

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to prohibiting interconnection of an offshore wind power facility.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Title 6, Utilities Code, is amended by adding Chapter 301A to read as follows:

CHAPTER 301A. OFFSHORE WIND POWER FACILITY

Sec. 301A.001. DEFINITIONS. In this Chapter:

(1) "Offshore" means located within the territorial sea, as defined by 33 CFR 2.22.

(2) "Wind power facility" includes:

(A) a wind turbine generator; and

(B) a facility or equipment used to support the operation of a wind turbine generator, including an electrical transmission or communications line, an electric transformer, a battery storage facility, and energy storage facility, or telecommunications equipment.

Sec. 301A.002. INTERCONNECTION PROHIBITED. The commission shall not approve interconnection of a wind power facility, transmission, or distribution facility located offshore, if the commission has reason to believe that such a facility may:

(1) negatively impact previously established industries, violating preestablished community values relying on such industries, including but not limited to:

- 1           (A) shipping routes;  
2           (B) general tourism; and  
3           (C) recreational and commercial fishing;  
4       (2) negatively impact environmental factors, including but  
5 not limited to:  
6           (A) general welfare of wildlife; and  
7           (B) disruption of migratory patterns;  
8       (3) present a risk to the life and safety of residents,  
9 nearby industries, and wildlife, if located within an area with  
10 historical exposure to natural disasters; or  
11       (4) be deemed unnecessary, in accordance with Section  
12 37.056, Public Utilities Code, due to lack of need for additional  
13 service and the presence of adequate existing services in the area  
14 adjacent to the offshore wind power facility.

15       SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
16 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
17 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
18 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
19 Act takes effect September 1, 2025.