

## Department of Planning and Budget 2009 Fiscal Impact Statement

**1. Bill Number:** SB1349

House of Origin    ☐ Introduced    ☒ Substitute    ☒ Engrossed  
Second House    ☒ In Committee    ☐ Substitute    ☐ Enrolled

**2. Patron:** Wagner

**3. Committee:** House Commerce and Labor

**4. Title:**            **South Atlantic Offshore Wind Energy Infrastructure Development Compact.**

**5. Summary:** This bill establishes the South Atlantic Offshore Wind Energy Infrastructure Development Compact. Under the bill, the party states to the compact will be Virginia, Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey and New York. The purpose of the compact is to study, develop, and promote coordinated research and planning of the design, construction, utility interconnection, financing, and operation of offshore wind energy infrastructure and operations directly adjacent to the shores of the party states. The bill contains an emergency clause that is based on enactment of similar legislation by three of the other four member states. A second enactment clause instructs the clerk of the House of Delegates of Virginia to transmit copies of this act to the presiding officers of houses of legislature of the other four member states, attesting the enactment of this legislation by Virginia.

**6. Fiscal Impact Estimates:** Preliminary.

**7. Budget Amendment Necessary:** No.

**8. Fiscal Implications:** This bill creates a compact between five states: Virginia, Maryland, Delaware, New Jersey, and New York. It outlines the mission and purpose of the compact, and creates the Mid-Atlantic Offshore Wind Energy Infrastructure Development Board (the Board) as an agency of the party states through which the compact conducts business. Membership to the Board is to be composed of five members from each party state, one of whom is designated in each state to represent (i) the governor, (ii) the state senate, (iii) the state house of delegates, (iv) the offshore wind academic research community, and (v) the electric utility industry.

The bill specifies that the Board shall meet at least twice each year, and that it may utilize, for its operations and expenses, funds appropriated to it by the legislatures of the party states. As such, this bill could create future funding obligations for the state.

The bill is silent as to costs of the five citizens that are to represent Virginia on the Board. It is likely that compensation and expenses for these members would be absorbed by their representing governing or industry body.

**9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected:** Virginia House of Delegates, Virginia State Senate, Office of the Governor, institutions of higher education involved in offshore wind research, possibly the State Corporation Commission.

**10. Technical Amendment Necessary:** No.

**11. Other Comments:** None.

**Date:** 2/12/2009 dpb

**Document:** G:\FIS\2009 Fiscal Impact Statements\SB1349S1.Doc aek

cc: Secretary of Commerce and Trade