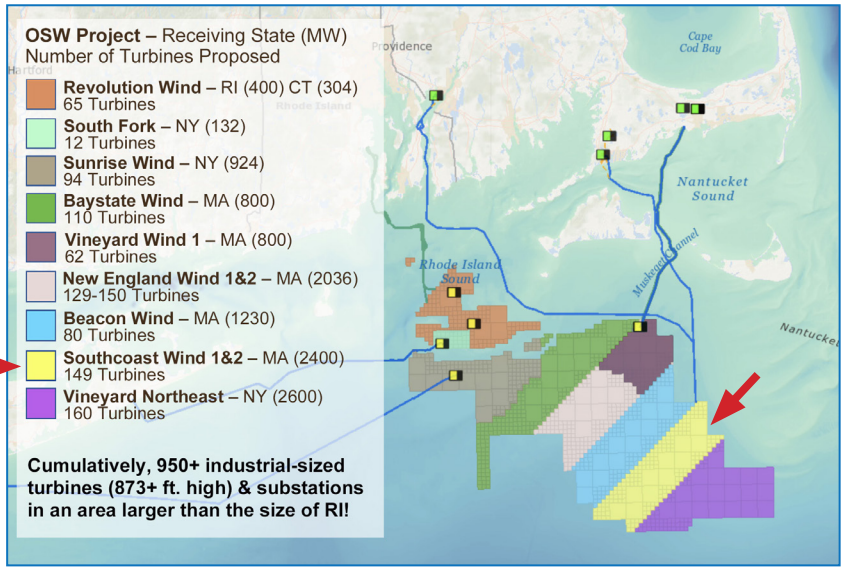
Southcoast Wind Facts:

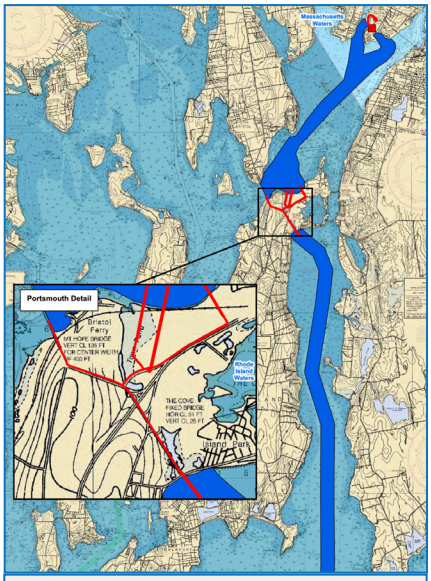
SouthCoast Wind is developing **one of 9** proposed Offshore Wind projects:

- **149** positions to install wind turbines & offshore substation platforms
- **30** miles south of Martha's Vineyard
  20 miles south of Nantucket



Things to Consider:

1. **The buried high voltage electrical cable (345,000 volts)** would extend northwest from the lease area, through federal and Rhode Island state waters, **up the Sakonnet River, with an intermediate underground crossing in Portsmouth. The cable then continues through Mount Hope Bay** and ends with a grid connection at Brayton Point in Somerset, MA.



Proposed cable route up Sakonnet River, route variants through Portsmouth and up Mt. Hope Bay to Brayton Point

2. **Years of industrial heavy metals and toxic pollutants have settled deep into the seabed from the jewelry, chemical, and textile industries and the U.S. Navy**. Cables will be layed using a jetplow or jet sled burial tool, using high-pressure water jets to blast into the sediment to create a 3 to 13 ft. deep trench, **digging up heavy metals and pollutants that are toxic to aquatic organisms even in minuscule amounts and may damage or even permanently destroy critical marine habitats and aquaculture**.

