

One of the major uncertainties in planning for future electricity supply on Block Island is the cost of a cable connection to the mainland. Understanding this cost is important both in the event that Block Island were to build its own cable and for Deepwater Wind, which did its own planning for constructing a cable for the Block Island Project. The Block Island Power Company has considered cable projects in the past, the most recent in 2007 (the Block Island Power Company Electric Resource Planning Study by HDR Engineering, Inc.) that projected a cable cost under \$20 million based on a mainland landing in the vicinity of Charlestown beach. Deepwater Wind has more recently estimated that a cable will cost over \$40 million and will need to land in the vicinity of Narragansett.

The Electric Utility Task Group asked Deepwater to reconcile these two divergent estimates. In response, Deepwater provided the Electric Utility Task Group a report on the feasibility of the Charlestown landing (Block Island Transmission System Wood River Alternative Critical Issues Analysis by Tetra Tech EC, Inc.) Tetra Tech's conclusion is that a landing in the Charlestown area has numerous technical issues that would be costly to overcome or might be insuperable barriers. Deepwater then estimated for the Electric Utility Task Group that a cable to the Charlestown area would cost approximately the same as one to Narragansett.