

SENATE, No. 988
STATE OF NEW JERSEY
217th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 4, 2016

Sponsored by:

Senator BOB SMITH

District 17 (Middlesex and Somerset)

Senator JIM WHELAN

District 2 (Atlantic)

Co-Sponsored by:

Senator Gordon

SYNOPSIS

Permits BPU to approve qualified wind energy projects; requires BPU to provide application periods for those projects.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.

AN ACT concerning offshore wind energy projects and amending P.L.2010, c.57.

BE IT ENACTED *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State of New Jersey:*

1. Section 4 of P.L.2010, c.57 (C.48:3-87.2) is amended to read as follows:

4. a. The board may approve, subject to the project obtaining the necessary permits, approvals, and authorizations from the Department of Environmental Protection, a qualified wind energy project located in territorial waters offshore of a municipality in which casino gaming is authorized, and authorize offshore wind renewable energy certificates for that project. [Any such] The project shall be at least a nominal 20 megawatts and no more than 25 megawatts in nameplate capacity and comply with the requirements set forth in section 3 of P.L.2010, c.57 (C.48:3-87.1)

b. Within 60 days following the date of enactment of P.L. c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill), the board shall provide a 30-day period for the submission of applications under

this section. Following the conclusion of the 30-day application period, the board shall from time to time provide a period for the submission of applications under this subsection that may differ in length from the 30-day application period provided in this subsection.

(cf: P.L.2010, c.57, s.4)

2. This act shall take effect immediately.

STATEMENT

This bill permits the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (board) to approve a qualified wind energy project that is located in territorial waters offshore of a municipality in which casino gaming is authorized as provided in section 4 of P.L.2010, c.57 (C.48:3-87.2). The bill requires the board to provide a 30-day period for the submission of applications and, from time to time, provide a submission period that may differ from the 30-day application period.