

The town board also received comments on matters outside the scope of the easement grant. These matters will be addressed by the various agencies involved in the Article 7 and other permitting procedures, and the town intends to be involved to represent the concerns that were voiced (See permitting matrix).

Should the town issue the easement and accept the benefits package from Deepwater Wind, DWW has agreed that it "shall not object to the Town or the Trustees intervening in the Commission's Article VII review of the project." (p. 6)

According to documents submitted by Deepwater: "All of DWW's proposed plans are subject to extensive review and refinement during the permitting and environmental impact assessment process. Potential impacts are analyzed and appropriate mitigation measures will be required as needed."

Public Comments/ Concerns Raised by Members of the Public Regarding the South Fork Wind Farm Outside scope of Town Board decision regarding cable access agreement and easement

The most frequently cited concerns/comments included:

Overall:

Comments urging delay; more assessment by town, gather more facts; more planning and evaluation is needed

Comments urging town to issue easement so federal and state review processes can begin

Comments about wind turbine and cable impacts to marine ecosystem :

Impacts to Fisheries:

Fish Migration/Impact of EMFs/ Cable effect on sea life

- Comments about the relative impacts of the wind turbines versus the continued use of fossil fuels, and climate change, and the impacts of potential offshore oil drilling
- The Fisheries Advisory Committee has raised questions about potential EMF impacts to sharks, rays, and lobsters and would like to see additional peer-reviewed scientific studies on a sufficient sample size to give accurate results on that impact as well as the possible overall impact to nearshore, inshore, and offshore fisheries in all of the areas impacted by the wind farm construction and operation; and would like assurances that the impacts will be mitigated, and compensated for.

Deepwater Wind is using data from various studies and surveys, conducted by agencies including the NYS DEC and the National Marine Fisheries Service, assess the marine ecosystem and possible impacts, and will be conducting its own assessments that investigate resources before, during, and after construction of the project, including a cod spawning survey in the wind farm area.

The cable is to be buried at a depth believed to be sufficient to avoid impacts from EMF. If minimum depth is not achieved, Deepwater Wind has agreed to engage a third party to conduct an analysis to ensure compliance with New York State standards for EMF.

The permitting process will provide an opportunity for public comment on the scope of additional studies. The review process requires approval from numerous agencies that will assess possible impacts to fisheries, including the US EPA, BOEM, the USFWS, NOAA, and NMFS.

- Comment suggesting a requirement for a comprehensive fisheries research, monitoring and mitigation plan with compensation if need be to fishermen, paid for by DWW, such as that required by the Rhode Island Coastal Resource Management Council
- Comments criticizing Deepwater Wind data, analysis, and outreach to local fishing groups
- Concerns about potential gear loss and catch reduction: DWW has developed a draft gear loss compensation plan outlining a procedure for fishermen to request compensation for lost gear, and will have a fisheries liaison assigned to review requests. Still subject to revision and discussion.
- Other Comments: about spacing of wind turbines, bird strikes, commercialization of beaches
- Comment supporting project for renewable energy/air pollution reduction/climate change/and economic development, but asking that they use gravity-engineered turbine foundations versus pile driving to minimize impacts

Comments about Economics of Project:

LIPA has provided details about the South Fork RFP and review in two letters (attached)

- Comments about power purchase agreement between LIPA and DWW, and impact to ratepayers; Concerns about contract terms nondisclosure and whether wind power is too expensive
According to LIPA officials, confidentiality is standard for all LIPA power purchase agreements. The portfolio of energy projects selected by LIPA for the South Fork (see below) is expected to cost \$1.19 per month for Long Island customers. Terms of the \$1.625 billion contract for the purchase of power from a 90 megawatt offshore wind generation facility, including prices, have been reviewed and approved by the NYS comptroller and attorney general. The energy produced by the South Fork Wind Farm project will represent less than 2 percent of the power produced to serve LI ratepayers. The cost of the power produced by the turbine is set according to the fixed-price bid.
- Comments about need for additional energy, and whether South Fork Wind Farm will obviate need for fossil fuel plants:
LIPA officials have said that electric demand growth on the South Fork is expected to require an additional 170 megawatts of peak capacity by 2030. The South Fork RFP, a request for proposals to meet that need was issued in 2015. The solution selected by LIPA included the South Fork Wind Farm, two 5-megawatt battery projects, a demand response contract, and

transmission reinforcements. The selection was based on an evaluation of cost to customers, and the benefits of various technologies, among other factors.

Should efforts to reduce energy demand, such as the town's Energize East Hampton programs, solar power installations, Peak Savers program, etc. result in a reduction in peak demand it will avoid the need for new power generation or transmission facilities.

The South Fork Wind Farm will provide 90 megawatts of more than 800 megawatts of clean energy LIPA expects to procure by 2030.

- Comments expressing distrust regarding DWW investors, and financial incentive for private equity fund investors
- Comments about not holding this renewable energy project up due to frustration with PSEG, LIPA, DWW

Comments on the need for non-fossil fuel, renewable energy sources and the inevitability of offshore wind turbines:

- Immediate efforts are needed to reduce and reverse climate change; the continued use of fossil fuels causing ocean acidification will have negative impacts
- East Hampton Town adopted a Climate Action Plan in 2015 and a goal of achieving 100-percent renewable energy use. The town has been proactive in energy savings and renewable energy programs, including solar installations
- Federal leases have provided areas for offshore wind along the mid-Atlantic shore, and the states of New York, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island, and New Jersey have announced commitments to offshore wind, with several having awarded power purchase agreements this year. Offshore turbines will be built on these sites with or without local municipalities' support.
- Comment that this project will make EH a national leader in renewable energy, and defer the need to build costly new fossil-fired power generators or controversial transmission lines, which will save money for ratepayers.

Comments questioning whether this wind farm is the right renewable energy project; is DWW right company, bids for clean energy projects should have been selected not by LIPA but by town; smaller decentralized energy generation projects such as solar should be chosen, various kinds of green energy projects from various developers including locally based businesses; need decentralized energy vs. power monopoly

Comments about the onshore component – cable connection to substation equipment to be added to a sublet area of PSEG's Cove Hollow substation

Concerns by neighboring residential property owners regarding the new equipment