

23       the hurricanes that could hit this area and

24       then flood the cables out under the soil

25       onshore or damage the turbines offshore.  What

1       would the impact be on that?

2            It seems that this is almost a done deal

3       and we haven't really had room for comment or

4       anything like that.  It seems like this is just

5       being pushed on Ocean City.

6            I could also say that -- I think it was

7       Suzan who mentioned, why do we have to have

8       this come onshore?  We have inlets.  Why don't

9       we put it right through the inlet?  If we're

10      going to do it, why does it have to go onshore?

11      Why dig up our shorelines?  Why is it going to

12      go to people's right next to their yards

13      really?  And they say there won't be much of an

14      impact because it's 50 feet underground.

15      Construction really tends to take a lot longer

16      than anticipated for the most part.  Maybe

17      there won't be an impact once it's built, but

18      it'll take 20 years to build this because there

19      will be delays, and issues, and any times

20      there's construction on the island, there's

21      issues.  Look at any construction that's

22      happened on the island.  So, that seems to be

23      an issue.

24            I can wrap up here.

25            I could say that I'm very much opposed to

1          this whole project and I think I speak for a

2          lot of Ocean City from what I've seen and heard

3          and just the other people on this call.  I

4          think this is not going to be the end of people

5          protesting this project.  I really hope that

6          Governor Murphy figures out, and sees what's

7          going on, and decides to cut funding for this

8          project, and hopefully Ocean City doesn't go

9          through with this.  No matter what, Ocean Wind

10         1 is going to offer to this land value, the

11         island will be forever changed by this project

12         and hopefully this isn't going through.

13              With that, I'll wrap up.

14              Thank you.

15              MS. PERRY:  Thanks, Tim.

16              Alan, next comment, please.

17              MR. BELNIAK:  Next up is Ed.

18              And, Ed, I'm going to send the command for

19     you to unmute your line.  Just as before, if

20     you could state your full first and last name

21     for the court reporter, that would be

22     appreciated.

23              Thank you.

24              MR. FINKELSTEIN:  My name is Ed

25     Finkelstein.

1          I haven't heard anything about our views

2     on 33 Street.  I haven't heard anything about

3     noise that may be generated by this project.  I

4     haven't heard anything about the view of these

5     possible turbines that are sitting out there in

6     the ocean.  And, foremost, they talk about

7     burying the cable 50 feet, obviously,

8     therefore, you're concerned about emissions,

9     and I haven't heard anything about emissions

10    that may come from these lines.

11         But I don't understand how you can have

12    public comments on a project that's not fully

13    described and vetted to begin with.  That's

14    really all that I have to add.

15         I have a property on the 3800 block of

16    Central.  That town is only 2 and a half blocks

17    away.  So, I'll obviously be impacted by this

18    project and I don't think you've made a full

19    presentation to us that present sufficient

20    facts that we can discuss the pros and cons of

21    the project.  A lot more has to be done.

22         Thank you.

23         MS. PERRY:  Thank you so much for your

24    comment, Ed.

25         Alan, next commenter, please.

1         MR. BELNIAK:  Sure.  I'll it over to a

2    text-based comment at the moment.  That

3    text-comment is from Cathy.  Actually, they're

4    back to back.  I'm guessing she must've pressed

5    enter, so I'll read them together.

6         The first part of the comment from Cathy

7    is what do the blocks and lots equate to on the

8    street map?  The second comment is what streets

9    are they?  Those are two comments from Cathy.

10        MS. PERRY:  Thanks, Cathy.

11        I'll just note here that that information

12   was in the presentation and it will be on the

13   presentation that's posted online.

14        MR. BELNIAK:  Going to take one more

15   text-based comment before we go back to a

16   raised hand.

17        Another text-based comes from is Larry

18   Tusliszewski.  Larry comments what are

19   appraised values of the easements?

20        With that, I will go to another hand

21   raised.  If you're reading any prepared

22   comments as I think we had someone else before,

23   if you could just please read them slowly

24   because we do have a court reporter.

25        With that, Greg.

1            MR. CUDNIK:  Gregory Graham Cudnik; I'm

2       fully opposed to this project and what's being

3       put forth here this evening.

4            There's really no compelling need.  The

5       project is not solving climate change, is not

6       solving sea level rise.  What it's doing is

7       actually putting a community and ocean in grave

8       jeopardy.  This is all really being forced on

9       us by executive order.  And it's fully

10      government overreach like our wind farms owned

11      by Ørsted.

12           We have Ørsted representatives here

13      tonight.  Glad to hear all their stories about

14      their success, however, there's many, many

15      documented failures one after the other.  I've

16      got 2 minutes and 25 seconds left.  There's not

17      nearly enough time to touch on 1, 2, or even 3

18      of them.  It's an utter failure.  If you're

19      going to go forward with it, great, you're

20      already on point; if not, read up, research,

21      Google is your best friend --

22                      (Inaudible.)

23           -- wind farms utter failure.  You've

24      shown --

25                      (Inaudible.)

1    -- very much angry what's taking place in

2    this meeting and what's taking place in the

3    past.  I'm not a resident there.  I'm not a

4    resident of Ocean City.  I live on Long Beach

5    Island but I can tell you a local gas meter

6    project, horizontal drilling, that's failed

7    three times on my block.  I'm a proponent of

8    natural gas.  I believe it is the best source

9    of energy right now that we have.  That will

10   probably be the way that we balance out this

11   disaster we call wind energy that's coming.

12   Small nuclear reactors and fusion will be

13   filling those gaps as well.

14        This must not be approved.  There's no

15   action that needs to take place.  There's no

16   compelling need.  The public did not vote for

17   this.  Once again, this is being forced by

18   executive order that's already been described

19   here tonight.

20        I agree with many of the things have

21   already been stated before by many of these

22   other presenters.  I appreciate everyone coming

23   out tonight.  I'll say it's pathetic there's

24   only 100 people on this call, it should be 500,

25   or 1,000, or more.  Most people have a clue

1    what's taking place.  Those people are coming

2    out and listening.  Hopefully, you will listen

3    up to the other people who speak tonight and

4    dive in and research more about these topics.

5    There's so many things I could talk about from

6    the risks to the wildlife, risks to

7    communities, it just goes on, and on, and on.

8         I encourage you to check out

9    ProtectOurCoastNJ.com.  Your donation of $1,

10   $10, $1,000 is greatly appreciated.

11                    (Inaudible.)

12        -- to move forward with a suit.  The Town

13   of Ocean City does not sue someone.  There's

14   already been lawsuits moving forward in my

15   local town of Long Beach Island by Save LBI,

16   which is one of the town's organizations.

17   Protect Our Coast is also working to try to

18   stop these as best as possible.

19        I appreciate everyone coming out and

20   listening.  With 9 seconds left to go, I want

21   to say thank you all for listening and just

22   basically call a spade a spade, and do your

23   research, and get out there, and make your

24   voices heard, and do everything you can stop

25   this utter failure before we're looking back at

1      this 10, 20 years from now saying man what did

2      we actually fall into?  This is an ugly snake

3      pit called wind.

4          MS. PERRY:  Thank you for your comments.

5          Alan, please present the next commenter.

6          MR. BELNIAK:  I'd like to recognize Robert

7      Moss.

8          Robert, I'm going to send the command for

9      you to unmute your mic.

10          With that, you've got 3 minutes with us

11     here this evening to share your comment or

12     comments.

13          MR. MOSS:  Did I get through?

14          MR. BELNIAK:  Yes, you did.

15          MR. MOSS:  I actually don't have anything

16     different to say than what I've put in my text

17     messages.  You might probably want to skip any

18     of them.  I'd like people to hear -- you know

19     what I mean, not text messages, but the thing

20     on the screen here -- this project -- just a

21     couple things.  There's no compelling need

22     here.  The regulations are very clear.  A

23     compelling need requires that there be a -- it

24     has to be a project that mitigating a hazard to

25     the public health, safety, or welfare that's in

1          the regulations 7:36-261D1i.  Quite honestly,

2          this project could get in under the next one

3          ii, but it's important because the applicants

4          in these diversions -- I've been following them

5          since 2010.  The applicants in these

6          diversions, and the Green Acres staff, and the

7          court, are toting towards the applicants and

8          they're just careless in their applications.

9          They'll say anything without regards to the

10         facts.  It reflects an attitude they know

11         they're going to get what they want.

12             Now, we have people working to tighten up

13         the regulation laws.  We're just getting

14         started, unfortunately.  That's what we're

15         seeing here again.  The other thing I'll

16         quickly ask, I heard the number a couple times,

17         10 times the appraised value.  Why is nobody --

18         why were no private parcels considered for this

19         project instead of public, supposedly protected

20         forever, beach.  If they're paying 10 times the

21         appraised value for the lease, or whatever, for

22         the easement, I guess, everything was going too

23         fast for me, but 10 times the appraised value.

24         This can be done on private property.  An

25         eminent domain can be used.  What they're

1       doing, for whatever reason, they think the

2       public land is the easiest to use, and they're

3       going to grant that, and it's going to be gone.

4       And this has been happening for -- at a fast

5       peace for the last 12 years or so.  It's going

6       to keep happening until we have no public open

7       space.

8             This thing should go back to square one

9       and be designed if it's going to be built at

10      all in deference to -- I know a lot of people

11      here are much more hot about it than I am --

12      but it's going to be done at all, there's no

13      reason to use Green Acres land.  I was looking

14      at the map.  I'm new to this.  I don't live in

15      Ocean City but I do follow Green Acres

16      diversions around the state and this has got

17      all the same characteristics.  Use of private

18      land is a reasonable alternative and should be

19      considered.

20            Thank you.

21            MS. PERRY:  Robert, thank you very much

22      for your comment.

23            Alan, move on to the next commenter,

24      please.

