

Advisory Groups – Request to meet and for feedback on effects of offshore wind development in Nova Scotia

April 5, 2024

Dear Advisory Group Members,

The RA Committee would like to thank Advisory Committee members who provided feedback to inform the Interim Report. The [Interim Report](#) was delivered to Ministers on March 22, 2024. We invite those who have immediate feedback on the Interim Report to join a Microsoft Teams call with the Committee on **Tuesday April 16th** (calendar invites to follow). Comments and feedback on the Interim Report are welcome over the next several weeks as the Committee conducts another round of engagement sessions.

The Committee will now turn its focus to the following:

- The identification of the potential environmental and socio-economic effects (negative and positive) of future offshore wind development in one or more of the identified potential future development areas (PFDA)s;
- The identification of appropriate or tested mitigation to address potential adverse effects;
- The identification of necessary monitoring or follow-up measures; and
- The identification of possible cumulative effects.

At this time, the Committee is seeking input and advice from Advisory Group members on three key topics of interest: marine mammals/sea turtles, birds/bats and electromagnetic fields. To facilitate discussion, briefing papers for each topic have been prepared and have been attached to this email:

- **Appendix A:** Marine Mammals and Sea Turtles Briefing
- **Appendix B:** Birds and Bats Briefing
- **Appendix C:** Electromagnetic Fields Briefing

Please provide input on the above topics by **April 30, 2024**, via email (OffshoreWindNS-EolienneExtracotiereNE@iaac-aeic.gc.ca) and, where appropriate, include reference to the following:

- Additional resources that should be considered, e.g., pertinent papers, data or current/proposed research;
- Known data and/or knowledge gaps;

- Potential interactions and possible mitigation and monitoring measures;
- Suggestions for future research initiatives;
- Recommendations for experts with whom the Committee should meet/consult.

The Committee will schedule subsequent meetings with relevant Advisory Group members to discuss the feedback received. The Committee also encourages Advisory Group members to submit additional topics of concern as soon as possible so that the necessary literature searches and dialogue can be initiated.

Information on 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, to reach out via the Regional Assessment Committee via email (OffshoreWindNS-EolienneExtracotiereNE@iaac-aeic.gc.ca) with any questions or comments.

Sincerely,

Ann Wilkie (co-chair), James Wooder (co-chair), Graham Daborn, Steve Parsons and Lorraine Whitman
Committee for the Regional Assessment of Offshore Wind Development in Nova Scotia