

## Rodvien, Emma (PUC)

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**From:** fnhaggerty@aol.com  
**Sent:** Friday, August 19, 2022 10:14 AM  
**To:** Rodvien, Emma (PUC)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] : Mayflower Wind SB 2202-02 Mitigation Public Comment # 2

**August 19, 2022, Public comment # 2 Mitigation**

**To; Emma Rodvien, Coordinator Rhode Island Energy Facility Siting Board**

[emma.rodvien@puc.ri.gov](mailto:emma.rodvien@puc.ri.gov)

**Re; SB 2202- 02 Mayflower Wind EFSB meeting August 18, 2022**

**From: Frank Haggerty**

**RE : HVDC: High Voltage Direct Current Cables 115,000 volts to 400,000 volts**

**Health and Safety: Association of buried cables through Portsmouth, Rhode Island residential neighborhoods**

The offshore wind company is building a 4 cable duct system for 2 HVDC cables now and possibly 2 HVDC cables later. The current plan is for two bundles of cables equal to 1200 megawatts. To put that in perspective Plymouth, Massachusetts nuclear plant had a total output of 680 megawatts.

Rhode Island and very few states have legislative requirements for EMF, Electric Magnetic Fields, or other properties of types of electric emissions from high voltage power lines. The fast-growing state of Florida used international standards in the early 1970s to install high voltage power lines. Over the years Florida enacted legislative setbacks to the high voltage lines because of studies pro and con on childhood leukemia associated with distances to the power lines from residential locations. Florida regulations were recently updated. ( see video bottom )

**Note; EMF is higher directly above a buried cable vs standing under the same voltage aerial cable.**

The installation of HVDC, high voltage direct current cables is brand new in the United States. There are plenty of cancer studies including epidemiologic studies on HVAC high voltage alternating current in the United States but unfortunately none on HVDC. There are no studies due to a lack of interest in HVDC cables in the US.

There are presently four high-voltage direct-current (HVDC) transmission systems operating in all of North America.

There was a questionnaire sent by post and distributed by campaign groups in 1980 to people living near a 400,000 volt HVDC overhead power line in Minnesota, followed up by telephone calls. The survey was called the "Minnesota Landowner Health Perceptions Survey."

Up to 35% of the respondents said they had suffered adverse health effects that they attributed to the HDVC power line.

An epidemiologic study was not conducted on the residents. This study and investigation could have compared two or more groups of people who are alike except for one factor, the 400,000-volt high voltage direct current power line. There are no epidemiologic studies in the US for DC cables

The question for the town and neighbors of the buried HVDC cables is whether using international standards to install the cables may be an issue down the road.

How will the RI EFSB mitigate the cable route through residential locations? One method is the cable ducts are stainless steel rather than plastic. The conduits are sealed with SF6 gas to stop any electric power emissions. Sulfur hexafluoride, SF6 is used as an electric insulator.

Keep in mind that a total of 2400 megawatts buried in the street outside a residential neighborhood are equal to over three times the output of the Plymouth nuclear power plant (680 MW) through the streets of Portsmouth.

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#see the Florida video below

### **Health Risks from Power Lines -Childhood Leukemia**

South Miami Town Hall forum on power line safety and nuclear expansion, sponsored by Citizens Allied for Safe Energy ([CASE-FL.org](http://CASE-FL.org) [[case-fl.org](http://case-fl.org)]), which took place on 12-10-09.

A child living near a high voltage power line may run a higher risk of contracting leukemia — the most common childhood cancer

Video Link: Philip K. Stoddard, Ph.D. Professor Department of Biological Sciences Florida International University Miami, FL 33199 USA

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HYqOVoaUVWM&ab\\_channel=SafeEnergy](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HYqOVoaUVWM&ab_channel=SafeEnergy) [[youtube.com](http://youtube.com)]

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Thanks, Frank Haggerty  
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