

FRIDAY, APRIL 12

2:00PM - 3:30PM AT CHARLES B WANG CENTER THEATER FREE & OPEN TO THE PUBLIC



MOTION

"The benefits of offshore wind in the Eastern United States outweigh the risks"



Affirm: Rami Aboukhater



Oppose: Mohtadi Mahim

PANELISTS



Charles Clarkson Ali Khosronejad





Carl Safina



Retha Fernandez Jun Shepard



Introductions: Director of the Collaborative for the Earth, Heather J. Lynch

Welcome message: Provost Carl Lejuez

Presentation of Arguments:

Rami Aboukhater (Affirm) - Rami is a sophomore at Stony Brook University double majoring in Business Management and Political Science.

Mohtadi Mahim (Oppose) - Mohtadi is a junior at Stony Brook University majoring in Computer Science.

Panel Remarks and Responses (3 min each)

Dr. Charles Clarkson - Director of Avian Research at Audubon Society of Rhode Island Charles Clarkson is the Director of Avian Research for the Audubon Society of Rhode Island where he is leading efforts to conserve bird populations across Audubon's 10,000 acres. Aside from overseeing Audubon's Avian Research Initiative, Charles actively engages in many of the organization's advocacy activities, including providing testimony on forage fish harvest in Narragansett Bay, neonicotinoid insecticides, anticoagulant rodenticides and offshore wind development.

Dr. Ali Khosronejad - Associate Professor, Department of Civil Engineering and co-Director of the Atlantic Marine Energy Center, U.S. Department of Energy

Ali Khosronejad is an Associate Professor of civil engineering at Stony Brook University. His lab generally focuses on computational fluid mechanics and Al development for energy, biological, and environmental flows. His energy research activities are specifically focused on optimizing the design of large-scale wind and tidal farms.

Ms. Retha Fernandez - Manager, Strategic Engagement, nationalgrid Ventures and Community Offshore Wind

Retha Fernandez joined National Grid Ventures in March 2023 as the Strategic Engagement Manager. In this role Retha supports the creation of workforce and economic development strategies alongside the strategic engagement team helping ensure the success of all projects; delivering local clean energy for all.

Dr. Carl Safina - Endowed Professor for Nature & Humanity, School of Marine and Atmospheric Sciences

Carl Safina is an ecologist, author, and founding President of the Safina Center. He is the first Endowed Professor for Nature and Humanity at Stony Brook University. His work centers on animal psychology and the relationship between humans and nature.

Dr. Jun Shepard - Physical Scientist at U.S. Department of Energy

Jun Ukita Shepard is a Physical Scientist in the Office of Technology Policy at the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE). In her role, she coordinates economy-wide and energy systems modeling for the Office of Policy, which advises the Secretary of Energy on domestic energy and climate policy. Jun also co-leads two of the Department's technical working groups to implement clean energy tax credits in the Inflation Reduction Act. Prior to her position at DOE, Jun managed energy systems modeling at RMI, a bipartisan clean energy think tank.

Audience Q & A

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