



TOWN OF OCEAN CITY

The White Marlin Capital of the World

February 19, 2025

Education, Energy and the Environment Committee
Senator Brian J. Feldman, Chair
2 West Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

RE: Senate Bill 753

Dear Chair and Members of the Education, Energy and the Environment Committee,

Ocean City is in opposition to Senate Bill 753. The bill requires an “Aircraft Detection Lighting System” be installed on each turbine in an offshore wind project. The Town opposes the US Wind project currently proposed to be built 10.7 miles off of our coast. We are opposed to any lighting system proposed to be installed on turbines that we do not believe belong there in the first place. These monstrous turbines will destroy the view shed off the coast of Ocean City forever and any lighting system would just exacerbate the problem. It would be hypocritical on our part to even consider what type of lighting would be best on a project we have been mandated by our constituents to oppose. This project, lights or no lights, will destroy our view shed, negatively impact our economy, property values, and potentially destroy our commercial fishing industry. The negative impacts will cost jobs, both in our tourism industry and fishing industry. Has the State, or US Wind, ever done an economic study to determine the net job loss as a result of this project? The “wind tax” estimate, proposed to fund this project on the back of Maryland rate payers, continues to increase and the reliability of wind projects continues to be an issue yet we are here today to talk about a lighting system!

It is time to do a complete review of this project, and wind turbines in general, and do a comprehensive look at renewable energy alternatives and the cost benefit ratio of each. I think you will find that lights or no lights the state is going down the wrong path. I respectfully request that you give an unfavorable recommendation to SB753.

Sincerely,

Richard W. Meehan
Mayor

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