25            MR. BELNIAK:  Certainly.  Just, again, for

1 a point of order to let people know, we do have

2 198 people in attendance.  We have of those 8

3 are using a telephone.  I do see 6 raised hands

4 and right now 12 comments in the Q and A as

5 Robert alluded to a moment ago, some of which

6 are his.  Some also are people who have also

7 commented as well.

8 We're going to endeavor to get people who

9 have not commented yet in either format first.

10 I just want to let you all know that we do see

11 your comments coming in for sure.

12 The -- next, we'll do a text-based

13 comment.  That text-based comment is there's no

14 actual name given.  It's simply from no

15 windmills.  And that comment is:  For the

16 record, will the windmills be visible from the

17 Ocean City beach/shoreline?  I apologize.

18 There is a name given, Patrick McCowen, Ocean

19 City homeowner.

20 Next, we'll go back to a raised hand.  The

21 next hand raised I see is Shawn Raymond.

22 MR. RAYMOND:  I will keep my comments to

23 the subject at hand which is the Green Acres

24 diversion and the land required for that.  I do

25 also want to thank the team hosting this call

1          for your patience and apologize for some of the

2          harsh and conservatorial comments that you're

3          receiving.

4               The one point I would just like to make as

5          someone who has spent a great deal of my life

6          in this town is that there's a ton of

7          infrastructure including electricity

8          infrastructure already in our sightlines that

9          we take very little note of.  It's basically

10         part of our day to day lives.  We looked down

11         34 Street and we see tremendous electricity

12         lines.  We see parking lots, enormous grocery

13         stores.  I think you said it was about a 25- or

14         30-foot wide line that you'll be developing

15         entirely underground.  I think it's very

16         insincere or even dishonest to accuse Ørsted of

17         destroying sightlines or valuable real estate

18         and property when in all likelihood this is

19         going to be almost invisible to the naked eye.

20              I support the project.  I'm grateful for

21         your work on this.  I would encourage the

22         skeptics or outright opponents to be a little

23         more honest in what, if anything, this will add

24         to their view compared to their day-to-day

25         lives already.

1            MS. PERRY:  Thank you for your comment,

2      Shawn.

3            Alan, next comment please.

4            MR. BELNIAK:  Next is Marcus Sibley.  On

5      deck is Kathy and then after that we will flip

6      to text-based comments.

7            With that, Marcus Sibley, you should have

8      a command to open your line.  And once you do,

9      I'll give you a fresh 3 minutes.  Just as

10     before, looking forward to hearing you state

11     your name for the court reporter and keeping

12     your comments pertaining to the diversion

13     project.

14           MR. SIBLEY:  I'm the Environmental Climate

15     Justice Chairman for the New Jersey NAACP.

16           I just wanted to weigh in really quickly.

17     I really appreciated all the different comments

18     from all the representatives thus far.

19           I just want to point out three things that

20     are really important that I think the developer

21     needs to pay attention to; optics, economics,

22     and inconvenience.

23           I think the optics are important.  People

24     have been coming to the beach or area their

25     entire lives and they're afraid something that

1      has nostalgia is going to be impacted.  I think

2      it's important for the developer to make it

3      very clear.  To clear up any misconception that

4      there may be about what's going to come with

5      the project, I think that the onus is on the

6      developer to make that apparent.

7             Economics, the jobs, what is the

8      information, more transparency about the jobs.

9      Will they be long term?  Short term?  What are

10     the qualifications?  I think that's important.

11            Number 3, inconvenience, being very

12     clearly with people about how long the project

13     will take, what is the accurate space that's

14     going to be required and time that's going to

15     be required.  Some person spoke to the sound.

16     I think it's important -- it's incumbent upon

17     the developer.  I understand you want to focus

18     on this particular issue, but at the end of the

19     day people are curious in general what does

20     that project entail.

21            The other piece of it is I think there

22     needs to be a lot of information, a lot more

23     education because I've heard claims tonight

24     that completely contradict information that I

25     get on a daily basis.  And what I'm not going

1           to do, I'm not going to call out people.  I'm

2           going to encourage the developer to make

3           information is readily available because I

4           heard many claims tonight that were just simply

5           not true.

6                One thing I will point out, climate change

7           is real, regardless how you feel about it.  It

8           is real.  We have many examples showing that

9           climate change is real.  It's impacting our

10          shorelines; it's impacting our sea level.  It

11          impacts everything.

12               So, regardless of how you feel about it, I

13          think it's important we provide more education.

14          So, people have the opportunity to get things

15          that they didn't hear even if it isn't

16          comfortable, I think it's important that the

17          information is available.  Again, I think it's

18          incumbent upon the developer to make sure that

19          information is out there because people are

20          legitimately nervous and help people understand

21          that if this is something you're doing, show

22          people why it matters, not just for the people

23          on the shore, show why would it should matter

24          for people, Black people, Brown people across

25          the state, why should they care about it?  So,

1          what efforts are you making to make sure

2          everyone knows why this is something that they

3          should be paying attention to.

4               I just want to make sure both sides have

5          an opportunity to be heard and making sure that

6          people realize that this is important because

7          if you don't provide the education, people only

8          have to go off their assumption.

9               Thank you for the time and I appreciate

10         this opportunity.

11              MS. PERRY:  Marcus, thank you so much for

12         your comment.

13              Alan, if you could go to the next

14         commenter, please.

15              MR. BELNIAK:  We'll do another hand raise

16         and then we'll flip to a text-based comment.

17              Next hand raised is Cathy.  Cathy, just

18         like the others, I'll send a command to you to

19         open your line and you'll have 3 minutes to

20         share your comment on the presentation this

21         evening.

22              MS. INGHAM:  The only reason I'm on the

23         call is that NBC News today made a brief

24         mention that this Zoom meeting was occurring

25         and I had to contact city hall to find out the

1     link.  You would have more opposition if more

2     homeowners and renters knew about this.

3          To the previous commenter, Shawn, this

4     will be totally from our shoreline.  I know

5     what the dimensions are of the windmills and

6     they're closer than Atlantic City and higher

7     than the tallest casino, which is easily

8     visible from our shoreline in Ocean City.  If

9     the windmills were 50 miles offshore and not

10    visible, it would have less of an impact.

11    Although the issues raised previously about

12    impacts by hurricanes, and what you do with

13    them when -- do you ever get rid of them when

14    they're -- we read about windmills that when

15    they're end of life, they're just left there.

16    And if you want us to accept climate change,

17    find a property to install these that are less

18    tourist attractions.

19          I was out west and I saw a lot of wind

20    farms in isolated areas.

21          Also, we have three branches of

22    government.  We are not a totalitarian

23    government.  This should not have been

24    implemented by executive order.  This is

25    America.  We the people should have had a vote

1      on this project and our vote would've been

2      known.  Ocean City should not have had the

3      ability to object removed.

4           This will destroy our beautiful beach

5      community.  Having a wind farm off our

6      beautiful shore is unthinkable.  God made our

7      beach and the beautiful view and you have no

8      right to destroy that.  This will destroy our

9      tourism and our property values.  I and all my

10     renters are totally against this.  And

11     hopefully vote out of office responsible all

12     those responsible for promoting this project

13     like the upset election of Ed Darr.  And I know

14     a truck driver, Steve Sweeney, the New Jersey

15     State senate president, that promoted this

16     project.  I am praying this project is stopped.

17          Thank you.

18          MS. PERRY:  Cathy, thank you so much for

19     your comment.

20          I just want to provide another quick

21     reminder for tonight's hearing, we are focusing

22     only on the proposed Green Acres parkland

23     diversion in Ocean City.  Please do try to

24     focus your comments specifically on the Green

25     Acres diversion.

1          Alan, you can move on to the commenter,

2     please.

3          MR. BELNIAK:  Okay, thank you.

4          We'll take two text-based comments so we

5     can moderate our floors here.

6          Next text-based comment from someone we

7     haven't heard yet is from Nancy Pina.  Nancy

8     comments:  Have there been environmental impact

9     studies on the health safety of these EMS

10    cables?  I am seeing studies that they increase

11    leukemia in children under 15 among other

12    cancers in adults living nearby.

13         Moving to the next text-based comment, the

14    next is one from Mark, it looks like it's Mark

15    Hornick.  Mark comments what measures will be

16    taken to prevent permanent damage to wetlands

17    along Roosevelt Boulevard which is a habitat of

18    numerous marine animals and birds.

19         Thank you for those comments.

20         Now, I will move back to hands raised.

21    Looking for people we haven't heard from yet.

22         The next one I see we'll start with Sue

23    Ann Martino and then on deck is Reverend Beth

24    Mallozzi, depending on how Reverend Beth says

25    that.

1            First is Sue Ann Martino.

2            MS. MARTINO:  My name is Ray Martino.

3            My first comment is when they put this up

4      in Block Island, there was a storm and a month

5      later the cable was actually laying in the

6      surf.  And even though people have talked about

7      50 feet, nobody has mentioned the most

8      important thing, and that is the depth of the

9      cable.  And there were no comments of what it's

10     going to be in the surf.

11            And I can make a comment that when we had

12     a major storm back in the '60s where the ocean

13     met the bay, we ended up with you could walk

14     underneath the cement of the house which means

15     something like 10 or 15 feet of sand was washes

16     away, this cable.  Then, at that point when you

17     wash away, you will have EMS problems and the

18     World Health Organization has made it a class

19     2B human carcinogen and child leukemia is

20     possible.

21            Second, the cable itself cannot be

22     shielded by plastic alone.  It breaks down

23     even.  With the steel reinforced, the coded

24     steel reinforced, they still can't protect

25     damage to the cable which causes shorts, so

1       they use lead and lead is used over top of the

2       copper that's carrying the electricity.  Lead

3       is very dangerous, dangerous in the ocean,

4       dangerous on the beach, and never be used in a

5       public beach where we have thousands of people.

