

**STATE OF RHODE ISLAND
ENERGY FACILITY SITING BOARD**

IN RE: SB-2022-04 – OCEAN STATE POWER, LLC’S
PETITION FOR DECLARATORY ORDER

Pursuant to the provisions of R.I. Gen Laws § 42-35-8, Ocean State Power, LLC (Petitioner) filed a Petition for Declaratory Order with the Rhode Island Energy Facility Siting Board on August 5, 2022. The Petition may be examined in-person at the Board’s office or online at <https://ripuc.ri.gov/Docket-SB-2022-04>.

In it, the Petitioner seeks a determination that that proposed modifications of certain internal components in the Phase 2 power block of Ocean State Power’s 560 MW dual-fuel (natural gas and diesel) electric generation facility located in Harrisville, Rhode Island do not constitute an alteration of a major energy facility such that a full application to the Board would be required. The proposed modifications consist of three categories of work to be conducted at Phase 2 of the Ocean State Power facility: upgrades to internal components of the steam turbine to improve efficiency; addition of wet compression skids to the combustion turbine to increase generator output; and improvements to pollution control equipment. The Petitioner explains that the proposed modifications will increase the facility’s summer generation capacity by 64 MW. According to the Petitioner, this incremental capacity will allow it to provide more peak generation capacity while still using the facility’s existing footprint.

The Petitioner describes the modifications as pollution-reducing efficiency upgrades and asserts that their environmental impact will be positive. The Petitioner states that the proposed modifications will reduce the facility’s potential to emit certain air pollutants (including nitrogen oxides, carbon monoxide, and volatile organic compounds) and will reduce annual greenhouse gas emissions. Finally, the Petitioner states that the proposed project will not adversely impact public health, safety, or welfare. R.I. Gen. Laws §42-98-3(b) defines “alteration” as “a significant modification to a major energy facility, which, as determined by the board, will result in a significant impact on the environment, or the public health, safety, and welfare.”

The Board hereby gives notice that it will accept written public comments in support of or objecting to Ocean State Power’s Petition. Any comments and objections should be limited to the issue of whether the proposed modifications constitute an alteration as defined by the statute. **To assure timely receipt of comments for review by the Board, any written public comments should be filed by no later September 16, 2022, but written comments will be accepted at any time prior to the Board making a decision at a date yet-to-be determined.** Motions to Intervene, however, must be filed by no later than 4:00 p.m. on September 16 and comply with the Rule 1.10 of the Board’s Rules of Practice and Procedure. Any Motion to Intervene through which the party is objecting to the Petition must be accompanied by a memorandum of law setting forth the reasons for the objection. Parties such as organizations, groups of persons, or other entities filing a Motion to Intervene (as opposed to a written public comment) must be represented by an attorney. All filings shall be made electronically to emma.rodvien@puc.ri.gov. Paper copies of public comments are not required. However, Motions to Intervene and memoranda of law shall be filed electronically with an original and 5 hard copies sent to Emma Rodvien at 89 Jefferson Boulevard, Warwick RI, 02888.

Emma Rodvien
Coordinator, Energy Facility Siting Board
September 1, 2022