

HCR 4 - AS INTRODUCED

2025 SESSION

25-0183

06/05

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION **4**

A RESOLUTION relative to rejecting all offshore wind energy projects in the waters off the coast of New Hampshire and the Gulf of Maine.

SPONSORS: Rep. D. Thomas, Rock. 16; Rep. Cambrils, Merr. 4; Rep. Freeman, Belk. 8; Rep. Khan, Rock. 30; Rep. Osborne, Rock. 2; Rep. Sabourin, Rock. 30; Rep. Seidel, Hills. 29; Rep. Bernardy, Rock. 36; Sen. Gannon, Dist 23; Sen. Birdsell, Dist 19

COMMITTEE: Science, Technology and Energy

ANALYSIS

This bill calls for the rejection of all offshore wind projects in and around the waters off the coast of New Hampshire and the Gulf of Maine until such time as there is a more complete understanding of the effect such projects may have on the ocean's ecosystem, the fishing industry, and electric ratepayers.

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STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Twenty Five

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1 Whereas, the general court finds the health of the ocean's ecosystem to be important and
2 supports a robust and vibrant fishing industry for the economy, food supply, and heritage; and

3 Whereas, the proposed offshore wind project selected in areas in the Gulf of Maine has resulted
4 in many unanswered questions and unknown effects that an offshore wind farm, floating or
5 stationary, has on the ocean bed, ecosystem, food supply, and the livelihood of the fishing industry;
6 and

7 Whereas, some of the unanswered questions involve ocean substations that must be cooled by sea
8 water and chlorine, thereby discharging warmer, toxic water back into the ocean in massive
9 amounts; and

10 Whereas, the ocean bed will be disturbed by transmission cables extending for long distances,
11 requiring the seabed to be sculpted, and that ocean currents will produce continuous movement of
12 the cables back and forth and thus disturbing sea life and underwater ecosystems; and

13 Whereas, no conclusive evidence as to the effects of these projects to prevent harm to the fishing
14 industry and the environment has been established and the pace of offshore wind development is
15 exceeding the answers to these and other questions; and

16 Whereas, the cost of electricity from these projects to ratepayers or the state is likely to exceed
17 current rates and would place an undue burden on them; now, therefore, be it

18 Resolved by the House of Representatives, the Senate concurring:

19 That the general court categorically rejects offshore wind projects until such time as these
20 questions are fully vetted and verified, without financial risk to the state or ratepayer, and only upon
21 the approval of the general court; and

22 That the general court urges the neighboring ocean states take similar action until such time as
23 all questions and risks have been fully satisfied to result in no harm.