

**From:** [William Lake](#)  
**To:** [Paul Foley](#)  
**Cc:** [Lucy Morrison](#)  
**Subject:** Vineyard Wind Connector  
**Date:** Thursday, February 21, 2019 11:08:44 AM

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- Dear Mr. Foley and Ms. Morrison:
- I hope the Commission will act favorably on the Vineyard Wind Connector, an essential aspect of the Vineyard Wind project.
- In considering the possible environmental impacts of the project, it is important to **keep things in perspective**.
  - Any project of this size will have some local impacts. In this instance, the project proponents have identified those impacts and the steps that will help to minimize them.
  - But the **far greater impact** of this project will be the positive contribution it will make to meeting the existential threat posed by climate change. The speed at which our climate is changing, and the effects -- both current and predicted -- are staggering. Few things could be as important as reducing carbon emissions by moving from fossil fuels to renewable energy. This project will be a huge step in that direction.
  - Any disruption that this project might cause to local interests, such as fishing, pales in comparison to the harm that climate change threatens to **anyone who makes a living** on the ocean, or lives near it.
- The New York Times recently summarized how urgent it is that we act decisively to limit carbon emissions: <https://www.nytimes.com/2019/02/16/opinion/sunday/fear-panic-climate-change-warming.html>
- Offshore wind is the renewable energy source that we have in New England. Other parts of the country have other resources – hydroelectric, geothermal, or whatever. But here, offshore wind is it. If we are going to harness renewable energy, this is the resource we have.
- It is significant that this will be the first major offshore wind project in the country. The northeastern seaboard has great wind resources. Massachusetts has the opportunity to **lead** in developing this economic resource and to become the center of a growing, hi-tech industry.
  - This will generate **manufacturing** jobs for the region, as the wind turbines are assembled and installed in Southeastern Massachusetts.
  - And it will create **local** jobs for our island of Martha’s Vineyard, where the maintenance and operation of the wind farm will be based.
- I hope the Commission will act promptly and decisively to approve the Vineyard Wind Connector, to clear the way for this important project.

Thank you for your service to the island and your attention to this matter.

William Lake  
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