



City of Brookings

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June 28, 2022

Dr. Whitney Hauer, Renewable Energy Specialist
Bureau of Ocean Energy Management
Office of Strategic Resources
760 Paseo Camarillo, Suite 102
Camarillo, CA 93010

Re: Oregon Coast – Offshore Wind Energy

Dear Dr. Hauer:

The City Council of Brookings recently met and heard from stakeholders regarding offshore wind energy.

The City is concerned with the rushed process and lack of communication from the Federal government. We are not in support of “pushing” this forward without ample time for public input. Our community and others along the Oregon Coast deserve more information and opportunities for input.

The City requests the considerations listed in the attached Resolution 22-R-1232.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Janell K. Howard
City Manager

Cc: Jason Sierman, Oregon Department of Energy
Governor Kate Brown’s Office
Senator Jeff Merkley
Representative Peter DeFazio
State Senator Dallas Heard
State Representative David Brock Smith

**CITY OF BROOKINGS
STATE OF OREGON**

RESOLUTION 22-R-1232

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF BROOKINGS TO SEND THE BUREAU OF OCEAN ENERGY MANAGEMENT (BOEM) AND THE OREGON DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY (ODOE) A LETTER WITH RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING OFFSHORE WIND ENERGY.

WHEREAS, the Brookings City Council (Council) supports responsible and sustainable economic development projects which benefit the citizens of our community; and

WHEREAS, the Council recognizes renewable energy is an important part of Oregon and the nation's energy portfolio, and we appreciate the efforts that are being made to make our energy system more resilient and diversified; and

WHEREAS, the Council recognizes our commercial and recreational fishing fleets are a critical component of the economy of the Oregon Coast, and we are deeply concerned about potential impacts on this industry; and

WHEREAS, the Council believes certain steps should be taken to ensure that existing ocean users and stakeholders are protected in the process;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the Council requests the following considerations in order to ensure that our current ocean users, stakeholders, and marine life are protected:

1. The offshore leasing process needs to be transparent and inclusive. We would ask that BOEM engage in a more inclusive public process by bringing together stakeholders such as the fishing industry, environmentalists, coastal communities, and local, state, and federal elected officials as equal partners, with an agenda that is created in a collaborative fashion. These stakeholders would be able to review the proposed Call areas and identify areas for concern before the leases are issued.
2. Unless the stakeholder group determines otherwise, we assert that the Call areas need to be immediately moved outside of the productive fishery areas. Moving the Call areas outside of 1,300 meters will avoid the majority of the fishing activity.
3. Invest in more data to determine the impacts on the marine environment and the potential impacts on marine species, ecosystems, and habitat.
4. Provide stakeholders and the public with the potential environmental and economic impacts at the beginning of the process, instead of after the Call areas have been determined. Any community that will be impacted by offshore wind should know and fully understand the impacts before the lease is granted and not after.

The foregoing resolution was duly adopted by the City Council of the City of Brookings, Curry County, Oregon this 27th day of June 2022.



Mayor Ron Hedenskog

Attest:



City Recorder Janell K. Howard