

Letter to the Editor, Press of Atlantic City, published on September 18, 2024
A Look at the Numbers on Offshore Wind

Letter to The Press

Offshore wind developers, green energy proponents and governmental officials including Governor Murphy continue to publicize and promote false information regarding economic benefits to our State and counties from these projects. It's estimated by the NJ Council on the Green Economy that in the next 10 years offshore wind will create over 9500 jobs per year. That's a persuasive number to the public and politicians, designed to deceive them and quiet opposition. Analyses and facts reveal the truth of what is being imposed on our coastline by those in power and money, foreign and national, regardless of harmful consequences while ignoring reasonable alternatives (micro-nuclear for example).

Guaranteed jobs in the offshore projects are few. For example, Atlantic Shores LLC in NJ guarantees 88 jobs during the operations and maintenance phases and offers no job guarantee for the development and construction phases. While its documents claim that there will be a positive economic impact, the significant negative effect on tourism, etc. revealed in scientific studies of this issue is ignored. [Atlantic-Shores-Offshore-Wind-NJ-Economic-Impact-Jobs-and-GDP-August-2024-rev3.pdf \(defendbrigantinebeach.org\)](#)

How much does this "Job Creation" cost taxpayers/ratepayers? Major financial "gifts" are tax incentives, tax credits, and subsidies, all from taxpayers and ratepayers. This financial support is 31 times more than for oil/gas and 70 times more than for nuclear. Most of these companies are foreign/multinational which means that these subsidies etc. will not benefit US companies. The 16,000 average annual tourism job loss in Atlantic and Ocean counties' coastal communities dwarfs Atlantic Shores' LLC's 2,200 average annual job creation in NJ for their three projects totaling 3.8 GW. This adds up to a net \$1.3 billion loss in NJ's average annual GDP. This is harmful, not beneficial, to our economy.

Offshore wind energy is weather dependent, unreliable, costlier than other sources, and has a fossil-fuel back-up (the "bad" energy source). This plan for our coastline is the most complex, destructive, inefficient and expensive energy source available. It makes no sense.

Sincerely, Anne H. Phillips, Brigantine, NJ