

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

IN RE: SOUTHCOAST WIND ENERGY LLC'S APPLICATION FOR A LICENSE TO  
CONSTRUCT MAJOR ENERGY FACILITIES, PORTSMOUTH, RHODE ISLAND  
(FORMERLY MAYFLOWER WIND ENERGY LLC) – DOCKET NO. SB-2022-02

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC COMMENT HEARING**

Pursuant to the provisions of Chapters §42-98 and §42-35 of the General Laws of the State of Rhode Island, in particular Sections §42-98-9.1(b) and Section 1.8(G) of its Rules of Practice and Procedure (445-RICR-00-00-1), **the Energy Facility Siting Board (“Board”) will conduct a public hearing on Wednesday, July 23, 2025 at 6:00 PM in the auditorium of the Portsmouth Middle School, located at 125 Jepson Lane, 02871 in Portsmouth, Rhode Island.**

On May 31, 2022, SouthCoast Wind Energy LLC (“SouthCoast Wind” or “Applicant”)(formerly Mayflower Wind Energy LLC), filed an application to site and construct the portion of transmission and connector facilities located within Rhode Island that would connect SouthCoast Wind’s offshore wind generation facility (located approximately 51 nautical miles southeast of the Rhode Island coast) to the regional transmission system at Brayton Point in the Town of Somerset, Massachusetts. The SouthCoast Wind generation facility is capable of generating up to an estimated 2,400 megawatts (MW). The Public Comment Hearing relates to an approximately 1,200 MW set of two (2) high-voltage, direct current submarine export power cables with a nominal voltage of +/-320 kV, plus associated communications cabling, generally co-located within a single export cable corridor (“ECC”) with an approximate length of 20 miles (32 km) within Rhode Island state waters and underground on Aquidneck Island (the “Project”).

The cables will be installed in a bundled configuration where practicable. The offshore export cables will be generally co-located within a single ECC through the Sakonnet River, make intermediate landfall on Aquidneck Island in the Town of Portsmouth, Rhode Island, traverse Portsmouth underground following existing roads, and transition back to offshore in Mount Hope Bay. Both landfall and exit from the Town of Portsmouth will be accomplished using a horizontal directional drilling (“HDD”) technique to minimize impacts. The two landfall work areas on Aquidneck Island for HDD activities include one landfall work area on the northeast side of Portsmouth, and one area on the northwest side of Portsmouth. The onshore export cables will be co-located within a single onshore export cable route of approximately 2 miles (3.2 km) across the Town of Portsmouth. The application to the Board includes a design variation to the Project (the “Noticed Variation”).

SouthCoast Wind states that the Noticed Variation is intended to minimize impacts to the residents of Aquidneck Island and the environment and provide flexibility for the future expansion of the electric system in the Brayton Point area to accommodate additional new renewable energy generation export cables. The Noticed Variation would facilitate the delivery of up to an additional 1,200 MW. Note that the applicant is not seeking Board

approval for the associated offshore wind turbines, offshore substation, or Massachusetts interconnection as they are outside of the Board's jurisdiction.

On September 11, 2024, South Coast Wind submitted an updated application with the Board on Docket No. SB-2022-02. On October 8, 2024, the Board issued its Preliminary Decision and Order.

Pursuant to Section 1.8(G) of the Board's Rules of Practices and Procedure, the Board is holding a public hearing to hear comments from members of the public before initiating the Final Hearing in this proceeding.

The application is on file and available for public review at the Board's office located within the Public Utilities Commission office building at 89 Jefferson Boulevard, Warwick, Rhode Island. It is also available online at: <https://ripuc.ri.gov/Docket-SB-2022-02>.

The Portsmouth Middle School auditorium is accessible to the handicapped. Requests for interpreter services for the hearing impaired must be made to the Coordinator at 89 Jefferson Boulevard, Warwick, 401-780-2108, [Kristen.L.Masse@puc.ri.gov](mailto:Kristen.L.Masse@puc.ri.gov) at least 72 hours in advance of the hearing.

Kristen Masse, Coordinator  
Energy Facility Siting Board  
June 18, 2025