



ATLANTIC POLICY CONGRESS OF FIRST NATIONS CHIEFS SECRETARIAT

December 16, 2024

Regional Assessment of Offshore Wind Development in Nova Scotia
Impact Assessment Agency of Canada
200-1801 Hollis Street
Halifax, Nova Scotia B3J 3N4

Re: draft Regional Assessment Report for Offshore Wind Development in Nova Scotia

To the independent Committee of the Regional Assessment of Offshore Wind Development in Nova Scotia,

On behalf of the Atlantic Policy Congress of First Nations Chiefs Secretariat (APC), I am writing to share our recommendations for the draft Regional Assessment Report for Offshore Wind Development in Nova Scotia. APC is a policy research and advocacy organization for 33 Mi'kmaq, Wolastoqey, Peskotomuhkati, and Innu communities in Atlantic Canada, Gaspé Peninsula of Québec, and Maine, USA. With community support, APC follows a relationship vision of partnership and cooperation, dialogue and education, quality of life, and self-determination in First Nations communities.

One of our major concerns is the potential impact of offshore wind (OSW) projects on Indigenous fisheries. APC acknowledges the efforts of the Regional Assessment Committee, which engaged with numerous Indigenous groups and gathered valuable input. We appreciate the opportunity to comment on the draft report and strongly support the recommendations proposed by the Committee, especially regarding ongoing Indigenous engagement and involvement in scientific research to address data gaps. Please see enclosed APC's comments, concerns, and recommendations for the draft report. In your commitment to reconciliation, we trust that our recommendations will be incorporated in the final Regional Assessment Report for Offshore Wind Development in Nova Scotia.

Sincerely,

<Original signed by>

John G. Paul
Executive Director

Enclosure: APC Comments for NS RA Committee