

REGIONAL ASSESSMENT OF OFFSHORE WIND DEVELOPMENT IN NOVA SCOTIA – UPDATE

October 2023

Since the last update the Committee has been executing an extensive Fall Engagement Program traveling across the province and meeting with key stakeholders, Indigenous Chiefs and Councils, and members of the public.

The Fall Engagement Program in October included in-person open house sessions in Guysborough, Sheet Harbour, Sydney, Port Hawkesbury, Inverness, Digby, Yarmouth, and Shelburne, Nova Scotia. The objectives of this program are to provide information about offshore wind and the Regional Assessment process and to gather input with a focus on thoughts of potential locations for future offshore wind locations in the Study Area. Each session consisted of an afternoon and evening session and participants were encouraged to review poster boards, watch a video on offshore wind, and partake in discussions at a mapping table focussed on around potential future locations. 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 program concludes. This document will be posted to the Registry.

The Committee also met one-on-one with Chiefs and Councils at Indigenous communities throughout Nova Scotia. Meetings were also held with fisheries associations and municipalities. Additional locations in PEI and New Brunswick will be visited in November. A schedule of the open house sessions is posted to the Registry under *Information Sessions* (<https://www.iaac-aeic.gc.ca/050/evaluations/proj/83514/session>) and will be updated as sessions are confirmed/added.

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

Due to the fall engagement program, most weekly meetings with the Secretariat were suspended in October. A Summary of NS Regional Assessment Committee Meetings is updated and posted to the [Regional Assessment Registry page](#).

The Committee continued to meet with federal and provincial government departments and NGOs in October. These meetings focussed on discussions in areas for potential collaboration. A summary of participant meetings will be added to the tracking tables within the relevant updated Participation Plans. These Plans include the Public and Stakeholder Participation Plan, Fisheries Participation Plan, and Indigenous Participation Plan, and are all 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) and/or the [public commenting tool](#) with any questions or comments.