

**BEFORE THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
FOR THE COUNTY OF LINCOLN, OREGON**

**In the Matter of**

**RESOLUTION #** 22-22-6F

**Making recommendations to the  
Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM), the  
Oregon Department of Energy (ODOE),  
the Oregon Department of Land Conservation  
And Development (DLCD),  
regarding offshore wind energy**

**Whereas** Lincoln County recognizes that offshore wind energy has potential in our state and nation's clean energy portfolio and to help reduce dependency on fossil fuels.

**Whereas** Lincoln County values its commercial and recreational fishing fleets for both their economic and cultural contributions to the county and to the state. Cities, the county, Ports, and private businesses have made significant contributions to commercial fishing infrastructure to help retain our commercial and recreational fishing businesses.

**Whereas** Lincoln County values ocean resources and the marine environment including the pursuit of academic research to better understand and manage our ocean and coastal resources

**Whereas** Lincoln County believes certain steps should be taken to ensure that existing ocean uses, stakeholders, and the marine environment are protected in development of potential offshore wind resources.

**Whereas** Lincoln County has the following recommendations for the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM), Oregon Department of Energy (ODOE), and the Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD).

1. A comprehensive marine spatial planning exercise should be required before any ocean space is put forward for potential lease. This process would be a robust, scientifically driven collaborative process that includes the commercial fishing industry, recreational fishing community, coastal communities of place, Tribes, the environmental community, other ocean users, and relevant stakeholders.
2. Move call areas outside of major commercial fishing areas. Logbook and other data shows that moving outside of 1,300 meters will avoid the majority of fishing activity.
3. Invest in better data sets to understand potential impacts of the marine environment. There is still important questions that need to be understood, such as impacts to already endangered marine birds, marine mammals, and other important species. In the meantime, enact a moratorium on developing large scale projects until the impacts can be better understood.

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(541) 265-4100

4. Provide information on potential environmental and economic impacts upfront, at the beginning of the process, rather than after leases have been granted. This may require conducting a comprehensive Environmental Impact Statement before leases are granted, rather than after. This would include information on cumulative impacts on projects proposed in other West Coast States, as well as transmission line impacts.
5. In the absence of a comprehensive peer reviewed economic analysis (as part of an EIS) there is not real understanding of the potential economic impacts (positive or negative) to coastal communities and to the state and potential tradeoffs.
6. Given the considerable fishery values generated from within the current call areas, the productivity of the California current system, and the potential impacts to the marine species and ecosystems/habitats, we extend the timeline of lease blocks going out to auction until risks and uncertainties can better be addressed.
7. We strongly suggest considering either an addition to the PacWave project, which is currently being developed to test wave energy off the Lincoln County coast or if extension of that project is not possible, then creation of an additional PacWave like project to test offshore wind. Not only does testing and research help answer questions of survivability, and environmental impacts, but it itself can help drive and inform development of smarter technologies later. Additionally, testing and research can also create its own economic development opportunities for coastal communities.

Now therefore, Lincoln County Board of Commissioners resolves as follows, the county sends this resolution to the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Oregon Department of Energy, and Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development encouraging the above listed recommendations.

Dated this 22nd day of June 2022

**LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**



\_\_\_\_\_  
CLAIRE HALL, Chair



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KAETY JACOBSON, Commissioner



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DOUG HUNT, Commissioner

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