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ANALYSIS

## WINDS OF CHANGE

### Trump's \$2B offshore wind buyoff threatens jobs, investment and energy supply

Christopher Niezrecki UMass Lowell, Ben Link Johns Hopkins University and Zoe Getman-Pickering UMass Amherst | THE CONVERSATION

The United States is in a bizarre situation in 2026: It's facing a looming energy shortage, yet the Trump administration is making deals to pay offshore wind developers nearly \$2 billion in taxpayer money to walk away from energy projects.

These politically motivated moves are costing Americans far more than just the buyouts.

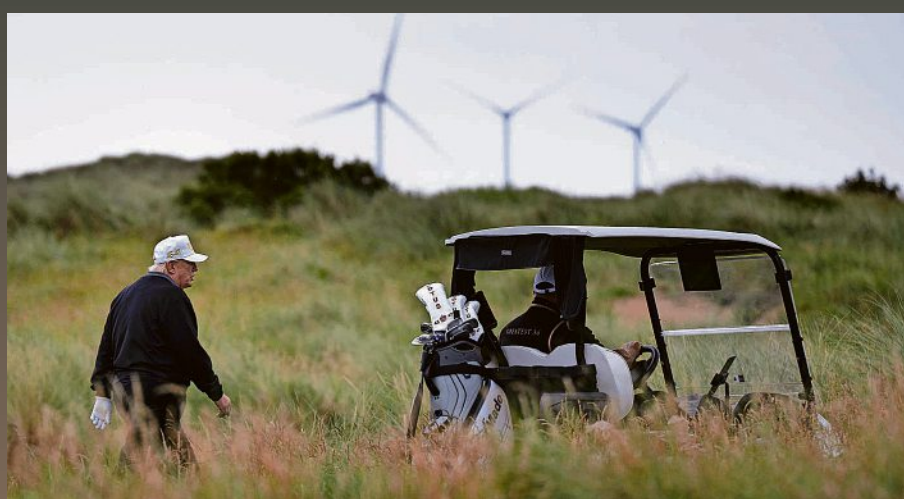
Communities have been laying the groundwork for offshore energy projects for years. Offshore wind development brings jobs and economic development that reshape regional economies, with the scale of public and private investment reaching into the hundreds of billions of dollars over years.

East Coast communities have built up ports to support the industry and launched job-training

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▲ Developing a robust offshore wind industry provides resilience in the face of an unstable global energy market, particularly as future U.S. and global energy demand is projected to grow significantly. JOHN MOORE/GETTY IMAGES



◀ President Donald Trump has made his disdain for wind power clear ever since he lost a fight to stop construction of a small wind farm near his golf course in Scotland.

BRENDAN SMIALOWSKI/ AFP VIA GETTY IMAGES FILE

ILLUSTRATION VIA GETTY IMAGES

## Latest batch of UFO files released

But no bombshells seen in Pentagon documents

Josh Meyer USA TODAY

WASHINGTON – They're out there! The latest batch of newly declassified Pentagon documents about potential alien contact, that is.

On June 12 – the same day a new Steven Spielberg sci-fi blockbuster on alien visitors came out – the Trump administration released a third tranche of previously top-secret UFO files from military and civilian intelligence agencies.

The new documents, photos, drawings and videos add to the government's rapidly expanding archive of unexplained sightings, known in official parlance as UAPs, or unidentified anomalous phenomena. The release marked the latest chapter of a resurgent public interest in the topic.

As of this reporting, there were no bombshells, based on a USA TODAY review of the documents and early social postings from other media and legions of UFO-ologists. But the files do include documentation, as in previous releases, of some sightings and other observations that investigators were unable to explain, leaving the true details of the phenomena unresolved.

The declassified materials uploaded to the Pentagon's website offered no immediate evidence of alien visitors to Earth. But they did contain some reports and exchanges dating back to the 1950s about the potential for life beyond our own floating blue sphere.

In one case, CIA officials hid their spy agency affiliation from a scientist, Dr. Leon Davidson.

Davidson was a chemical engineer who worked on the Manhattan Project and at Los Alamos National Laboratory, and "studied and collected material on UFOs" from 1949 into the 1960s, according to archival materials at Columbia University. The university houses the "Leon Davidson Flying Saucer Collection" in its Rare Book and Manuscript Library, its website says.

At one point, according to the newly released documents, Davidson was seeking answers about an alleged "space message and its transmitter."

"We have contacted Dr. Davidson by telephone advising him that we cannot resolve his problem concerning the space message and its transmitter because records on the matter have been destroyed by the evaluating agency," R.P.B. Lohmann wrote in a "confidential" letter to the CIA's "Chief, Contact Division" and others on Jan. 9, 1958.

"Davidson accepted this statement with the comment that he had been told this before," and said he was trying to water down his pending article about "Air Force handling of space

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