



January 25, 2024

James Wooder  
Committee Co-Chair  
Committee for Regional Assessment of Offshore Wind Development in  
Nova Scotia  
<email address removed>

Ann Wilkie  
Committee Co-Chair  
Committee for Regional Assessment of Offshore Wind Development in  
Nova Scotia  
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James Wooder and Ann Wilkie:

Thank you for your letter of October 25, 2023, regarding the Regional Assessment Committee's (Committee) proposed submissions and timeline to meet the spirit and intent of the Terms of Reference of the *Agreement to Conduct the Regional Assessment of Offshore Wind Development in Nova Scotia* (Agreement).

As signatories to the Agreement, we would like to express our appreciation for the work that the Committee has undertaken to ensure that the Nova Scotia Offshore Wind Regional Assessment (Regional Assessment) successfully meets the goals and objectives set out in the Agreement. The Committee's recommendations and supporting information and analysis will be instrumental to the sustainable development of this promising industry sector, to Canada's energy transition, and to the attainment of Canada's climate change objectives. As such, the timely completion of the Regional Assessment remains a shared and high priority for the Government of Canada and the Government of Nova Scotia.

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Our Governments recognize the complexity of the Committee's mandate. Thus, having adequate time to engage effectively with fish harvesters, Indigenous communities, the public, and experts in a variety of disciplines is critical to the quality and credibility of the Regional Assessment process and, ultimately, to the Committee's recommendations. As co-signatories to the Agreement, we support the Committee's request and agree with its interpretation of the Agreement. We have provided clarification in the attached memorandum. We expect that the timeframe will be sufficient to complete the Regional Assessment. In addition, this letter serves to confirm the extension of the appointment of the Committee's members until the completion of the Regional Assessment.

Please note that the federal *Official Languages Act* provides that members of the public have the right to receive services from or communicate with the Government of Canada in the official language of their choice. As such, information posted to the Canadian Impact Assessment Registry must be posted in both English and French. Impact Assessment Agency of Canada officials will work with the Committee Secretariat to meet this requirement for both the interim working paper and final report.

Our Governments remain committed to enabling the advancement of the Committee's work. Officials representing our respective organizations will continue to provide timely support to the Committee in addressing any issues going forward. Once again, thank you for the Committee's commitment to completing the Regional Assessment of Offshore Wind Development in Nova Scotia.

Sincerely,

<original signed by>

The Honourable Steven Guilbeault, P.C., M.P. (il/lui/he/him)

c.c.: The Honourable Jonathan Wilkinson, P.C., M.P.  
Minister of Energy and Natural Resources  
The Honourable Tory Rushton, M.L.A.,  
Minister of Natural Resources and Renewables, Nova Scotia