

# Hull Offshore Wind Pre-Development Environmental Studies February 24, 2007 Public Information Meeting

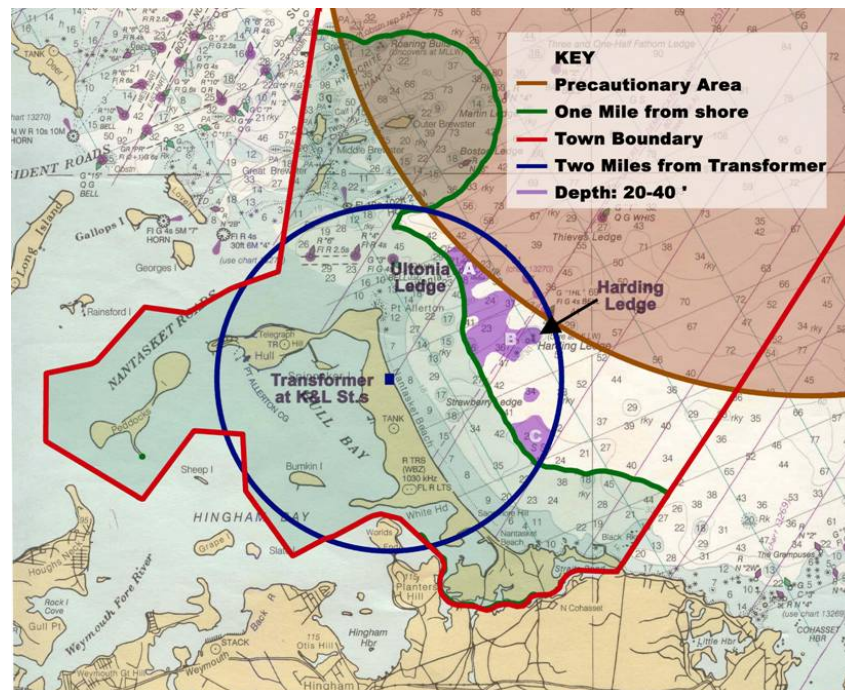


- **Who May Be Affected by Offshore Wind Energy Turbines....?**
  - Aircraft...Bats...Birds...Boats...Benthos...Cultural Artifacts...Finfish...Lobsters...Marine Mammals...People



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- **Studies Are Driven by Two Questions Applicable to All Projects:**
  - **What are you building?**
  - **Where are you building it?**
- **Scope of Studies Intended to Provide:**
  - **Comprehensive Assessment of the Effects on the Environment**
  - **Early Identification of Potential Fatal Flaws**



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- What is “the Environment?”

Combination of external physical conditions affecting or influencing the growth, development, and survival of organisms;

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Complex of social and cultural conditions affecting the nature of an individual or community;

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The Totality of Circumstances Surrounding an Organism or a Group of Organisms (NB: People are Organisms)

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- External Physical Conditions Include:
  - Natural Resources
    - Air (quality, visibility)
    - Water (surface waters, wetlands, tidal areas)
    - Land (soil, geology, forests, vegetation)
  - Inhabitants
    - Animals, plants, and habitats
    - People





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- Social and Cultural Conditions Include:
  - History
  - Aesthetics
  - Existing Uses (fishing, boating, aircraft)
  - Quality of Life



- Pre-Development Studies Will Include:
  - Water quality, wetlands, coastal conditions (offshore and onshore)
  - Benthic populations
  - Finfish, shellfish, lobsters
  - Marine mammals
  - Birds
  - Bats
  - Cultural artifacts (shipwrecks)
  - Objective visualizations
  - Existing uses (recreational/commercial fishing, boating)
  - Aircraft (radar interference)

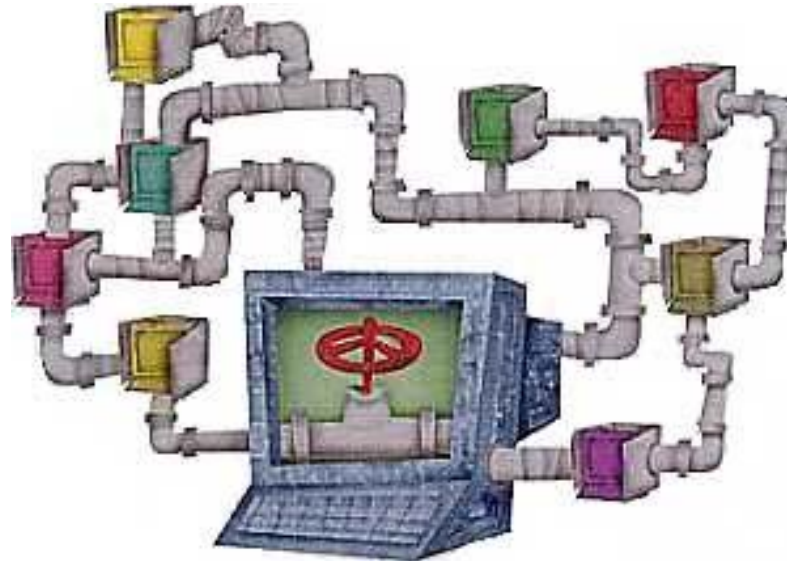
- Example of Potential Fatal Flaws:
  - Unsuitable physical conditions (quicksand)
  - Significant negative impacts on marine habitat
  - Significant negative impacts on marine populations (lobsters)
  - Interference with aircraft (radar)





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- Studies will Support Development and Submission of an Expanded Environmental Notification Form (EENF) for Review by the Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act (MEPA) Office:
  - Addresses Scope of Impacts
  - Identifies Preliminary Alternatives to Avoid, Minimize, Mitigate Environmental Impacts
  - Addresses Scope of Review Necessary for Permitting
  - Solicits Public Participation, Review, and Comment



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- Potential Consulting and Permitting Agencies:
  - U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
  - U.S. Coast Guard
  - Federal Aviation Administration
  - U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
  - Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection
  - Massachusetts Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program
  - Massachusetts Historical Commission
  - Massachusetts Board of Underwater Archeology
  - Massachusetts Office of Coastal Zone Management



Siting Wind Energy projects should not be an exercise in "Tilting at Windmills" or an "Impossible Dream."