6              And also, I know we're only supposed to

7       comment on the cable, but these wind turbines,

8       the gearbox failures are significant where the

9       gears and bearings fail.  The generator

10      failures are mainly caused by bearings.  They

11      show failure modes.  And so, this is not

12      reliable power for New Jersey.  I do not want

13      my power dependent upon these windmills.

14             So, they're -- also, these cables are

15      damaged by wildlife and also dragging cables

16      that can pull these things up and damage them.

17      This is not a reliable system.  And I believe

18      will be dangerous by bringing it on a public

19      beach where there are thousands of children

20      over the summertime.

21             Thank you.

22             MS. PERRY:  Thank you for your comment.

23      Alan, next comment, please.

24             Next, we'll turn to Reverend Beth

25      Mallozzi.

1            REVEREND MALLOZZI:  My name is Elizabeth

2       Mallozzi.  The importance of our cooperation in

3       this project cannot be overstated.  Ocean City

4       has people that know our turf and know it well.

5       I want their influence as we contribute to the

6       positive impact away from fossil fuel use,

7       toward clean power, which is an urgent

8       compelling need that needs to be addressed.

9            As a resident, I want Ocean City to have

10      maximum benefits as well for the potential

11      impact on our community as well as the

12      diversions being proposed.  What additional

13      benefits can be offered?

14            I also want to thank you those who are

15      deeply involved for your research and care of

16      the people who are being impacted, for

17      listening the concerns, and hearing of the

18      problems so that they can be addressed.

19            I also want to thank you for what you do

20      to impact the many who will benefit at its

21      completion.

22            Thank you for carefully studying all of

23      the challenges that are facing wind power and

24      learning from the past so that we're not facing

25      the issues that have been named or that have

1        been a part of the history of wind power in its

2        less desirable ways.

3              That's it, thank you.

4              MS. PERRY:  Thank you so much for your

5        comments, Reverend Elizabeth.

6              MR. BELNIAK:  I'll turn to the two

7        text-based comments and then we'll go back to

8        the raised hand.

9              The next text-based comment is from

10       Deborah Fox Walsh.  And Deborah comments:  I

11       think this project is a good idea as a clean

12       energy source, but my concern is safety.

13             While the HDD construction for completed

14       project present any risk to public during

15       everyday use, will storms or flooding on the

16       Island of Ocean City, and Marmora, and

17       Beesley's Point be a problem and create a

18       hazardous situation?

19             The line goes directly under the southern

20       edge of the Green Acres playground on 34 and 35

21       Street, under the beach, and in the

22       neighborhood under streets, bridges, and

23       Roosevelt Boulevard, under and through

24       wetlands, the bay, and under the New Jersey

25       parkway.  Are there any risks to humans and

1      wildlife around the entire vicinity of the

2      project?  What about boats and aircrafts around

3      the turbines and how will they be protected?

4           Thank you, Deborah Fox Walsh.

5           One more text-based comment and we'll go

6      back to raised hands.  Next text-based comment

7      is from Kathy.  Kathy said that did not answer

8      the question as to what streets are impacted by

9      the blocks.

10          My apologies, Kathy.  You commented

11     earlier.  I'm trying to get to the new

12     commenters first and then if there's time at

13     the end, we'll come back to people who have

14     already had the opportunity.

15          With that flipping, over to the raised

16     hands, next up is Robin Shaffer and on deck is

17     Patty Cronheim.

18          Robin, I'm going to send the command to

19     you to open your mic, unmute your line.  With

20     that, just like the others, you'll have a fresh

21     3 minutes to share your comments with the

22     group.

23          MR. SHAFFER:  Hi, good evening.  Thank you

24     very much.

25          I live in Ocean City.  I do want to thank

1       the presenters for being here this evening.

2          I wanted to also cite an earlier

3       commenter, Marcus Sibley.  I'm not sure if I

4       got his last name correct, but I appreciate his

5       comment because one of things that I think is

6       problematic here, not just about the Green

7       Acres diversion, but the project as a whole is

8       that this is being ran through and imposed upon

9       the residents of the region without our buy in.

10          We're the ones that are going to have to

11      deal with the impacts and we're not.  It feels

12      like both the government of New Jersey,

13      Governor Murphy, and Ørsted, they're not

14      working with us to educate us about what this

15      project -- what benefits this project might

16      have for Ocean City.  All I see as of benefit

17      of the city is -- I see visual impact.  I see

18      substantial negatives to wildlife with

19      migratory habits, waterfowl.  I see land being

20      grabbed from Ocean City without the support or

21      approval of our city.  Our town's rights are

22      being stripped away.

23          What you have -- I see this is the basic

24      elements of why not in my backyard exists if

25      you don't work hand in glove with the people

1          whose lives you're going effect, you're going

2          to get this kind of opposition.  I have to say

3          I'm 100 percent opposed to this project because

4          of the way this is being ran through.  I wish

5          it was being done in a different way.

6              I actually do believe in clean energy.  I

7          just don't believe that this project -- that

8          enough study has been done on this project and

9          I don't believe that this is the right place

10         and right time for it.

11             Thank you.

12             MS. PERRY:  Thanks for your comment.

13             Next commenter, please.

14             MR. BELNIAK:  Just to bring everyone up to

15         speed, we currently have 168 attendees, 7 of

16         which are joined via telephone.  There are 8

17         raised hands, none on the telephone.  We have a

18         handful of comments.  I'm saying handful

19         because there are several comments that are

20         doubled up or tripled from people who have

21         already commented before so it's hard me to

22         discern the new comments.  Just want to give a

23         context of what's going on.

24             With that, I'm going to turn to Patty

25         Cronheim.

1          MR. CRONHEIM:  My name is Patty Cronheim

2      and I'm the Campaigns Director for the New

3      Jersey League of Conservation Voter.  The

4      League of Conservation Voters, we elect

5      environmentally responsible candidates.  We

6      advocate a strong environment policy and we

7      hold our elected officials accountable to

8      safeguard the health of our community, and the

9      beauty of our state, and the strength of our

10     economy.

11          I also facilitate New Jersey Wind Works,

12     which is a coalition of 14 environmental

13     organizations that support offshore wind as we

14     recognize it is an important tool in fighting

15     against climate change and a very important

16     part of New Jersey's affordable energy future

17     along with solar.

18          I just wanted to say in terms of Green

19     Acre diversion, I was heartened to hear that

20     you're going to be doing the construction off

21     season because we certainly don't want any

22     construction, any more than is needed for the

23     Ocean City economy and the streets ripped out

24     not during the summer.  It's really important.

25          We also would like there to be no net loss

1          for Green Acres.  For the approximately .8

2          acres, we would like to see that Green Acres

3          applied somewhere else.

4               MR. BELNIAK:  Patty, I want to pause you

5          for 1 second.  We do have a court reporter and

6          if you could slow it down just a bit.  I just

7          want to make sure it gets accurately captioned.

8               MR. CRONHEIM:  Give me 5 more seconds.

9               The biggest threat to our ocean is not

10         turbines, it's climate change.  It's the

11         decreased temperature that destroyed ecosystems

12         and rising waters.  Our coast in New Jersey and

13         our coastlines in New Jersey are more --

14                         (Inaudible.)

15         -- than anywhere else in the country and

16         we recognize that and how important this is to

17         help fight that.

18              Personally, I'm really heartened by the

19         where the cable is coming on the line and where

20         it's connecting at BL England, the BL England

21         site.  I was one of the --

22                         (Inaudible.)

23         -- and conversion of that whole plant

24         which is polluting this community.  It was

25         going to be converted into a gas plant.  It

1    would've created many hundreds of tons of

2    undisturbed matter, VFC, and hazardous air

3    pollutants.  Those smokestacks are planned to

4    be coming down by the developer and instead

5    will have developed into something that really

6    would be an asset to the area and also have the

7    interconnect at the cable there.  And that's

8    just for energy that's in a stored --

9                    (Inaudible.)

10    -- I just want to end by saying for every

11    gigawatt of offshore wind that is produced,

12    that's the equivalent of a large gas power

13    plant that pollutes many of the people of New

14    Jersey.  We all breathe the air but especially

15    in the low-income communities of color that

16    tend to live closer to the power plant.  There

17    is a lot, a lot of benefit to New Jersey that

18    comes from producing offshore wind and

19    producing power in a clean way.

20        Thank you very much for your time and for

21    holding this scoping hearing.

22        MS. PERRY:  Thank you so much.

23        Alan, next commenter, please.

24        MR. BELNIAK:  For those of you who have

25    prepared your remarks for your 3 minutes today,

1        thank you very much for doing so for the

2        diligence.  If you could, just please speak at

3        just a slightly slower pace to make sure the

4        court reporter can accurately capture your

5        comments.

6               With that, I'm going to flip over to a

7        text-based comment, but on deck, please Jane

8        Kegelman.  Please get ready.  And then after

9        that, Robert Zuczek.  Hopefully, I said that

10       name correctly.  I'm sure I'll find out in just

11       a moment if I did or didn't.  But while Jane

12       and Robert get ready to get their mics to come

13       on the line, I'm going to read a comment from

14       John Joyce.  John types I'm incredibly

15       concerned about the wind turbines being

16       installed as a green alternative while reading

17       articles by people like Tom Leonard in

18       Sweetwater, Texas identifying the significant

19       environmental impact of the turbines occupying

20       many acres of landfill in Texas.  He had

21       discussed 4,000 worn out turbines occupying 25

22       acres of landfill.  They seemingly cannot be

23       recycled and also pose risks for leaking oil,

24       catching fire, and freezing in cold climates.

