

Protect Sandbridge Beach Coalition

A coalition of concerned Virginia Beach homeowners, residents, businesses, and visiting guests who oppose the Kitty Hawk Wind (KHW) Project from making landfall onto Sandbridge Beach.

Mission: Inform and educate the public about the known and potential impacts of Avangrid Renewables' proposed Sandbridge transmission line landfall for Kitty Hawk Wind Project and ask City Council to **VOTE NO** on more easements.

Community Concerns- Why Should You Care?

The Sandbridge Beach nourishment project that began in 1998 is one of the most successful programs in Virginia Beach. Virginia Beach tax revenues from the robust tourism and property assessments are a significant component of the Virginia Beach budget. Sandbridge rental income and property taxes contribute over 20 million dollars annually to Virginia Beach. Sandbridge tourism spending is vital to local businesses and generates substantial state and local taxes.

- Six years of large-scale construction and disruption will, without a doubt, impact tourism and property values. Even a small reduction in tourism and property values will result in millions of dollars in lost tax revenues and economic reduction.
- Tourists visit Sandbridge year-round. Although construction will be curtailed during the peak season, construction delays and the unpredictability of transmission line maintenance and repairs can involve excavation and occur during the summer tourist season for years to come.
- The project poses risk to Sandbridge Beach shoreline stability and the Sandbridge Beach replenishment project. Risks include cost, schedule, and loss of potential future offshore sand borrow areas needed to replenish Sandbridge Beach. US Army Core of Engineers has not completed their assessment of the impacts.
- The proposed underground transmission line infrastructure at the main intersection in Sandbridge and along the route to Corporate Landing will increase cost and complexity of public utility maintenance, repairs, and future upgrades for those communities. The burden will be on the taxpayers.
- Electromagnetic fields (EMF) from transmission lines pose health and safety risks, especially for people with electronic medical devices. Avangrid has not provided EMF levels for the parking lot behind the Sandbridge Market, where six transition joint bays, the size of a railroad box car, will be buried to splice onshore and offshore cables.
- The rapid scale-up of offshore wind farms poses risks to marine ecosystems that are not fully understood. There are also onshore issues as high voltage cables are installed through environmentally sensitive areas like Back Bay National Wildlife Refuge where above ground transmission lines may be installed along the Nimmo Pkwy.
- Avangrid has never completed an Off-Shore Wind project of this scale. Is Avangrid the kind of company we can trust for the next 25-30 years, given their lack of transparency and meaningful public engagement?

No net benefit to the most impacted communities; only risk of impacting property values, tax revenues, rate increases and tourism. What are the unknown unintended consequences to our vital beach nourishment program and the environment?

MAKE YOUR VOICES HEARD ON THURSDAY, MAY 4TH 5:30pm Presentation 6:30pm Comments

Please attend the VB City Council public Briefing and Comment Session on the proposed KHW Project by Avangrid Renewables LLC on **Thursday, May 4, 2023, at 6:30 p.m.** Municipal Center Building 1, 2401 Courthouse Dr. **Representatives from Avangrid Renewables LLC will be present to provide a briefing on the project and answer questions at 5:30 p.m.** Please attend, in person or virtually. This public briefing and comment session will be livestreamed online at virginiabeach.gov, www.VBgov.com/media and facebook.com/cityofvabeach. Anyone wishing to make comments at meeting **MUST Register with the City Clerk's Office** by calling 757-385-4303 or via email to ABarnes@vbgov.com prior to 5 p.m. on May 4, 2023.

For more information on Protect Sandbridge Beach, sign petition, or volunteer to help, visit our webpage www.protectsandbridgebeach.org or email Info@protectsandbridgebeach.org

