

## REGIONAL ASSESSMENT OF OFFSHORE WIND DEVELOPMENT IN NOVA SCOTIA – UPDATE

May 2024

Since the last update the Committee has continued to travel around the Maritimes completing an extensive spring engagement program which includes a series of public and Indigenous community open house events. The Committee is also having meetings with Chief-and-Councils and other participant groups.

The spring engagement program, which commenced in April, has included an Indigenous community session in Wagmatcook First Nation and public open houses in Chéticamp, Charlottetown (PEI), Yarmouth, Shelburne, Guysborough, and Sheet Harbour throughout the month of May. The Committee also met with Council at Lennox Island First Nation, Mi'gmawe'l Tplu'taqnn Inc (MTI), Elsipogtog First Nation, and Wolastoqey First Nation. The objectives of the spring engagement program are to provide information about offshore wind and the Regional Assessment process to date, and to focus on gathering input on potential effects and mitigation/monitoring measures of offshore wind. Each session consisted of a presentation from the Committee, followed by a question-and-answer period. Attendees were encouraged to review poster boards and partake in discussions focussed on potential interactions within the Potential Future Development Areas (PFDA's). Feedback forms and input boards were also set-up to gather individual feedback on any aspect of the Regional Assessment. The Committee plans to produce a *What We Heard Summary* document once the spring engagement program concludes. This document will be posted to the Registry.

Invitations to engagement events are sent via email to the Regional Assessment distribution list and are also posted to the Impact Assessment Agency's social media pages. If you would like to be added to the distribution list, please send your contact information to the Regional Assessment email ([OffshoreWindNS-EolienneExtracotiereNE@iaac-aeic.gc.ca](mailto:OffshoreWindNS-EolienneExtracotiereNE@iaac-aeic.gc.ca)).

The PFDA's that were presented in the [Interim Report](#) are now available on Open Data. This geospatial data depicts potential future development areas recommended by the Committee. These areas are preliminary and will be refined throughout the remainder of the Regional Assessment. The Committee welcomes feedback on these areas from participants at any time during the Regional Assessment.

The Committee has posted the second addition of Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs), this time centered on the Regional Assessment process. It is available on the Registry: [Frequently Asked Questions Edition 2 - Regional Assessment \(iaac-aeic.gc.ca\)](#).

The Committee was also provided with two briefings in May:

- ECCC (Science and Technology Branch) on current and future work on Cumulative Effects Assessment
- IAAC (Indigenous Policy Division) on the Protection of Indigenous Knowledge in Regional Assessment

The Committee continued to meet with municipal, provincial, and federal government departments and industry in May. A summary of participant meetings will be added to the tracking tables within the relevant Participation Plans. These Plans include the [Public and Stakeholder Participation Plan](#), [Fisheries](#)

[Participation Plan](#), and [Indigenous Participation Plan](#). Updated versions of these Plans have been posted to the [Regional Assessment Registry page](#).

The Committee continued to meet regularly with the Secretariat in May with a focus on the Interim Report feedback, organizing meetings with participants, and planning of the Final Report. A Summary of Regional Assessment Committee Meetings is updated and posted to the [Regional Assessment Registry page](#).

All information about the Regional Assessment is available on the [Regional Assessment Registry page](#). The Committee invites all Indigenous peoples, organizations, and any other person or group with information and interests related to the Regional Assessment, and who wishes to participate in it, to reach out via the Regional Assessment email ([OffshoreWindNS-EolienneExtracotiereNE@iaac-aeic.gc.ca](mailto:OffshoreWindNS-EolienneExtracotiereNE@iaac-aeic.gc.ca)) and/or the [public commenting tool](#) with any questions or comments. If you would like your name and contact added to the distribution list, please sent your contact information to the Regional Assessment email ([OffshoreWindNS-EolienneExtracotiereNE@iaac-aeic.gc.ca](mailto:OffshoreWindNS-EolienneExtracotiereNE@iaac-aeic.gc.ca)).