25       I oppose the project, John Joyce.

1           One more text-based comment before we flip

2      over to Jane.  And the comment is from Ed

3      Nebloch and Ed comments:  I am Ed Nebloch and I

4      wish to express my complete support for the

5      proposed Ocean Wind energy project.  Climate

6      change and ocean rise is real.  What is the

7      designed lifetime of the installed cables?

8      Will installed cable capacity surpass the

9      initial wind farm capacity?

10          Thank you.

11          MS. PERRY:  Before we move on, I just want

12     to thank those text-based comments for

13     providing those comments.  Just, again, to

14     remind folks that we are hoping that you'll

15     focus your comments specifically on the Green

16     Acres diversion here this evening.

17          Thanks so much.

18          MR. BELNIAK:  Thank you, Katharine, to

19     keep us on track.

20          Next, as I mentioned a moment age, is --

21     hopefully I'm saying this right -- is Jane

22     Kegelman.

23          MS. KEGELMAN:  My name is Jane Kegelman

24     and we own property 35 and Central.  We are one

25     house from the beach.  I did get a certified

1          mail, which I didn't find quickly enough, so I

2          came to this meeting.  My question is if this

3          goes through, and I'm not a proponent of it at

4          all, but if it goes through how will it affect

5          our home?  Our view of the beech?  I know

6          you're saying it's going to be 50 feet

7          underground, but you also own a portion of the

8          beach now if this goes through.  Will it have

9          signage on the beach saying this is a windmill

10         line?  How do you foresee what's going on?  And

11         what happens with the drilling of all of this

12         and the way the ocean could flood since we're

13         on the high point of the island and we've

14         always been happy to know that we are safer

15         than many other areas.  Will this all impact

16         everything?  How is it going to impact our home

17         when all of this is being done?  Will there be

18         damage to our home?  I'm more concerned with

19         the actual not having the windmills go in.  But

20         if this happens, I want to know how is it going

21         to impact our home?

22              That's it.

23              MS. PERRY:  Thank you, Jane.

24              Next comment please, Alan.

25              MR. BELNIAK:  Sure.  On deck is Robert

1       Zuczek.  Hopefully, I'm saying that correctly,

2       Robert.  Then, we'll do two text-based comments

3       and then we'll come back.

4            Robert, there should be a command for you

5       to open up your line.

6            MR. ZUCZEK:  You were close, not too bad.

7            My comment is that I find this public

8       meeting or hearing completely oxymoronic simply

9       for the fact that Ocean City has been shut out

10      from their ability to have any say in what is

11      happening with this project.  It goes against

12      all constitutional principles that our country

13      was founded upon.  We do not do things in this

14      country by executive fiat.  If this project is

15      so spectacular, it should've been put up by

16      referendum in the state for citizens to vote

17      upon.  You are going to destroy one of God's

18      greatest natural resources that he has provided

19      to this good earth all in the name of money

20      done by an executive order of a governor.  It

21      is truly unbelievable that Ocean City has no

22      say in this.

23           I appreciate all the comments that --

24      former comments have made.  I am completely

25      against this project, agree wholeheartedly with

1      the comments that have been made against this

2      project and I hope that it never happens.

3            Thank you for the opportunity.

4            MS. PERRY:  Thank you so much.

5            MR. BELNIAK:  I'm now going to turn to a

6      couple text-based comments and then we'll come

7      back to some raised hands.  Those raised hands,

8      Tony Butch, you're on deck and then Gianna

9      Marrese you are after that, so please get ready

10     after these next text comments.

11           The next comment from someone we haven't

12     heard from yet is from Cindi Sutera.  And Cindi

13     comments:  I am a homeowner in Ocean City.

14     This project is disaster.

15           And next text-based comment is from

16     someone we haven't heard from is Mike, Mike

17     Deeb.  Mike has two comments separated by a

18     carriage return.  Mike comments:  Good day.

19     Can you explain why if the law requires that

20     the project provide funds for the replacement

21     of three times the total acreage to be diverted

22     and compensate Ocean City for the value of the

23     easement that the project is offering 10X the

24     appraised value and the diverted parcels?  Why

25     offer more when the law only requires 3X the

1       appraised value?

2             Thank you, Mike.

3             I will now flip to Tony Butch and then

4       next is Gianna Marrese.

5             Tony, you should now have a command to

6       open your line.  Just a reminder, like the

7       others, please state your name for the court

8       report and you'll have 3 minutes to share your

9       comment on the diversion project.

10            MR. BUTCH:  Tony Butch.  Based on the

11      project and where you're going, the one thing

12      that kind of sticks out is that we're all

13      probably have a keystone external pipeline with

14      everything that's going on and I remember when

15      that was going down, there were a lot of people

16      that were upset about eminent domain, and

17      people's property being taken from this

18      pipeline, and that's what's happening here, and

19      just kind of coming in and taking this piece of

20      property that belongs to the people of Ocean

21      City and doing what you want with it.  When it

22      turns that there's a lot of people that aren't

23      in support have been kind of shut out of this

24      conversation based on the current

25      administration we have in D.C. as well as our

1    state administration.

2        It's just crazy to think that what's

3    happening at such a big magnitude is going in.

4    If we were really concerned about climate

5    change and taking care of the emissions and

6    going out there, then nuclear should be what we

7    should be looking at.  We keep being told over

8    and over again that Europe is so far ahead of

9    us, decades ahead of us, they have hundreds of

10   thousands of turbines out there.  I don't know

11   what you've seen but I still see their coastal

12   communities flooding.  I still see storms

13   hitting their beaches.  When are we going to

14   see when the return is going to come there?  We

15   have countries like Germany that were really,

16   really far down the line with wind energy and

17   now they're scaling back.  You have countries

18   like France that didn't take that extremely

19   like we're looking to take here and they put

20   their money in nuclear and they're producing

21   less carbon emissions than Germany is who is

22   one of the leaders in wind.

23        I just don't think what's going on here is

24   the right way to go with it.  I think it's

25   happening too fast, too quick.  I think by the

1       time we started to build if it happens to get

2       there, that the technology is going to outpace

3       and these things are already old, it's not

4       quite there yet, and given the no battery

5       storage, only giving energy when the wind

6       blows, I think there's a lot of information

7       that people aren't having access to.  If people

8       want to see what's going on in Europe and what

9       happened there, they could check out

10      ProtectOurCoastNJ.com.

11           Thank you.

12           MS. PERRY:  Thank you for your comment.

13           Alan, next comment, please.

14           MR. BELNIAK:  Next is Giana Marrese.  I'm

15      going to send the command for you to open your

16      line.

17           And just for everyone's context, we have

18      154 attendees, 4 raised hands, including

19      Gianna's which we're going to get to in just a

20      moment, we've got a handful of new comments in

21      text form which we'll get to also as well.

22           With that, Gianna, you should now have a

23      command to open your line.  I'm going reset the

24      clock here.  With that, you can share your name

25      for the court reporter and 3 minutes for your

1    comments with the group.

2         MS. MARRESE:  Good evening.  My name is

3    Gianna Marrese.

4         I am opposed to this project and I will

5    say there must be no action taken because

6    there's no compelling need.  I will say our sea

7    level rise is real.  Climate change is real.

8    However, this project isn't going to solve

9    these problems; if anything, it's just going to

10    create more environmental problems.  You can

11    definitely learn about this on

12    ProtectOurCoastNJ.com,

13    P-R-O-T-E-C-TOurCoastNJ.com.

14         I want to know when are you guys going to

15    answer these questions from the public because

16    it seems like there's a lot of valid questions

17    and they're just not getting answered like we

18    were told they would be answered.  And I want

19    to know when there will be a public meeting in

20    person that people can ask.  It's kind of

21    pathetic with the lack of public awareness and

22    notification of this meeting.  Poor Jane, she's

23    a homeowner and she had no idea about this

24    project.  You guys should be knocking door to

25    door asking them how they feel about this

1          project.  Poor Jane had no idea.

2              I mean look at the attendance.  It speaks

3          for itself right now.

4              Again, if you want to learn more, please

5          visit ProtectOurCoastNJ.com.

6              Thank you.

7              MS. PERRY:  Thank you, Gianna.  Next

8          comment, Alan.

9              MR. BELNIAK:  Next comment is from L Logan

10         in the text.  And L Logan comments if this

11         project is forced through, is there an

12         opportunity to bury the current overhead

13         electric lines along Roosevelt Boulevard as

14         part of this project to create a more

15         attractive entranceway into the city?  This

16         would be an example of the project leaving

17         things in a better condition as noted in the

18         presentation as a goal, Leslie Logan.

19             We'll do another text-based comment and

20         then Carla Joyce, just a head's up, for a hand

21         raise, you are on deck.  But first this

22         text-based comment from Craig Adler.  I was

23         late to the meeting.  If this was discussed, no

24         need to share.  Are you able to share any

25         issues that occurred in other previous

1        installations in sustained operations of

2        offshore wind projects?  Also, explain the

3        preventative maintenance program to ensure

4        install safety and environmental safety.

5              So, now flipping back to hand raise again

6        I just mentioned a moment ago Carla Joyce and

7        then on deck is Rachel Dawn Davis.

8              Carla, we will send the command to you to

9        open your line.  I'm going to reset the clock

10       here.  Hopefully, you can see it on the screen

11       3 minutes.  Please state your name for the

12       court reporter and share it with the group.

13             MS. JOYCE:  My name is Carla Joyce.

14             Can you hear me okay?

15             MR. BELNIAK:  Yes, we can.

16             MS. JOYCE:  I'm with Gianna.  I came to

17       the meeting today hoping for some answers.

18       I've heard a lot of good questions, a lot of

19       concerns that any citizen of our city would be

20       concerned about and yet no answers from

21       anybody.  Is there going to be a meeting when

22       we can actually have some answers and

23       discussions about this?  And maybe the concerns

24       we have aren't real but we don't know that

25       until the questions are asked and answered.

