

RBHA NEWS

OFFSHORE WIND POWER FOR DELAWARE – At our April General Membership Meeting we heard a presentation on offshore wind farms by Willett Kempton, Associate Professor at the University of Delaware's College of Marine and Earth Studies. One of Professor Kempton's current research, speaking and publishing foci is on offshore wind power (www.ocean.udel.edu/Windpower). His education combines electrical engineering, computer science & cognitive anthropology. His slide show and talk reviewed the technology, resource assessment, environmental impacts, and opinions about wind-generated electricity.

“At the University of Delaware, we have developed and refined methods for assessing the amount of offshore wind power available, based on current wind power technology. We find that the wind resource off the Atlantic coast of Delaware is several times the electrical needs of the entire state.”

We will share more on his presentation in our next newsletter. You can also find additional information about wind power in Cape Gazette articles, including a summary of Professor Kempton's presentation and an editorial, at <http://www.capegazette.com/>.

ABANDONED BOATS – There may be help for the two abandoned boats near the canal bridge. But your help will be needed, too. A bill, authored by Senator George Bunting addresses this and similar abandoned boat situations. Representatives Pete Schwartzkopf and Gerald Hocker and Senator Gary Simpson joined Senator Bunting to sponsor the bill currently introduced into committee in the Senate. Please take a moment to write or email your support for this legislation. Address your interest Senator Bunting at P.O. Box 1401, Legislative Hall, Dover, DE 19903. Or, email Representative Schwartzkopf at Peter.Schwartzkopf@state.de.us; he has offered to distribute the letters to our legislators.

FIVE QUEEN – We have been informed that the Federal Emergency Management Administration has refused to give the owner of 5 Queen Street relief from the current construction prohibition in a flood zone. Called a Letter of Map Amendment, the owner of the house had sought to remove their house from the flood zone. As a result we are told that the owner is filling in the basement to comply with the requirements. So, it looks like the water will run for a short time and then shut off permanently.