

HB1296/633020/1

BY: Economic Matters Committee

AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILL 1296
(First Reading File Bill)

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 1, in line 11, after “plan;” insert “altering the Department of General Services’ requirements and processes for the procurement of offshore wind energy;”; in line 15, strike the second “and” and substitute a comma; in line 16, after “(i)” insert “, and 7-704.4(d)”; and after line 23, insert:

“BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article - Public Utilities

Section 7-704.4(b)(1) and (e)

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2020 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On page 6, in line 19, after “**ORECS**” insert “, **OR ARE SUBJECT TO A COMMISSION ORDER APPROVING AN OREC PRICE SCHEDULE,**”.

On page 8, after line 19, insert:

“7-704.4.

(b) (1) The Department of General Services, in consultation with the Public Service Commission, shall issue a competitive sealed procurement solicitation and may enter into at least one contract for a power purchase agreement to procure [up to 5,000,000 megawatt-hours annually of] offshore wind energy and associated renewable energy credits from one or more qualified offshore wind projects.

(d) The State shall:

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(1) issue a procurement for offshore wind energy on or before July 31, 2024;

(2) provide a procurement submission process window of not less than 180 days; and

(3) award contracts in a timely manner.

(e) (1) **(I) Subject to SUBPARAGRAPH (II) OF THIS paragraph [(2) of this subsection], the State may enter into a contract or contracts for the procurement on or before September 1, 2025.**

[(2)] (II) The State may modify the date established in SUBPARAGRAPH (I) OF THIS paragraph [(1) of this subsection] if an unforeseen circumstance adversely affects the procurement submission process.

(2) (I) IF NO QUALIFIED OFFSHORE WIND PROJECTS ARE SUBMITTED DURING THE PROCUREMENT SUBMISSION PROCESS UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION, THE STATE:

1. MAY EVALUATE AND REVISE THE CONDITIONS OF THE OFFSHORE WIND ENERGY PROCUREMENT; AND

2. SHALL ISSUE A PROCUREMENT FOR OFFSHORE WIND ENERGY ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 31, 2025.

(II) SUBJECT TO SUBPARAGRAPH (III) OF THIS PARAGRAPH, THE STATE MAY ENTER INTO A CONTRACT OR CONTRACTS FOR THE PROCUREMENT ON OR BEFORE MARCH 31, 2027.

(III) THE STATE MAY MODIFY THE DATE ESTABLISHED IN
SUBPARAGRAPH (II) OF THIS PARAGRAPH IF AN UNFORESEEN CIRCUMSTANCE
ADVERSELY AFFECTS THE PROCUREMENT SUBMISSION PROCESS.”.