1           That's really all I had to say.

2           MS. PERRY:  Thank you, Carla.

3           I do just want to note this is a scoping

4     hearing so we are collecting comments this

5     evening.  At the close of the comment period,

6     we will be preparing a response to comment

7     document that addressed the comments we

8     received tonight.

9           Thank you.

10          MR. BELNIAK:  Next, as I mentioned before,

11    on deck is Rachel Dawn Davis and after Rachel

12    is Eileen Murphy.

13          With that, Rachel Dawn Davis, I'm going to

14    send a command to you to open up your mic.

15          MS. DAVIS:  Rachel Davis, I'm public

16    policy and justice organizer for Water Spirit,

17    a non-partisan, non-profit spiritual ecology

18    center and ministry of the Sisters of St.

19    Joseph of Peace.

20          I agree and echo what Marcus Sibley,

21    M.S.W., shared and some others that the onus is

22    on the developer to ramp up the educational

23    effort in the surrounding communities as well

24    as across the entire state.  It is clear

25    tonight is only a fraction of representation,

1       right, as was mentioned earlier.

2           I would like more information on what job

3       training options, licenses necessary for the

4       work to be done for those jobs to be local if

5       this goes through, mainly for repairs and

6       maintenance specific to this Green Acres piece

7       as well as overall.  We agree that the EIS

8       studies must be done with respect to this

9       diversion and that Ocean City's community be

10      fully engaged.  It is vital that all renewable

11      energy resources are scrutinized to the fullest

12      extent including radiation and we must focus on

13      getting off gas, which is not natural, is not

14      reliable, ravages creation, wastes fresh water.

15      It's also not subject to any oversight or

16      regulations through legislative loopholes.

17      It's not subject to the Clean Air Act, the

18      Drinking Water Act, et cetera.  We are talking

19      point today that are 12 years old.  Again, the

20      education needs to be done.

21          Gas is not a necessary bridge fuel.  All

22      solutions like this perpetuate the choking of

23      our beloved ocean.  Fossil fuel emissions,

24      mainly methane, are exacerbating the major

25      storm and climate crises we are literally

1          experiencing for years now.

2                  High quality of life is important for

3          everyone throughout the state.  And no child is

4          more worthy than clean air or water than any

5          other.  We support renewable energy done right

6          and will continue to bear witness and remind

7          everyone that community knows itself fact and

8          is important to listen and learn from

9          community.

10                 Thank you.

11                 MS. PERRY:  Thank you so much for that

12         innocent.

13                 Next comment, Alan, please.

14                 MR. BELNIAK:  Next commenter is Eileen

15         Murphy.  Eileen, I'm going to send the command

16         to you open your mic and on deck is Mike Tobin.

17                 MS. MURPHY:  I'm Eileen Murphy with New

18         Jersey Audubon.

19                 So, in addition to our mission connecting

20         people with nature, we have a research

21         department that conducts studies on migratory

22         shore birds and is intimately and expansively

23         following the potential impacts on wind

24         turbines on birds and wildlife.  I can't tell

25         you how gladdened I am to share about the

1　concerns that residents have about wildlife and

2　birds and I share those concerns.  And I'd like

3　folks to know that New Jersey Audubon has been

4　reviewing offshore wind projects for many, many

5　years.  And, in fact, we were opposed to the

6　original use variance that were only 3 miles

7　offshore as they really impacted the pathways

8　of the migratory birds.  However, we do support

9　the current development plans at the 15 miles

10　offshore.  We feel those are responsibly cited.

11　　　　For tonight, regarding the impacts of the

12　cabling specifically, we have reviewed the data

13　and we reviewed the data from other states with

14　similar issues, looking at the potential

15　impacts, nesting birds, and we have concluded

16　that any impacts are temporary and minor.

17　　　　On the other hand, impacts due to climate

18　change and the rising seas that result have a

19　significant and permanent impact on birds their

20　habitat and other wildlife.  I do want to call

21　attention to folks who are interested in more

22　information on the offshore wind impacts on

23　wildlife including the cabling issues to a

24　really robust data set.  The new regional

25　wildlife science entity -- and I'll give you

1          the website for that -- it has consolidated the

2          research from all the states along the Atlantic

3          seaboard, so that scientists from Massachusetts

4          and Maine can share their information with

5          scientists from North Carolina, and Georgia,

6          and New Jersey.  New Jersey Audubon is a member

7          of that entity and we both contribute to and

8          learn from the many scientists within that

9          community.

10              That website is NEoceanplanning.org/RWSE,

11         and I'll put it in the Q and A.

12              Thank you so much.

13              MS. PERRY:  Thank you for your comment,

14         Eileen.

15              If you could go to the next comment, Alan.

16              MR. BELNIAK:  The next hand raise from

17         someone we have not heard from yet is Mike

18         Tobin.

19              Mike, I'm going to send the command to you

20         to open up your line.  Before we do that, just

21         to give context to everyone, we have 137

22         attendees.  Mike has his hand raised.  Someone

23         else has their hand raised.  We've heard from

24         them before.

25              After Mike, we're going to go to some new

1      text comments and then we'll keep proceeding

2      with the evening.

3          Mike, you should be able to open up your

4      line.  With that, you'll have the floor, a

5      fresh 3 minutes to share with us your name and

6      your comment.

7          MR. TOBIN:  Mike Tobin; I have been told

8      that our electric bills are going to be going

9      up as a result of the turbines going up.  Why

10     is the general public going to be funding a

11     private operation?  I guess that's my question.

12     Maybe I'm misinformed.  Why are we paying for

13     this?  If, in fact, we are paying for it, I do

14     agree with the previous commenter who said

15     nuclear is a better option.  So, that's my

16     comment.

17         And, Katharine, could you please clarify

18     what you meant at the end of the meeting you

19     were going to put together responses.  When

20     will we get responses or in what medium will

21     they be coming through on?  That's all.

22         MS. PERRY:  Thanks, Mike, for your

23     comment.

24         And to clarify, following the close of the

25     public comment period, which is on March 20 --

1           let me make sure I don't say the wrong thing

2           here -- March 21, we will be preparing a

3           response to comments document that provides

4           responses on the comments we receive here

5           tonight and that will be provided to NJ DEP and

6           we will post that on our website.

7                Thanks.

8                Alan, next comment.

9                MR. BELNIAK:  I'm going to turn to some

10          text-based comments for a moment.  The next one

11          that we have from someone who we have not heard

12          or in this case read from yet is Susan Celia.

13          And Susan comments:  Why wasn't a solar

14          alternative offered instead of a noisy, large,

15          obtrusive, environmentally unfriendly wind

16          turbine?  That's Susan's comment.

17               Another text-based comment.  This one is

18          from Peggy Dennison.  Peggy comments:  Good

19          evening.  Thank you for the opportunity to

20          voice our concerns.  I am fully opposed to this

21          project.  In the Green Acres diversion process,

22          a compelling public need is required.  Two

23          executive orders from one person to governor is

24          not a democratic process.  Heaven forbid this

25          destructive folly of a project goes forward,

 1    here are a few of my specific

 2    questions/concerns.

 3         One, why is a 30-foot wide easement needed

 4    when directional boring can be done more

 5    accurately in a smaller space.

 6         Two, at the end of the lifecycle of the

 7    wind turbine project, will the materials

 8    themselves such as cables, turbines,

 9    foundations, et cetera be completely removed

10    and the disturbance area restored?

11         Three, are funds being escrowed for the

12    demolition, removal, restoration of the

13    disturbed areas when the lifecycle of these

14    materials are exhausted?

15         Bear with me for one moment while I scan

16    the list.

17         The next text-based comment from someone

18    we've neither hear nor read from yet is Carol

19    Snyder Hare.  And Carol comments:  I am quite

20    concerned with the comments to all proposed

21    questions and comments as I noticed that the

22    written comments are responded to with this

23    question has been answered live.  That's the

24    Zoom webinar feature.  There has been no

25    response to the comments and/or questions

1       proposed other than thank you for your

2       comments.

3               In all fairness, thanking people for their

4       comments is hardly a proper answer to comments

5       proposed.  Where will commenters be able to

6       find responses to their comments?

7               Katharine, if I may step in, I'm not going

8       to comment -- pardon me for the meta comment --

9       comment on the responses to questions.  The

10      "your question has been answered live" is just

11      a response that the Zoom webinar, this

12      platform, does.  I don't have any control over

13      what that is.  What that's just letting you

14      know is your comment has come in, we have then

15      read it into the record.  That's the button I

16      press.  That's the response you see.  I don't

17      have any control over that.  That's just the

18      mechanism that we're using, so I just wanted to

19      clear that up.

20              The next text-based comment that I see

21      from someone we haven't heard from or read from

22      yet is Jimmy C.  Jimmy comments under Q and A

23      it says -- same thing -- this question has been

24      answered live.  I haven't heard one question

25      answered live.  Why is this canned reply being

1         used?

2              I just heard Katharine Perry state that

3         all questions raised here tonight will be

4         answered later.  Is there a to link to be

5         provided to read the Q and A after tonight's

6         meeting?

7              Thank you.

8              MR. BELNIAK:  Once again, I don't have

9         control over the text that the Zoom webinar

10        platform uses.  Again, it's just an

11        acknowledgment that we have seen your question,

12        we verbalized it into the record, and it moves

13        it out of our queue to let everyone know that

14        we have addressed that one.

15             MS. PERRY:  Again, just confirming that

16        that response to comments document will be

17        posted on the website after the hearing period

18        closes.

19             MR. BELNIAK:  This is a bit of a

20        procedural comment from Michael deVlieger.

21        Michael comments:  My hand has been raised.

22        I'm not being called on.  Why?

23             Michael, I do not see your hand raised, so

24        I cannot call on you.  If you'd like to check,

25        please re-raise it.  There you go, okay.

