

To: The Honourable Steven Guilbeault, P.C., M.P., Minister of Environment and Climate Change Canada; The Honourable Jonathan Wilkinson, P.C., M.P., Minister of Energy and Natural Resources; The Honourable Andrew Parsons, K.C., M.H.A., Minister of Industry, Energy and Technology, Government of Newfoundland and Labrador; The Honourable Bernard Davis, M.H.A., Minister of Environment and Climate Change, Government of Newfoundland and Labrador; The Honourable Andrew Furey, M.H.A., Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs, Government of Newfoundland and Labrador (*via email*)

Date: March 22, 2024

Re: Regional Assessment of Offshore Wind Development in Newfoundland and Labrador, Interim Report - Preliminary Offshore Wind Licencing Area Recommendations

Dear Ministers,

Please find attached the Committee's Interim Report for the Regional Assessment of Offshore Wind Development in Newfoundland and Labrador.

This report is preliminary. We continue to engage with Indigenous peoples, fishers and other ocean users, government agencies, environmental organizations, research groups, industry stakeholders, and the public. The information, analyses, and recommendations provided in this report may be refined or revised in the Regional Assessment Report, which we will submit to you by January 23, 2025.

The Committee continues to hear concerns regarding the timeline for this Regional Assessment, and for the development of the joint management framework for offshore wind in Newfoundland and Labrador. The overlapping initiatives and aspirational timelines create challenges for meaningful engagement, especially with Indigenous peoples and fishers who will be the most directly affected by offshore wind development in Newfoundland and Labrador. We remain committed to working with Indigenous peoples, fishers, and all participants in this Regional Assessment to ensure their input is considered and concerns are heard.

The Committee appreciates the Government of Canada and the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador have climate change and sustainable economic development goals, and that both levels of Government see offshore wind development as an opportunity to achieve those goals. We trust the preliminary information, analyses, and recommendations presented in this report will be useful in the development of a joint management framework for offshore renewable energy.

Thank you,

Shayne McDonald (Chair), Glenn Blackwood, Leslie Grattan, Brian Power, and Paul W. Saunders
Committee for the Regional Assessment of Offshore Wind Development in Newfoundland and Labrador