

Preservation Society of Newport County Provides Further Insights Regarding Its Appeal of Two Wind Farms Off the RI Coast

NEWPORT, RHODE ISLAND, USA, November 30, 2023 / EINPresswire.com/ -- Today, in response to numerous media inquiries, the Preservation Society of Newport County released additional responsive information about its announcement on November 22, 2023, that it was appealing federal agency approval of two wind farms off the Rhode Island coast in the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia.

The appeals detail the failure of the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) to comply with the heightened levels of review required under the National Environmental Policy Act and the National Historic Preservation Act.



Beachgoers enjoy the sunny weather and pristine views at Second Beach in Newport County, Rhode Island. Photo courtesy: DiscoverNewport.

Developers have to date proposed nine massive wind farms off the coast. At least 457 turbines, each twice the height of Rhode Island's Superman Building or taller, will be visible, occupying up to 100% of the ocean views from key community sites for the next 30 years. BOEM concludes this will cause a "major adverse impact" to Newport's sense of place and economy. Danish developer Orsted's own study suggests that this level of ocean industrialization could lead to losses to Newport's heritage tourism economy of an estimated \$5.17 billion and thousands of jobs, not including inflation, property value reductions, and loss of tax revenues. Yet, BOEM is allowing the developers to proceed without appropriately mapping these harms and without responsibly mitigating them. The Preservation Society is represented by the law firm Cultural Heritage Partners, PLLC.

In addition to providing responses to <u>frequently asked questions</u> about the appeals, Cultural Heritage Partners has developed a <u>webpage</u> with additional information.

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