



# *The Commonwealth of Massachusetts*

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## **Rep. Kip Diggs Commends Study on Offshore Wind Transmission, Emphasizes Importance of Community Input**

**BARNSTABLE** – Today, State Representative Kip Diggs (D – 2nd Barnstable) has praised the inclusion of a new study requirement, expected to pass in a Senate bill this week, which would address concerns over the landing of offshore wind transmission cables in Barnstable.

The study requirement, featured in Section 116 of the Clean Energy and Climate Conference report filed on October 21, 2024, requires the Department of Energy Resources (DOER) to conduct a thorough review of existing offshore wind projects, including potential alternative routes for transmission lines.

Rep. Jeffrey Roy, House Chairman of the Joint Committee on Telecommunications, Utilities, and Energy, outlined that “DOER is required to conduct a review of existing solicitations and procurements, and to specifically review authorization of surplus interconnection service as an available transmission option. This review could open up the door to other avenues for the transmission of offshore wind. In particular, under this provision, it could be redirected to other more suitable locations on Cape Cod.”

Rep. Diggs, who has consistently advocated for an equitable distribution of energy infrastructure, welcomed this thorough evaluation. “It’s important to work through the legislative process, as I have done, to ensure that every voice in our community is heard,” said Rep. Diggs. “This study is a collective response to the concerns I have raised with DOER and Chairman Roy, ensuring that we explore all available options for transmission routes, including locations across the Cape.”



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The study represents a significant step toward addressing community concerns while continuing to support Massachusetts' renewable energy goals. "Clean energy is critical to our future, especially on Cape Cod, but it must be implemented in a way that balances local impacts with statewide benefits. This study ensures that Cape Cod's needs are part of that conversation," added Rep. Diggs.

Rep. Diggs emphasized that thoughtful leadership and collaboration within the legislative process is always the best way to bring meaningful change in the Commonwealth and protect the district's interests. "Our Commonwealth is fortunate to have representation that prioritizes balanced solutions, and I will continue to ensure that Barnstable's concerns are addressed at every step of this process," Representative Diggs said.

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