3. **High voltage cables may travel through residential neighborhoods in Portsmouth.** Placing buried onshore wind turbine high-voltage direct current cables through well-established residentially zoned neighborhoods with this high of voltage is new in the U.S. Generally, high-voltage direct current cables operate through commercial zones, transportation, and electric rights of way or between countries.[1]

4. **EMF emanating from subsea electrical cables is known to affect marine life**.[2] Cable laying is consistently mentioned in terms of having the potential to impact many species. Increased sedimentation associated with cable installation could impair some species' ability to forage effectively or avoid predators. If cables are not buried properly or if they do not remain buried, their electromagnetic fields could be disruptive to migratory patterns, feeding and spawning behaviors. Studies show that lobsters and other marine life are highly affected and deformed by electromagnetic fields. Visit: http://tinyurl.com/nr9zbbh8 & http://tinyurl.com/3rtsvarj (QR codes on flyer back)

5. **Cables must be regularly maintained, so the disruption to the seabed is NOT a one and done proposition.** Subsea cables make up just 10% of the initial cost of building an offshore wind farm, but account for 75-80% of insurance claims by the offshore wind industry. The cost implications of even a single cable failure can be enormous, takes an average of two months to repair, and often exceeds $12.5 million in costs and lost power generation.[2]
   Visit: http://tinyurl.com/2ad87924 (QR code on flyer back)

[1] Falmouth Onshore Wind Cables Real Estate Study Warranted; Frank G Haggerty; Posted Sun, Feb 18, 2024; http://tinyurl.com/359279k5
[2] Electrical cable failure trending and reliability analysis for operational developments; https://ore.catapult.org.uk/stories/electrode/

Send in your Comments to urge the RI DEM
to REJECT the
Dredge Application Request of SouthCoast Wind Energy LLC

Written comments are currently being accepted.

The NOTICE period for this application
ends at 4 p.m. on March 7, 2024

Comments should be addressed to:
Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management
Office of Customer & Technical Assistance
Attention: Ronald Gagnon, P.E.
235 Promenade Street, Providence, RI 02908

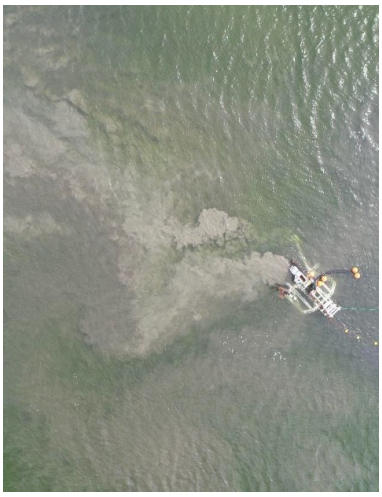
Comments may mailed to above or emailed by March 7, 4 PM to:

Ron.Gagnon@dem.ri.gov

Questions? Call: 401-537-4013

SouthCoast Wind Energy proposes the following:

- Installation, operation, and maintenance of two underwater power export cables and associated communications cabling, each approximately 20.4 miles long.
- Possible placement of fill (i.e., secondary cable protection) in state waters over the proposed underwater export cables to protect segments of the submarine export cables and existing utilities.
- Installation of the underwater export cables at the Project's proposed landfall construction areas utilizing horizontal directional drilling (HDD) with work including temporary excavation/dredging at eight offshore HDD pits at each of the two landfalls on either side of Aquidneck Island at Portsmouth, Rhode Island.
- The proposed work involves dredging of approximately 1,867 cubic yards (CY) of sediment from eight HDD pits for a total of approximately 14,936 CY of dredging. The excavated material will be backfilled into the HDD pits. Cable burial methods may include a jet plow or jet sled-type burial tool. Alternatively, cables may be laid on the seabed and trenched post-lay or a trench may be pre-cut prior to cable installation. The project location is the Sakonnet River and Mount Hope Bay in Portsmouth.



QR codes for articles on flyer front:

http://tinyurl.com/nr9zbbh8

BBC: How undersea cables may affect marine life

http://tinyurl.com/3rtsvarj

Daily Mail: Lobsters are being deformed and left unable to swim because of electromagnetic fields from undersea wind farm power cables

http://tinyurl.com/2ad87924

Providence Journal: Problems prompt National Grid to suspend work reburying Block Island wind farm cable

Interested in learning more?

green-oceans.org

Sign our Petition