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1. "No" to HB1296. Absolutely no Offshore Renewable Energy Credits should be awarded to projects closer than 30 miles from shore; the cable landfall should not encroach on our shore neighborhoods. The planned OC, MD offshore wind turbines have not been proven to be cost effective, they kill our marine life and birds, are too tricky and oppressive for our commercial fishing boats to navigate between the 114 turbines while mandating their 10 mph (knots) at a large turbine radius, and the marine "takes" are being permitted at a higher number than usual. The sonar noise is most likely causing the disorientation deaths among whales and porpoises, causing them to confusion and the 'self-beaching' to their deaths.
2. Each turbine must have multiple oil changes yearly and when broken down, they cannot be un-assembled...they just rust and 'die.' This project has now quadrupled in price; the upkeep is reliant on local taxpayers. A wind energy industry must not only deploy energy at a reasonable price, they must "deliver the biggest environmental benefit at the lowest possible cost."
3. Absolutely "no" to the operating and maintenance facility warehouse to be built in West OC, Md. We are a vacation community, not a town for warehousing wind turbine parts, nor a port to dock ships transporting turbine blades. This invasion of our community will eventually create a mini-Port of Newark Container Terminal (N.J.) opening up a world of possibilities. Moving freight through this port will destroy our community, cheapening it to a "berth and crane facility." No!
4. Statistics: studies in neighboring Cape May County, NJ show they are a \$7B tourist industry. Polls show only 85% tourists will return if turbines are built. That's a whopping loss \$993M loss in tourism.