1          With that, Michael, I'm going to send a

2     command to you to open your line.  With that,

3     just like others, please state your name for

4     the court reporter.  Speak your comments slowly

5     and clearly and you've got 3 minutes to share

6     your comments with us.

7          Michael, on my end, I do see you as

8     unmuted.  You must have a hardware issue on

9     your end or if you have headset like me, you

10    might be hard muted and not know it but the

11    indication to me is that I have sent the

12    command and you have unmuted your line.  We

13    just can't hear you.  We'll give you another

14    couple seconds; if not, try again.  No, I saw

15    you mute and then unmute, but we still can't

16    hear you.  Sorry.  The only other thing you can

17    try is you might be able to change your audio

18    input device.

19          While you work on that, Michael, I'm going

20    to move to the next person, our next text-based

21    comment, and we'll see if we can come back to

22    you.

23          Next text comment is from Jim Ericson.

24    Jim comments:  From this forum, it is clear

25    that the important information was not included

1      in this presentation and has not been conveyed

2      to the Ocean City community and people

3      throughout the state.  I question whether

4      sufficient studies have been conducted relating

5      to the risks and dangers to both people,

6      wildlife, and the environment, and feel that

7      those impacted should be entitled to a full

8      study of the impacts.

9          There's a follow on from Jim.  Sorry -- a

10     carriage return.  Jim also comments with the

11     previous comment Jim made was I am opposed to

12     this project and feel that my rights to an

13     opinion have not been honored without the right

14     to vote on this.

15          Thank you.

16          We will try Michael one more time.

17     Michael, I'm going to send a command to open

18     your line.

19          I do see that you have unmuted your line,

20     but, Michael, we cannot hear.

21          Project team, is it just me that can't

22     hear Michael?  Can anyone else here Michael?

23          MS. PERRY:  Cannot hear Michael, no.

24          MR. BELNIAK:  We will try in earnest.  I'm

25     going to move to someone else and we'll keep

1           trying to come back to you, I promise.

2                John Ferrante comments:  Could you provide

3           the website address for the replies to

4           questions and comments will be posted.

5                What I will do is I'm going to paste into

6           the chat some comments -- the information that

7           conveyed on the prior slide.  Depending on when

8           you joined, you might not see in the chat.  For

9           the benefit of everyone else, I'm going to put

10          that into the chat once more.  As of now, you

11          should all see the various ways to reach out

12          the project team for your comments as well as

13          the project website for following

14          communications.

15               Thank you for that, John.

16               Next text-based comment is from Roger.

17          And Roger asks -- I'm sorry -- Roger comments:

18          When this project starts, and I'm sure it will

19          be approved, where will all the staging

20          activity, workers, barges, and trucks be

21          operating out of?  Which port, inlet, or city?

22          And we will have more activity on land than

23          sea?  Sorry.  It says we will have more

24          activity on land than sea, question mark.  I

25          think he means will we.

1         I'm looking at the list.  Right now,

2    everyone's wondering what I'm looking at.  All

3    the remaining comments, I believe, are folks

4    from people that we've read from or heard from

5    before.  So, please bear with me for one moment

6    while I just confirm that.  I want to make sure

7    everyone has gotten a chance to offer a comment

8    at least once before we consider repeat

9    speakers and repeat typers.

10         There is another new comment, okay, so

11   thank you for bearing with me.  The next new

12   text comment is from Laura Helwig.  I hope I'm

13   saying that -- or Laura Helvig.  Laura

14   comments:  I'm opposed to this project and

15   disappointed at not having the ability to vote

16   on this project.  I'm very concerned about the

17   cabled and the EMS emitted by the cables that

18   are going through our neighborhoods.  I'm also

19   disappointed in the lack of details in this

20   presentation as well as the lack of

21   environmental studies performed.  This scoping

22   hearing is clearly showing that the community

23   has not been provided the necessary data.

24         Okay, looking at hands raised.

25         One more text-based comment, again, from a

1      new comment is from E Tedala.  I hope I'm

2      saying that right.  I'm guessing it's a first

3      initial and last name but could be wrong.  E

4      Tedala comments:  How do Ocean City residents

5      and homeowners report their concerns directly

6      to BPU and DEP?

7           For everyone's interest, we have 118

8      attendees.  We do have one hand raised and that

9      is from someone whose comment we read prior.

10     And I do believe the remaining text-based

11     comments are from everyone who either spoke or

12     commented already.  I just want to check in

13     with the project team.  And I believe looking

14     at my notes here, we're going to then turn

15     to -- just before we do that, I'm going to give

16     Michael one more opportunity.  Michael does

17     have his hand raised.  So, Michael, let's give

18     this one more shot.  Michael, you should have a

19     command to unmute your line.

20          MR. DEVLIEGER:  My name is Michael

21     deVlieger.

22          And, you know, for those folks who want to

23     know when they're going to get their questions

24     answered, I was the elected official for the

25     last nine and a half years, and a couple years

1      ago I had a series of questions in the opening

2      meeting with Ørsted on this very topic.  And

3      I'm still waiting for those answers.  Right

4      now, I'm not in elected office but I'm throwing

5      my hat it doesn't come back because it doesn't

6      look like this project is going away.

7              I encourage you to stay on top of this

8      because you'll be amazed how little gets

9      answered.  In the course of this evening, I've

10     counted four people that were pro this project,

11     one seemed neutral, and the rest had their

12     reservations about this.  I think that that's

13     about equivalent to what we have here on the

14     island.  Of the four that were pro, I'd like to

15     see how many of them actually live here, reside

16     here, or own a vacation home here because we're

17     the people that get impacted.

18             I'm not anti-green.  I'm not

19     anti-windmill.  I love green energy and I would

20     love to reduce our carbon footprint as much as

21     the next guy.  There's no -- we don't get

22     answers for serious questions on this project,

23     and, you know, they do everything they can to

24     dodge us and proceed on, like taking away our

25     home rule.  We were speaking perfectly directly

1        with Ørsted and their representatives and they

2        decided to take another path.  Our concerns,

3        our citizens' concerns are legitimate, okay.

4        The concerns about the environment, the

5        concerns about the fish, the fishermen and

6        fisherwomen that are out there risking their

7        lives going through these wind farms, the

8        impact on our real estate values, on our

9        rentals, on the visual portion that it'll up.

10       What will that do?  If your property values go

11       down, your taxes go up, guys, not a difficult

12       formula to figure out.

13            All these things are involved but they

14       can't tell us, okay, we're going to reduce the

15       rise in sea level, okay, how much?  Are they

16       going to reduce it an inch, a half inch, a

17       foot.  I'm being sarcastic when I say that.

18       What I'm saying is they can't tell us what

19       we're getting out of it, but we know that our

20       electric rates are going to go up.  We know

21       that we have potential harm coming to the

22       island by them putting these power lines

23       through.  They told me in a meeting they could

24       go around.  They could go through the inlet.

25       Well, why haven't they gone through the inlet?

1          MR. BELNIAK:  Michael, you're at about 3

2     minutes just an FYI.

3          MR. DEVLIEGER:  Do your homework and see

4     it for what it is.  But we need -- I encourage

5     our citizens, whether I'm in office or not, to

6     use every legal and civil disobedient method

7     that we can do within reason, of course, to

8     make them come to the table and answer these

9     questions and do -- environmental impact hasn't

10    even been completed yet and yet they're trying

11    to jam it down our throats.  What kind of sense

12    does that make?  It makes no sense.  This is

13    moving way too fast and it needs to be slowed

14    down and done properly.

15         Thank you very much.

16         MR. BELNIAK:  All right.  We did have one

17    hand left raised at the moment and it's from

18    someone who already had commented, so what I'm

19    going to do is give this person an opportunity

20    to speak and then we will turn to our

21    text-based comments.  And those are going to be

22    text-based comments from people who have

23    already commented once.  We have made it pretty

24    clear at the outset, I just wanted to make sure

25    we gave every new person an opportunity to

1        comment first before we came back to repeats.

2             With that, I'm going to let Cindi

3        Sutera -- again, I read a comment of hers

4        earlier.  So, Cindi, also I believe there was a

5        comment from you typed earlier in the comments.

6        The name you used is not a name I recognize so.

7        But any rate, Cindi, you now have 3 minutes.

8        If you can just state your name for the court

9        reporter and then you've got a fresh 3 minutes

10       to share your comments for the record.

11            MS. SUTERA:  Thank you, Alan.

12            My name is Cindi Sutera.  What I noted in

13       the comment was my husband and I are here

14       together.  We are homeowners in Ocean City.

15       And I just would hope that it may be

16       acknowledged that there may be more than one

17       person using a single Zoom, so some of those

18       duplicative comments may be representative of

19       that but we each have a voice.

20            I am opposed to this project.  My comments

21       may be broader than just the right of way

22       through Ocean City, but I hope that there will

23       be considerations made for the questions posed

24       here to be answered in full.  I think this is a

25       serious issue that will forever change our

1       horizontal, the look of our horizon, not only

2       for our current existence, but for our children

3       and their children because these things don't

4       go away.

5              I've been a resident in Ocean City for

6       many years and whenever we do a project on the

7       island that may impact or may not impact, we

8       are required to notify them.  Sometimes the

9       project requires we notify them with registered

10      letter.  I got no notification of this meeting.

11      Luckily, I happened to see an article in the

12      newspaper and saw the link.  I don't understand

13      how by executive order and hook and crook this

14      is being forced upon us without any proper

15      notification to the people who are going to be

16      impacted.

17             Thank you.  That's all I have to say.

18             MR. BELNIAK:  We do have a few new text

19      comments in here which I'll read into the

20      record.  The first one is from Matt Bechta.

