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To the Editor

At this moment, the offshore wind industry's plans are at a standstill. The expected smooth road for these destructive monstrosities has become bumpier than expected. But the future looks brighter for opponents of these turbines along New Jersey's coast. Even Governor Murphy acknowledges that this industry and his plan to make New Jersey the major energy player on the east coast are in trouble.

A Victory Lap for opponents may appear to be in order. That would be premature. The New Jersey Offshore Wind Alliance says, "Wind Power needs to still happen." It remains committed to advancing this industry.

Local, grass roots opposition has been effective and knowledgeable, taking many forms including lawsuits in both federal and state courts to present facts, educate and protect the public. Missing in action and noticeably silent on this major issue except for a few individual members is Atlantic County's Board of Commissioners, the County's elected governing body. It has chosen to ignore this consequential, controversial subject while acting as though it's doing its job for its constituents. No, it has failed them.

One negative effect of these turbines is the cost to ratepayers. With opposition becoming more effective, ratepayers are feeling some relief about their future electric bills. No thanks to the Board! There is a war still to be won against those willing and able to buy, bully and deceive the public. The

The Board of Commissioners still has an opportunity to get involved, discuss, speak up and join those who spoke out at the beginning. There is work to do to protect our county and state. Leases and permits still exist. Governments change. Legislation is needed to prohibit this worst kind of energy and protect the ocean and marine life. There are better, cheaper sources of energy such as nuclear, etc. which need to be considered and used.

Governor Murphy hasn't given up his green dreams, calling offshore wind a "once in a generation opportunity". The facts say otherwise.

Sincerely, Anne H. Phillips, Brigantine