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SPORTS, 1C

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“It’s an attack on our jobs.  
It’s an attack on our energy.  
It’s an attack on our families and their ability to pay the bills.”  
Gov. Dan McKee



Gov. Dan McKee, joined by the state’s congressional delegation and union members, speaks at a press conference Aug. 25 in North Kingstown to blast the Trump administration’s order to halt work on the almost-complete Revolution Wind project. KRIS CRAIG/THE PROVIDENCE JOURNAL

# McKee: RI jobs could be out like the wind

## State, labor rally to save offshore Revolution project

Alex Kuffner Providence Journal | USA TODAY NETWORK

NORTH KINGSTOWN – Two years ago, Gov. Dan McKee visited the Quonset Business Park to celebrate the beginning stages of work on Revolution Wind, a multibillion-dollar offshore wind farm that advocates believed would help transform Rhode Island’s energy system.

“Wind is the future of our state,” McKee declared that day in 2023.

On Monday, Aug. 25, McKee was back in the state-owned business park, this time with the Revolution project in jeopardy after the Trump administration three days earlier ordered a halt to all offshore work on the 65-turbine wind farm that has contracts to supply power to Rhode Island and Connecticut.

“The latest move by the Trump administration is an attack on Rhode Islanders. It’s an attack on our jobs. It’s an attack on our energy. It’s an attack on our families and their ability to pay the bills,” McKee said at a news conference, flanked by the congressional delegation, state Cabinet members

and union leaders. Connecticut Gov. Ned Lamont held a similar event earlier in the day.

### Why was the Revolution Wind project stopped?

It’s unclear why the wind farm is being stopped now, with all 67 of its monopile foundations already pile-driven into the Atlantic Ocean floor about 15 miles south of Little Compton. With 46 of its turbines in place, total work on the project is 80% complete. Much of that construction has come this spring and summer, on the watch of President Donald Trump, who’s made no secret of his distaste for renewable energy.

The stop-work order from the federal Bureau of Ocean Energy Management cited the need to review the project in relation “to the protection of national security interests of the United States and prevention of interference with reasonable uses of the exclusive economic zone, the high seas, and the territorial seas.”

See WIND, Page 5A

# Funding deal avoids RIPTA job, route cuts

## Bus riders can expect fares to rise in future

Patrick Anderson Providence Journal USA TODAY NETWORK

Gov. Dan McKee and the Rhode Island Public Transit Authority have announced a budget deal to avoid looming layoffs and most route cuts to the statewide bus system needed to close a roughly \$10 million projected revenue hole.

The agreement says RIPTA will make future increases to the \$2-per-trip bus fare, but not during the current fiscal year, which ends June 30, 2026. It does not specify how large the hikes will eventually be.

To close the budget gap, McKee agreed to shift \$3 million in federal climate funds to RIPTA from a delayed Department of Transportation sidewalk project near the Wickford Junction train station in North Kingstown. That \$3 million will need to be repaid out of RIPTA capital funds, according to McKee’s office.

The deal includes \$2.4 million in cost cutting at RIPTA, including an unspecified number of “targeted reductions in administrative and management positions and strategic staff reassignments.”

See RIPTA, Page 7A

# Great white shark pups tagged off RI create excitement

Jack Perry Providence Journal USA TODAY NETWORK

SOUTH KINGSTOWN – Lil’ Soph and Lil’ Billy are a pair of great white shark pups caught in the same net off Rhode Island in early August and returned to the ocean, where they should help researchers learn more about the travels and other habits of their species for the next decade.

The two sharks, one male and one female, both just over 4 feet long, were caught by Capt. Carl Granquist and crew member Bryce Briggs, who quickly measured the pair, attached acoustic transmitters to them and helped the sharks slide back into the water.

See SHARK PUPS, Page 7A

Paul Masse

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