

**MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT
AIR AND RADIATION ADMINISTRATION**

NOTICE OF APPLICATION AND INFORMATIONAL MEETING

The Maryland Department of the Environment, Air and Radiation Administration (ARA) received an air quality permit application from US Wind, Inc. on November 30, 2023 (electronically), and hardcopies received on December 7, 2023 for the construction and operation of the Maryland Offshore Wind Project (the Project) consisting of up to 121 wind turbine generators (WTG), up to four (4) offshore substations (OSS), and one (1) meteorological tower (Met Tower). The proposed project will be located approximately 10 nautical miles (NM) off the coast of Worcester County, Maryland on the outer continental shelf (OCS). The application consists of an air quality permit-to-construct application, an application for a New Source Review (NSR) Approval, and an application for a Prevention of Significant Deterioration (PSD) Approval.

In accordance with HB 1200/Ch. 588 of 2022, the applicant provided an environmental justice (EJ) Score for the census tract in which the project is located using the Maryland EJ Screening Tool. The EJ Score, expressed as a statewide percentile, was shown to be 17.29, which the Department has verified. This score considers three demographic indicators – minority population above 50%, poverty rate above 25% and limited English proficiency above 15%. Multiple environmental health indicators are used to identify overburdened communities.

Copies of the application, the MDE EJ Screening Tool Report (which includes the score), and other supporting documents are available for public inspection on the Department's website at <https://mde.maryland.gov/programs/permits/AirManagementPermits/Pages/U.-S.-Wind-Maryland-Offshore-Wind-Project.aspx> Any applicant-provided information regarding a description of the environmental and socioeconomic indicators contributing to that EJ score can also be found at the listed website. Such information has not yet been reviewed by the Department. A review of the submitted information will be conducted when the Department undertakes its technical review of all documents included in the application.

Pursuant to the Environment Article, Section 1-603, Annotated Code of Maryland, an Informational Meeting has been scheduled so that citizens can discuss the application and the permit review process with the applicant and the Department.

An Informational Meeting will be held on June 13, 2024 at the Ocean City Convention Center, Rooms 201 and 202, located at 4001 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, Maryland 21842. The Informational Meeting will consist of an open house format poster session beginning at 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., followed by a question and answer session from 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

The Department will provide an interpreter for deaf and hearing impaired persons provided that a request is made for such service at least ten (10) days prior to the meeting. Further information may be obtained by calling Ms. Shannon Heafey at 410-537-4433.

Christopher R. Hoagland, Director
Air and Radiation Administration