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## Wind farm proposed south of Vineyard Dutch company plans first floating energy project in the U.S.



The Patriot Ledger  
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QUINCY — A Dutch wind farm developer said it wants to build a 120-turbine wind farm that could generate up to 420 megawatts of power in deep ocean waters south of Martha's Vineyard.

Blue H Technologies BV announced on Monday that it has submitted a preliminary lease request to the U.S. Minerals Management Service to build what it says would be the first floating, deepwater wind energy project in the United States.

The announcement took place on the same day that the

Minerals Management Service started four days of public hearings about Cape Wind Associates' controversial plan to build a 130-turbine wind farm in Nantucket Sound's relatively shallow waters. Locally, one of the four hearings will take place at 6 p.m. Thursday at UMass-Boston's campus center.

Blue H, which is based in the Netherlands, is eyeing a site that's 23 miles from Martha's Vineyard where the waters are deeper than 160 feet. Blue H said it wants to have a test tower in the water by mid-2009.

Blue H recently launched its first large-scale prototype deepwater platform off the coast of Italy. Blue H's technology involves putting a turbine on a floating platform affixed to the ocean floor with chains. Traditional offshore wind turbines, such as those proposed in the Cape Wind project, are mounted on huge poles that sit on the ocean floor.

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