

June 16, 2024

**ELECTRONIC MAIL**

To: Jérémie Allain,

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

Dear Mr. Allain,

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 agency<sup>1</sup>, 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 seeks the Department's 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 and on specific questions that are relevant to the Department's mandate and 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 identified gaps.

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<sup>1</sup> All subsequent references to department mean department or agency.

**Commented [W(1)]:** Contact: Jérémie Allain ([Jeremie.Allain@hc-sc.gc.ca](mailto:Jeremie.Allain@hc-sc.gc.ca)) cc Kevin Ferris ([kevin.ferris@hc-sc.gc.ca](mailto:kevin.ferris@hc-sc.gc.ca))

and  
[ia-atl-ei-atl@hc-sc.gc.ca](mailto:ia-atl-ei-atl@hc-sc.gc.ca)  
[ia-ei@hc-sc.gc.ca](mailto:ia-ei@hc-sc.gc.ca)

## Advice Request

The Committee is requesting advice/input from Health Canada on the following:

1. Potential positive and adverse effects (including cumulative effects) of offshore wind energy development during all phases on human health including the health of Indigenous peoples. Please include in your response specific reference to the following:
  - a. electromagnetic fields (EMF) generated from in-field transmission lines connecting to an offshore sub-station, and/or transmission from the offshore sub-station to the onshore;
  - b. shadow flicker from rotating turbine blades; and
  - c. audible and sub-audible sound pressures associated with the various OSW activities.
2. Mitigation and/or monitoring that should be considered to address potential adverse effects.
3. The impact of climate change on human health, and the potential for the OSW industry to reduce GHG emissions through displacement of carbon-based energy systems.

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 meet with the department to attempt to clarify and 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 to remain confidential. The Committee's [Confidentiality Procedure \(iaac-aeic.gc.ca\)](#) outlines the procedure 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](mailto:OffshoreWindNS-EolienneExtracotiereNE@iaac-aeic.gc.ca).

Sincerely,

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

*Attachments:*

- Advice Record
- Table 1

**ATTACHMENT:** June 16, 2024  
**Advice Record**  
**Response due by: July 31, 2024**  
Regional Assessment of Offshore Wind Development in Nova Scotia

Department/Agency	Health Canada
Lead Contact	J�r�mie Allain
Email	<a href="mailto:Jeremie.Allain@hc-sc.gc.ca">Jeremie.Allain@hc-sc.gc.ca</a>

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Departmental /  
Agency Responder

\_\_\_\_\_  
Title of Responder

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date