

Onshore Interconnections – The Critical Pathway to Offshore Wind Project Success

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Interconnecting offshore wind projects to the onshore grid is difficult at best. Establishing an onshore interconnection cable route is particularly challenging in the Mid-Atlantic Region.

Coastal Environment

- Densely developed shore communities
- Protected/regulated natural resource areas:
 - Coastal wetlands and waters
 - Wildlife management areas
 - State, county, local parks
 - Beaches
 - T&E species habitat
- Complex transportation infrastructure
 - Interstate, state, and local roadways
 - Railroads
 - Intracoastal waterways

Successful onshore routing involves early stakeholder coordination and a multi-disciplinary approach to identify and address routing constraints.



Routing Constraints

- Location and number of suitable POIs
- Obtaining rights for constructable corridors
- Presence of underground utilities
- Natural resources
- Federal/state-listed species habitat
- Limited open space to conduct landfall and other HDD

Routing Solutions

How to identify and secure a successful onshore interconnection route

- Early coordination with landowners
Conducting routing analyses in coordination with engineering evaluations to identify hidden routing constraints
- Progress two or more routes
- Early coordination with regulatory authorities to identify stakeholder concerns
- Document all significant changes as design evolves to inform an alternatives analysis

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