

FICTION VS FACT

Wind Turbines off Long Beach Island, NJ

FICTION

The wind turbines will be barely, or rarely visible from shore.

FACT

Long Beach Island is facing the tallest, closest and most visible modern wind turbine complex in the entire world.

SCOPE & SIZE:

- 357 turbines up to 1046 feet tall, along the entire coast of LBI.
- 300 feet taller than the former Revel Hotel in Atlantic City
- To be sited starting at 9 miles off Holgate and 10 miles off Barnegat Light
- Closer to shore than any other modern wind turbine project in the world:
 - In Europe, turbines start 44 miles from shorelines.
 - The US Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) gave New York State a turbine exclusion zone of 17 miles, off the Hamptons, BOEM cancelled all wind turbine projects.
 - Projects off other states are no closer than 15 miles and being pushed much further out:
 - Off Virginia: now starting at 27 miles; Louisiana: 34 miles; Texas: 38 miles.

VISUAL IMPACT:

- Turbines will be clearly visible at all times and appear as a "wall" of industrial structures
- A "Rutgers Study" saying the opposite is being misused-it does not deal with wind turbine visibility.
- Will be spaced as close as 0.6 miles apart.
- Seeing the rotating turbine blades will be disturbing, may force you to turn away from the seascape.

BREEZE/WAVE/LOCAL CLIMATE IMPACT:

- The turbines reduce the wind coming from the ocean by 26% and waves by 1.5 feet
- They extract energy from the cooling ocean breezes, resulting in a warmer 'micro-climate' on LBI.

NOISE IMPACT:

- The noise from turbine operation will be audible at the shore and exceed the State of NJ's night-time residential noise standards.

Taking all these effects together, our NJ shore experience will be destroyed.

FICTION

The project will have a minor effect on the Island's economy.

FACT

Based on NJ tourism data and several surveys, including one sponsored by BOEM, this project will devastate our local economy, property values and businesses:

- \$337 million lost tourism revenues annually.
- 22% fewer tourist visits to LBI, causing the loss of 1,838 tourism-related jobs.
- 55% loss of previous renters of oceanfront/ocean view properties.
- \$1 million to \$200K loss in value for ocean front and ocean view property, with reduction for others.
- Could lead to business bankruptcies and property foreclosures.

FICTION

The project will create 18,000 full time equivalent jobs, says the Atlantic Shores CEO.

FACT

The NJ BPU says about 500 jobs will be created, and those are offset by job losses in tourism, fishing and higher electric rates for residential commercial and industrial customers.



FICTION

The cause(s) of the recent spike in whale and dolphin deaths is climate change, increased vessel traffic and whales feeding closer to shore, not the wind company vessel surveys using high intensity noise devices.

FACT

Climate change is a long, slow process; vessel traffic has not increased significantly; and whales feeding closer to shore doesn't cause death. On the other hand:

- The number of survey vessels increased from 2 to 6 when the deaths began.
- Noise from the vessel surveys that disturbs whale behavior extends miles from each vessel.
- That disturbance can lead to harm and fatality in several ways, including:
 - Whales surfacing to avoid the noise, increasing the risk of vessel strikes.
 - Driving them closer to shore, at greater risk of becoming beached and dying.
 - Impairing the whale's ability to use sound to navigate and communicate.

FICTION

The impact on marine mammals from underwater noise from turbine operation will be acceptable.

FACT

The operation of the new, larger turbines will have a devastating impact on marine mammals

- Underwater noise levels from these new, much larger turbines are 10,000 times more intense as from smaller turbines.
- Elevated noise levels from the project will extend 93 miles out into the Atlantic, potentially blocking all the migration corridors of the critically endangered North Atlantic Right Whale, -- less than 400 of which exist today.

FICTION

Defense and navigation safety issues have been fully addressed.

FACT

The defense issues are unknown to the public, and radar is compromised by the operation of wind turbines.

- The inner half of the project is in a US Department of Defense (DOD) "exclusion zone."
- The DOD says the turbines are OK now, but a previous radar study suggested that their ARSR-4

radars at Gibbsboro, NJ could be interfered with by the now larger, closely spaced, and higher number of wind turbines.

- According to a National Academy of Science report, wind turbine interference on marine vessel radar will lead to "unforeseen complications and degraded radar performance."

FICTION

The project is needed in order to generate clean energy and address climate change.

FACT

BOEM's own EIS's say that these projects will have "no effect" on climate change.

- Based on International Panel climate science data, the only sea level rise effect of this project will be to delay whatever sea level rise is coming by about 9 days – hardly worth a \$5 billion investment.
- There is no substantive identified benefit that can justify the destruction of the NJ shore and ocean.
- The project planned for the entire coast of LBI also conflicts with multiple laws, including the Endangered Species Act and the Marine Mammal Protection Act.

FICTION

This project is "a baked cake," it cannot be moved, or its too expensive to do so.

FACT

This particular project can be terminated and replaced by one in a much better location.

- Our solution: a substitute project area starting 35 miles from LBI's coastline.
- In the Hudson South Call Area, already approved by the federal government for turbines
- Hudson South has much more wind energy than the current location.
- Will have much less impact on the environment and the shore economy, and
- The additional offshore cable cost is less than 2 percent of the total capital cost.

Help us make this change happen!
Go to www.saveLBI.org for more information,
join, donate, make your own "noise!"