21      Matt comments:  Most of the questions tonight

22      are opposed to the project in general for a

23      variety of reasons that are not specific to the

24      Green Acres problem, which is the subject of

25      meeting.

1          From a pragmatic perspective, could any

2      opposition be a factor?  The governor signed an

3      executive order to increase the renewability

4      energy utilization and approve the contract

5      with Ørsted and PSEG.  Ørsted is executing

6      their contractual obligations.

7          Are our actions moot?  How can we

8      influence how the project is executed?

9          And moving on to the next new comment was

10     from John, no last name.  John comments:  A

11     simple question.  Who is responsible and who

12     will bear the cost of these removal of these

13     units when they become obsolete and cover the

14     environmental cleanup?

15         By my scan, it looks like there are no

16     remaining hands raised at the moment.  Again,

17     if a new hand comes up, we will certainly give

18     that person a fresh 3 minutes.

19         The remaining text-based comments for

20     everyone listening at home is -- are -- the

21     remaining text-based comments are all people

22     who have commented prior.  So, what I'd like to

23     just clarify with the rest of the project team

24     if those are the comments that we'll read into

25     the record.  Because, again, I believe from a

1          text-based perspective, we have covered all new

2          commenters.  If a new comes into the queue

3          during this process, I can jump to that.

4               I do see a hand raised also from someone

5          who spoke before.  Just like we have done

6          before, we'll do a few repeat text-based

7          comments, a few repeat speakers, and we'll just

8          go back and forth like that.

9               First is from Robert Moss.  I believe

10         Robert also mentioned this in Robert's oral

11         comment you're off to a poor start because

12         compelling public need, in quotes, requires,

13         quote, mitigating hazard to the public health,

14         safety, or welfare, citing N.J.A.C.7:36-26.1,

15         section D1.  I don't believe this project will

16         meet that standard.  You may mean yield a

17         significant public benefit.  That may sound

18         like a trivial difference but it reflects the

19         cavalier attitude of most applicants, the Green

20         Acres staff, and our sterling courts, and I use

21         that term sarcastically, writes Robert, for

22         Green Acres disposals and diversions.

23              Moving down, Suzan Hornick again.  Offers

24         us for more information, please see the website

25         ProtectOurCoastNJ.com, also cited a few times.

1          A few more from Robert.  We'll jump around

2      a little bit.  Kathy commented earlier, who

3      answered whether the windmills will be visible

4      from the shoreline?

5          Ray Martino, I see your hand raised.

6      We're just going to get to a few more

7      text-based comments so I can kid of tidy up

8      that queue and we'll get to you next.

9          Let's see.  Suzan Hornick also commented

10     that whoever is speaking now -- this was a time

11     prior obviously -- did not identify themselves.

12     Unfortunately, you can't get to that.  Then

13     let's see.  Kathy Ingham, thank you to Robert

14     Zuczek, well said.  Thank you, Kathy.

15         I will now turn to Ray Martino.  Ray, just

16     like before, I do ask you to please state your

17     name again for the court report just so we've

18     got a complete record of that.  And just like

19     before, you'll get a fresh 3 minutes.  When you

20     do so, the mic is ready for you to open up.

21         MS. MARTINO:  Hi, thank you.  I limited my

22     comments the last time to the right of way and

23     I hear all the rest of these people, especially

24     ones saying that the ocean is going to come in

25     and engulf our homes, or whatever, flood.  If

1    you look at the book Unsettled, which is the

2    first real scientific study of climate change,

3    you will find that the average rate at the

4    battery at the tip of Manhattan of sea level

5    rising is 30 centimeters, 1 foot -- that's per

6    year -- 1 foot per century.  And there's a

7    graph in that book showing the highs and lows

8    of throughout the century from 1880 to 2020

9    with the same level, the same angle on the

10   graph.

11        So, all of these crazy comments that you

12   see in the papers and other places are not

13   necessarily true.  So, this is a scientist that

14   wrote this book that worked for the Obama

15   administration, worked for a democratic

16   administration.

17        In the book, there is increase in

18   temperature but not at the levels they say and

19   not with the scientific -- and if you look at

20   it scientifically, is not an immediate crazy

21   problem like is presented by the media and

22   people we just heard on the telephone on the

23   comments tonight.

24        If you just look through that, you'll see

25   the real answer to this is to handle the

1     problems as they come as we've always done, and

2     that's the best way to do it.  And he's

3     analyzed all the different ways including the

4     way we're doing today.

5         End of comments.  I'm sorry it wasn't

6     directly on the table but I did it last time

7     and everybody else didn't pay attention.

8         MS. PERRY:  Thank you for your comments,

9     Ray.

10        MR. BELNIAK:  Looking to some text-based

11    comments again.

12        One was from Craig Cudnik.  When will

13    these very important questions be answered?

14        And next is from Robin Shaffer.  Robin

15    comments:  How will this project be

16    decommissioned at the end of its lifecycle?

17    Who will be responsible?  When will this

18    happen?  And what will happen if a future New

19    Jersey governor writes a new executive order to

20    dismantle the project even before it is

21    operational.

22        Kathy comments:  This is not a Q and A, it

23    is just Q.

24        Peggy Dennison comments:  I have a follow

25    up statement regarding a comment made by Eileen

1    Murphy from the New Jersey Audubon Society.

2    People on this call should be aware that her

3    organization has accepted monetary support and

4    donations from Ørsted.

5        Deborah Fox Walsh comments:  Can Ørsted

6    and PSEG please provide case studies and peer

7    review research publications that support this

8    type of energy project in the follow up

9    document that you will provide to address

10   public comments given as a result of the Green

11   Acres meeting.  Thank you, Deborah Fox Walsh.

12       Question from Cathy Ingham.  When are the

13   next meetings and how will we be informed of

14   them?

15       And just for edification, I believe

16   everyone has probably seen it by now, I don't

17   think we've had a lot of new people join.  Just

18   in the absence of just to make sure, I'm

19   repasting into the chat all the way to follow

20   along with the project including project

21   websites and ways to submit comments --

22   information about future meetings should be

23   made available on the project website.

24       Another text-based comment from Carla

25   Joyce.  Carla:  What happens after the

1     responses are posted?  Does the community

2     actually have any input on this decision?

3          Let me just jump down and make sure I

4     don't see anything new.  Bear with me for one

5     moment please.

6          Okay, two comments from Cindi Sutera.  If

7     you recall, Cindi was the woman who just spoke

8     a moment ago and was commenting about multiple

9     people from one home so these two comments

10    together relate to that.  Cindi comments that

11    her husband typed an earlier comment of which a

12    fraction was read.  As a homeowner, I feel that

13    I have a right to have my voice heard as well.

14    And then, Cindi also comments I hope that all

15    of the comments noted in this area are entered

16    into the record.  I'm disappointed if not able

17    to share my voice.  You have to anticipate that

18    there be more than one homeowner, more than one

19    voter per Zoom link.

20         Noted and read into the record.

21         Matt Bechta follows up with the manmade

22    influence of CO2 on climate change has not been

23    proven, Unsettled: What Climate Science Tells

24    Us, What It Doesn't, and Why It Matters,

25    hardcover, April 27, 2021 by Steven Koonin who

1        was the chief scientist at the D.O.E. in the

2        Obama administration.

3            Gianna Marrese comments:  Instead of

4        having a public document that answers these

5        questions, can we have a public Q and A?

6            One more and then we'll flip over.  There

7        are two hands raised.  Let me just get one

8        more.  Actually, there's a new one -- excuse

9        me -- Susan Ruse.  For those wondering what the

10       wind farm will look like from the coast, please

11       see https://OceanWind.com/about-the-project.

12       What I will do is I think you can get to that

13       from the Ocean Wind site.  So, OceanWind.com is

14       pasted into the chat and you can follow along

15       to about-the-project from URL.

16           And then, Suzan continues the comment:

17       For the matter at hand, we have not seen any

18       support on the health effects of such cables

19       running under the beach.

20           I'm going to pause for a moment and drink

21       some water.  During that time, I'm going to

22       turn to Nathan Brightbill.

23           Nathan, thank you for coming back.  We

24       heard from you earlier.  Same applies.

25           MR. BRIGHTBILL:  I just have a quick

1          comment or two here.

2                I just want to remind everyone that

3          Governor Murphy barely was reelected and the

4          reason is people are rejecting these policies,

5          this green deal.  People just want a better

6          economy especially now if you think about

7          what's going on.  I think the best thing to do

8          would be just to put this on the back burner,

9          give people more time, let them vote on it,

10         because I know it'll be rejected.  These

11         policies just don't make any sense.

12               I've been going to the beach to the Jersey

13         shoreline for 50 years and it's the same as it

14         was back then.  And these windmills will ruin

15         the whole coastline.  That's all I have to say.

16               Thank you.

17               MS. PERRY:  Thank you, Nathan.

18               MR. BELNIAK:  Next, we're going to turn to

19         a new commenter who we have not heard from or

20         read from.

21               Dave Roberts.  Dave, give me one moment to

22         reset the clock.

23               Dave, if you've been with us for the

24         duration of the evening, I think you know how

25         this works.  We're going to send the command

1        for you to unmute your line.  Please just state

2        your name for the court reporter and for the

3        record.  And then, I'll give you fresh 3

4        minutes to share your comment.

5             Welcome, Dave.

6             MR. ROBERTS:  Dave Roberts; how come we

7        have not been talking about the visibility for

8        the residents of Ocean City?  We keep talking

9        about how people are going to drive these pipes

10       down but what are we going to see from the

11       beach view in June?

12            MS. PERRY:  Thanks for your comment, Dave.

13            Just to reiterate that the purpose of this

14       scoping hearing tonight was to go over the

15       Green Acres diversions that are proposed.

16       Additional information on the Ocean Wind 1

17       project, including visualizations can be found

18       at the Ocean Wind website which is typed into

19       the chat.  Thanks.

