

Get the FACTS

on Kitty Hawk Wind
Before Falling for Myths

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Kitty Hawk Wind



Contact Us at: info@kittyhawkoffshore.com

Myth: *This project does not benefit the Virginia Beach community.*

Fact: **Kitty Hawk Wind will benefit the Virginia Beach community both economically and environmentally.** Avangrid estimates Kitty Hawk Wind will generate approximately \$1.2 billion in total economic impact in Virginia Beach over forty years, including \$275 million in property taxes alone paid directly to the City of Virginia Beach, as well as additional negotiated payments and eligible tax revenues. All infrastructure will be constructed and maintained by Avangrid, and no City funds are needed for this work. By providing clean, reliable electricity to accelerate the clean energy transition, Kitty Hawk Wind will aid in reducing the impacts of climate change including the threat of sea level rise to coastal communities like Virginia Beach. All this while generating enough clean energy to power roughly 1 million homes and businesses, and bringing new jobs and economic opportunities to Virginia Beach and Hampton Roads.

Myth: *The project's underground utility cables will pose a health and safety risk.*

Fact: **The project's utility cables will pose no risk to health and safety.** Underground transmission cables are a safe and proven technology that has been in place in Virginia and around the world for decades. Magnetic fields from the underground cables are less than those found in household items such as electronic toothbrushes, light bulbs, and hair dryers. The Virginia Beach Economic Development Department commissioned and paid for an analysis by Virginia Wesleyan University (VWU) for an independent assessment of potential impacts of Kitty Hawk Wind with a focus on electromagnetic fields (EMF). The VWU study concluded:

"Peak EMF levels at the sites investigated fall within the typical values of household exposure, and are well below the threshold values reported for many common household appliances. The literature surveyed indicates no negative EMF impact on human health."

View the full study at: kittyhawkoffshore.com

Myth: *The cables will impact future beach renourishment projects and/or degrade the beach.*

Fact: **The Kitty Hawk Wind project will not impact current or future beach renourishment or degrade the beach.** Through discussions with the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM), the offshore export cable route was designed to not interfere with existing designated sand borrow resource areas. Kitty Hawk Wind will use horizontal directional drilling (HDD) technology to install cables in the municipal parking lot without disturbing the beach and dunes. This common trenchless technique does not disturb the ground surface and will not impact future sand renourishment projects over the cables, which will be located 45 to 85 feet below the beach. Additionally, Kitty Hawk Wind is working with the City of Virginia Beach to voluntarily contribute to the Sandbridge Special Service District (SSD) for sand renourishment.



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Virtual Self-Guided Tour



Myth: *The cables will adversely impact the natural environment and ecosystems.*

Fact: The Kitty Hawk Wind project is being designed with environment and ecosystems in mind. Kitty Hawk Wind requires an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) from the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) assessing the project from an environmental impact perspective before work can commence. Additionally, numerous other federal, state, and local permits are required to ensure the project poses the least environmental impact possible.

Myth: *The project will cause continuous traffic disruptions for 6 years in Sandbridge.*

Fact: Construction in the municipal parking lot south of the market and along Sandbridge Road will be completed between **October 1 to April 30** as required by the city ordinance. We are listening and will continue to listen to community concerns throughout the lifetime of the project. Avangrid engineers and design teams continue to evaluate and are engineering construction of the installation of duct banks along Sandbridge Road and the proposed landfall in the municipal parking lot with minimal disruptions to residents and visitors of Sandbridge. The project will NOT cause continuous traffic disruptions at any time for 6 years as various parts of the construction work can be conducted concurrently. Construction will not begin any earlier than 2027 for any portion of the project.

Myth: *The cables will overburden the City's rights-of-way.*

Fact: The project's cables will not overburden the City's rights-of-way. Like any utility placed in City rights-of-way, the City of Virginia Beach Departments of Public Works and Public Utilities must review and approve the cable design and placement of duct banks and splice vaults to ensure current and future operations of City-owned and privately-owned infrastructure.

Myth: *This will impact home values.*

Fact: The installed underground infrastructure will not devalue properties. Once construction is complete, there will be no aboveground infrastructure in the municipal parking lot, and visitors to the area will not know that clean energy is being transmitted to the grid.



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