# Operating & Maintaining US Wind's Offshore Wind Projects

## *Facility to be Established at the West Ocean City Harbor*

In order to support US Wind's offshore wind projects, an Operations and Maintenance (O&M) facility will need to be established relatively close to where the turbines are located offshore. The Ocean City, Maryland region is perfectly situated for this facility given its proximity to US Wind's planned offshore wind projects and the availability of commercial waterfront space. The Maryland Public Service Commission (PSC) recognized these important factors when it mandated that US Wind establish its O&M facility in the Ocean City region.

The O&M facility will serve as the primary location to plan and coordinate wind turbine and offshore substation maintenance and servicing operations for US Wind's offshore wind projects. Services that the O&M facility will provide include: wind farm monitoring, maintenance planning and logistics, crew support, warehousing, and parking, as well as quayside and berthing areas for crew transfer vessels (CTVs). The O&M facility will also house a Marine Coordination Center, which will serve to monitor offshore activities and dispatch CTVs and technicians, coordinate drills and exercises, and communicate with outside agencies. Note: The O&M Facility will not house large wind turbine generator components, such as blades, towers, or monopiles, and will not berth large deep draft vessels that cannot enter Ocean City harbor.

US Wind plans to lease and/or acquire suitable properties in the commercial harbor in West Ocean City that will be capable of berthing CTVs. The waterfront property will support the onloading and offloading of parts, tools, and personnel needed for operations and maintenance of US Wind's projects. Property along the commercial harbor is zoned as Commercial Marine for uses needing close proximity to waterfront areas.

*Initial rendering of US Wind O&M facility in West Ocean City (subject to change)*

US Wind has been approached by two property owners in the West Ocean City commercial harbor for the potential sale of their properties. Combining the two properties could satisfy support of the full build out of US Wind's lease area and would satisfy the Maryland PSC's requirement to locate the O&M facility in the Ocean City region. As these opportunities are further explored, US Wind remains committed to mitigating any potential impacts to the region's commercial fishing industry and will continue to work with the state of Maryland and the commercial fishing industry to identify ways to coordinate and collaborate on a path forward.