

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

IN RE: SOUTHCOAST WIND ENERGY LLC'S APPLICATION TO CONSTRUCT MAJOR ENERGY FACILITIES IN PORTSMOUTH, RHODE ISLAND – DOCKET NO. SB-2022-02

NOTICE OF SHOW CAUSE HEARING

Pursuant to the provisions of Chapters 42-98 and 42-35 of the General Laws of the State of Rhode Island as amended, in particular, sections 42-98-7 and 42-98-9, and sections 1.8(a) - (d) and 1.9 of its Rules of Practice and Procedure, **the Energy Facility Siting Board (“Board”) will conduct a show cause hearing on Monday, June 12, 2023 at 1 PM, in Hearing Room A of the Public Utilities Commission office building, 89 Jefferson Boulevard, Warwick, Rhode Island.** The Board will not accept oral public comment at the show cause hearing.

On May 31, 2022, SouthCoast Wind Energy, LLC (formerly Mayflower Wind Energy LLC) filed an application with the Board to construct Rhode Island-jurisdictional transmission facilities necessary to connect its offshore wind generation facility to the onshore regional transmission system. SouthCoast Wind Energy, LLC (“SouthCoast Wind”) proposes to construct transmission facilities in Rhode Island that run up the Sakonnet River, cross Portsmouth and reenter Mt. Hope Bay, before making final landfall in Massachusetts. SouthCoast Wind’s application is on file and available for public review at the Board office (located in the Public Utilities Commission office building at 89 Jefferson Boulevard in Warwick, Rhode Island) and online at: <https://ripuc.ri.gov/Docket-SB-2022-02>.

On August 18, 2022, the Board convened a Preliminary Hearing on SouthCoast Wind’s application. Then, at an Open Meeting on October 4, 2022 the Board determined the issues to be considered in its evaluation of SouthCoast Wind’s application and designated agencies to render advisory opinions to the Board to aid its evaluation of the application. The Board was in the process of finalizing its Preliminary Order and initiating its evaluation of the application when the Chairman of the Board learned that SouthCoast Wind had recently requested the Massachusetts Department of Public Utilities (MA DPU) suspend its contract approval proceeding for the SouthCoast Wind project (whose Rhode Island transmission facilities are currently pending before the Board in this docket), citing concerns over the economic and financial viability of the project.

On November 10, 2022, after learning about SouthCoast Wind’s suspension request to the MA DPU and its concerns, the Board Chairman issued Order No. 160 ordering SouthCoast Wind to show cause why the Board should not stay its proceedings regarding the Rhode Island-jurisdictional transmission facilities until the MA DPU approves the contract and until SouthCoast Wind can demonstrate the economic and financial viability of its proposed project. SouthCoast Wind will respond to the Board’s show cause order at the hearing on June 12, 2023.

The Public Utilities Commission office building is accessible to the handicapped. Individuals requesting interpreter services for the hearing impaired must notify the Board Coordinator at least 72 hours in advance of the hearing. The hearing will be streamed live to the public and archived via the internet at: <https://video.ibm.com/channel/WqQyXw296dg>.

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May 22, 2023