20            MR. BELNIAK:  At the moment, we do have

21       one hand raised.  It's a repeat hand.  Eileen

22       Murphy we'll get to you in just a moment.  I'm

23       going to do a couple of repeat text comments to

24       tidy up our queue here.

25            Robert Moss again why are more parcels to

1    be diverted than are shown to be used in the

2    slides?  The rectangular lot just north of the

3    yellow line is Block 3500, Lot 1 listed in the

4    public notice.

5           Cindi Sutera again comments there's no

6    public need for this.  This is a money grab.

7    This will increase the cost of power

8    incrementally.  It will not improve the

9    environment.  This is being shoved down our

10   throat by executive order and will offer no

11   benefit to ocean city or the residents like me.

12          Moving down a little bit.  Suzan Hornick

13   commenting once again.  Moderators please

14   mention Wind Works is founded by and

15   financially supported by Ørsted.

16          And E Tedala:  Based on what I have heard

17   during this meeting, there have been a lack of

18   communication -- sorry -- there has been a lack

19   of communication.  Why have all residents of

20   homeowners not received a certified letter

21   regarding the impact of this project.

22          And then, next in the queue is actually

23   from Eileen Murphy, so Eileen also has her hand

24   reraised.

25          With that, Eileen, I'm going to send a

1      command to open up your mic once more and give

2      you a fresh 3 minutes.  Ideally, you'll cover

3      the things that are the queue as well and we'll

4      address two items at once.

5           Eileen, please, the floor is yours for the

6      3 minutes.

7           MS. MURPHY:  In the Q and A, all I did was

8      enter the website that I referenced earlier

9      where people can get information on the impact

10     to birds and wildlife.

11          What I really wanted to do is respond to a

12     comment that someone had made regarding Ørsted

13     donating money to New Jersey Audubon.  As many

14     folks probably know, New Jersey Audubon runs

15     the world series of birding every year, which

16     is coming up May 14.  Registration is currently

17     open for anyone interested.  Anyone can

18     participate and anyone can donate as part of

19     the team or independently for this annual fund

20     raiser.  Ørsted participates as a funder, but

21     no donor to the world series of birding who is

22     an individual, foundation, or corporation has

23     any influence whatsoever on our research or our

24     efficacy.  I just wanted to clarify that.

25          Thank you.

1           MR. BELNIAK:  Looking back in our queue,

2      again bear with me for just one moment.

3           Carla Joyce, I believe, touched on this

4      before but let's read it into the record again.

5      Carla Joyce comments:  What happens once the

6      answers to the questions presented here tonight

7      are posted?  Will there be a discussion with

8      the community?  And will the community have any

9      say in the project going forward?

10          Next is from E Tedala again.  Is there a

11     public meeting scheduled with the appropriate

12     regulators where residents can voice their

13     opinions and get answers?

14          Here's a question posted just a few

15     minutes ago.  My apologies, Alvaro.  Alvaro is

16     the next commenter.  I missed it before.  The

17     comment is only 5 minutes fresh, so hopefully,

18     Alvaro, you're still with us.

19          Alvaro comments:  This will be Governor

20     Murphy's Flint, Michigan.  The dollars paid to

21     OCNJ will not cover the additional liability.

22     What is the limitation of liability in the

23     insurance policy purchased by Ocean Wind during

24     the ongoing operations?

25          Robert Moss again.  Robert had several

1          comments.  I'm just trying to intersperse them

2          throughout others.  Robert comments:  Were any

3          private parcels considered, if so, why not?  I

4          can't look up if the block numbers as we speak.

5          I can't work that fast.  Anyway available in

6          the regulations does not mean not currently for

7          sale.  Eminent domain can be used.  Your

8          proposal is the latest in a line of abuses of

9          the Green Acres alternatives process same as

10         the rollercoaster in Seaside Heights.  The

11         renegade Green Acres staff allows applicants to

12         do what you're doing.  Effectively, that means

13         Green Acres plans will be the easiest route as

14         opposed to the only available route.  If this

15         keeps up, all our public open space, supposedly

16         preserved forever, as the sign proclaims in the

17         DEP office in Trenton, will be gone in 10 or at

18         most 20 years.

19              Cindi Sutera comments again.  I also

20         resent a foreign company being involved in any

21         supposed improvement to our city.

22              Kathy Ingham comments:  If this project

23         moves forward, which I hope it does not, when

24         with the windmills be obsolete, as in end of

25         life, and when will they be removed?

1          Robert, I do see your hand raised.  I'll

2     get to you in just a moment.

3          Gianna Marrese just offers up her website

4     again, ProtectOurCoastlineNJ.com.

5          I will flip over to Dave Roberts once

6     more.  Dave, just as before, I'm going to send

7     the command to open your mic.  You can get a

8     fresh 3 minutes to share any comments related

9     to the project at hand this evening.

10          MR. ROBERTS:  Hi, it's not so much a point

11     of what we're going to see from the beach, but

12     what are our kids going to see from the beach

13     or our grandchildren going to see from the

14     beach?  Are they going to be looking out at

15     these towers of might that are decaying down

16     the road?

17          MR. BELNIAK:  Is that it, Dave?

18          MR. ROBERTS:  Yes.

19          MR. BELNIAK:  You ended abruptly.  I just

20     wanted to make sure you didn't get cut off.

21          We'll go to the hands.  There are no hands

22     raised.  The remaining comments I see in the

23     text at the moment are all people who have

24     commented once, maybe two to three times.

25          What I'll do, with permission from the

1          project team here, is I'll read the balance of

2          those comments into the record, and then we'll

3          close out the hearing, and then we'll again

4          re-share the next steps and ways to follow

5          along with the project.

6                 With that, start with Robert Moss.  Robert

7          comments:  The previous speaker, although wrong

8          about -- not previous now, previous earlier --

9          the previous speaker, although wrong about

10         climate change and global warming generally

11         did, in fact, address the diversion.  He's

12         saying it's not necessary and therefore there's

13         no compelling need.

14                 Jumping down to Susan Ruse from earlier.

15         A request from Ørsted to add a night shot to

16         their simulation on the website that was

17         previously mentioned.  I understand there will

18         be lights on every windmill.  It would be very

19         illuminating to have that photo posted.

20                 Suzan commented just a moment ago.  Suzan,

21         thank you.  I believe I may have misspoken.

22         The website is ProtectOurCoastNJ.com, not

23         coastline.  So, ProtectOurCoastNJ is the

24         website that's being referenced.

25                 One more from Robert.  Just commenting

1       brava to the current speaker.  That was from

2       previously.  And another one from Robert.

3       Comments about the adverse effects of the wind

4       farm are directly related to the diversion

5       because the application assumes no adverse

6       effects.

7              Scanning once more.  From Robert Zuczek

8       again.  I'm sorry if I'm saying the name wrong.

9       I'm trying.  More of a response than a question

10      to the representative from Audubon society

11      defending their taking money from Ørsted.  And

12      that is we all know money talks and the and she

13      can fill in the rest.

14             Kathy Ingham comments:  Will there be

15      flashing red lights on the windmills at night?

16             I'm looking.  No hands raised.  We've got

17      two comments left, two text-based comments left

18      from Robert.  Robert comments:  It was

19      referenced to something else that was being

20      said.  So, for example, N.J.A.C.7:36-26.1 E2,

21      that's for the benefit of our court reporter,

22      provides that there must be no significant

23      adverse impacts including cumulative and

24      secondary impacts on the public's use and

25      enjoyment of parkland.

1          The visual impact from the shore of the

2     wind farm is definitely an adverse impact.

3     Stop criticizing those who bring up the adverse

4     impacts to solar.

5          And no hands raised.

6          Last comment I see at the moment is once

7     again from Robert Moss.  Robert comments:

8     Adverse impacts have everything to do with the

9     Green Acres diversion and I've already cited

10    the regulations to that effect.

11         With that, our comment queue is now

12    cleared.  And so, I'm going to turn the

13    speaking role back over to someone other than

14    me.  So, I will look to either Katharine or

15    Pilar to carry us out through the rest of the

16    evening.

17         MS. PERRY:  Thank you, Alan.  And thank

18    you sincerely to all members of public that

19    have joined this scoping hearing with us here

20    tonight.  We understand the time that you've

21    taken away from what you would've otherwise

22    been doing and we are grateful to receive all

23    of the public comments this evening.

24         So, just to reiterate, you can continue

25    providing written comments.  The information on

1          how to do so was included in the chat.  Alan,

2          if you could go back one slide for just a

3          moment to 17.  Again, this is how you can

4          continue providing written comments.  Those

5          comments need to be submitted by March 21.

6          Following the close of the public comment

7          period, we will be preparing a response to

8          comments document.  That information will be

9          included in our Green Acres diversion

10         application.  It will also be posted to the

11         website.  That is www.OceanWind.com.

12              And, again, tomorrow, this is PowerPoint

13         presentation will be up and available online

14         for you to review as well.

15              Again, thank you all so much for your

16         participation and engagement this evening.  We

17         look forward to continuing to work with you all

18         as we move forward.

19              Good evening, all.

20              MR. BELNIAK:  Thank you.

21                    (Time noted: 9:35 p.m.)

22

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25

1          C E R T I F I C A T I O N

2

3

4          I, ESTAMARIE CASTELLI-VELEZ, a Shorthand

5     Reporter and Notary Public within and for the State

6     of New York, do hereby certify the foregoing to be a

7     true and accurate transcript to the best of my

8     knowledge and ability.

9          I further certify that I am not related to

10    any of the parties to this action by blood or by

11    marriage and that I am in no way interested in the

12    outcome of this matter.

13

14

15    _____

                ESTAMARIE CASTELLI-VELEZ

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