

June 17, 2024

ELECTRONIC MAIL

To: Blake Mann,

Subject: Request for Information - Committee for the Regional Assessment of Offshore Wind Development in Nova Scotia

Dear Mr. Mann,

The federal Ministers of *Environment and Climate Change* and of *Energy and Natural Resources* and the provincial Minister of *Natural Resources and Renewables* entered into an Agreement to Conduct a Regional Assessment of Offshore Wind Development in Nova Scotia (the Agreement) pursuant to subsection 93(1) of the *Impact Assessment Act* (IAA). The Agreement enabled the appointment of a committee to conduct the regional assessment in accordance with Appendix A, the Terms of Reference (TOR). The latter were posted on the Canadian Impact Assessment Registry site: [Regional Assessment of Offshore Wind Development in Nova Scotia \(iaac-aeic.gc.ca\)](https://iaac-aeic.gc.ca).

In accordance with section 5 of the Agreement and pursuant to section 23 of the IAA, the Committee may request specialist or expert information or knowledge from any department or agency¹, which must then be made available to the Committee. This includes providing information, knowledge or advice related to any matter relevant to the Regional Assessment.

The Committee thereby seeks your advice and feedback on the potential positive and adverse effects, including cumulative effects, of offshore wind (OSW) development during the preconstruction, construction, operation and decommissioning phases of a project (described in Table 1) and on specific questions that are relevant to your area of expertise.

To support this request Impact Producing Factors (IPFs) associated with an OSW development are described in Table 1. The identified IPFs may cause impacts to physical, biological, economic or socially valued components. This is not an exhaustive list of IPFs, and the Committee seeks your observations and feedback on any gaps you may identify.

¹ All subsequent references to department mean department or agency.

Advice Request

The Committee would like your advice/input on the following:

1. A short description of ACOA's mandate and current work activities as it relates to the arrival and development of the OSW industry.

With reference to the answer to 1 above:

- a. Potential positive and adverse effects (including cumulative effects) of offshore wind energy development that have been identified and any recommendations on how to address them.
- b. Mitigation and/or monitoring that should be considered to address potential adverse effects.

Details of any ACOA initiated or planned work related to offshore wind development in Nova Scotia or the Atlantic Region.

In responding to any of the above matters, the Committee would appreciate reference to any applicable legislation, regulation or policy directive pertaining to the topic.

The Committee is working to a timeline that requires this information as soon as reasonably possible, ideally by **July 31, 2024**. In the interest of trying to meet this target date the Committee can be available to meet with the department and attempt to clarify any possibly prioritize the information requested.

As per the Committee's standard practice, the information submitted to this Request for Advice will be made public on the Canadian Impact Assessment Registry, unless otherwise requested. The Committee's [Confidentiality Procedure \(iaac-aeic.gc.ca\)](#) outlines the procedures in place regarding confidential information.

Thank-you for your assistance and support as we work toward the submission of our draft final report. The Committee can be reached at OffshoreWindNS-EolienneExtracotiereNE@iaac-aeic.gc.ca.

Sincerely,

The Committee for the Regional Assessment of Offshore Wind Development in Nova Scotia

Attachments:

- Advice Record
- Table 1

ATTACHMENT: June 17, 2024

Advice Record

Response due by: July 31, 2024

Regional Assessment of Offshore Wind Development in Nova Scotia

Department/Agency	Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency
Lead Contact	Blake Mann
Email	Blake.Mann@ACOA-APECA.GC.CA

Name of Departmental /
Agency Responder

Title of Responder

Date