

## **SB 753**

Uploaded by: Richard Meehan

Position: UNF



# 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

**MAYOR**

Richard W. Meehan

**CITY COUNCIL**

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P.O. Box 158, Ocean City, Maryland 21843-0158 | [oceancitymd.gov](http://oceancitymd.gov) | City Hall: (410) 289-8221 | Fax: (410) 289-8703

## **SB0753 - Offshore Wind Turbines and Accessory Inst**

Uploaded by: Landon Fahrige

Position: INFO



# Maryland

## Energy Administration

**TO:** Chair Feldman, Vice Chair Kagan, and Members of the Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee

**FROM:** MEA

**SUBJECT:** SB 753 - Offshore Wind Turbines and Accessory Installations - Aircraft Detection Lighting Systems

**DATE:** February 20, 2025

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### **MEA Position: LETTER OF INFORMATION**

Senate Bill 753 would require offshore wind projects to install aircraft detection lighting systems (ADLS) on wind turbines and accessory installations associated with the project.

ADLS requirements are already addressed through the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM), the U.S. Coast Guard (USCG), and the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). These three agencies have regulatory requirements for offshore wind turbines to have nighttime lighting capabilities to ensure safe air travel around lease areas.

Currently, the FAA has regulatory requirements for the lighting of offshore structures that exceed 499 feet and are within 12 nautical miles from shore.<sup>1</sup> Although FAA authority ends at the extent of the U.S. territorial sea, BOEM oversees the offshore federal renewable energy lease areas and recommends implementing the same ADLS requirements for consistency and aviation safety.<sup>2</sup> The USCG regulatory requirements also address offshore structure lighting beyond the U.S. territorial sea boundary to include the entire outer continental shelf.

MEA urges the committee to consider this information before issuing its report.

Our sincere thanks for your consideration of this testimony. For questions or additional information, please contact Megan Outten, Policy Manager, directly ([megan.outten@maryland.gov](mailto:megan.outten@maryland.gov), 443-842-1780).

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<sup>1</sup> Code of Federal Regulations  
<https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-14/chapter-I/subchapter-E/part-77>

<sup>2</sup> BOEM's 2021 Report: Guidelines for Lighting and Marking of Structures Supporting Renewable Energy Development  
<https://www.boem.gov/sites/default/files/documents/renewable-energy/2021-Lighting-and-Marking-Guidelines.pdf#:~:text=All%20turbines%20above%20499%20ft,minimize%20visual%20impacts%20from%20lighting>