

July 19, 2024

**ELECTRONIC MAIL**

**To:** Jérémie Allain

**Subject: Request for Advice - Committee for the Regional Assessment of Offshore Wind Development in Newfoundland and Labrador**

Dear Jérémie Allain:

The federal Ministers of Environment and Natural Resources and provincial Ministers of Industry, Energy and Technology, Environment and Climate Change and for Intergovernmental Affairs established a Committee, pursuant to subsection 93(1) of the *Impact Assessment Act* (the IAA), to conduct the Regional Assessment of Offshore Wind Development in Newfoundland and Labrador

On March 23, 2023, the Regional Assessment Agreement was posted on the Canadian Impact Assessment Registry Internet site: [Regional Assessment of Offshore Wind Development in Newfoundland and Labrador \(iaac-aeic.gc.ca\)](https://iaac-aeic.gc.ca). This commenced the 18-month work period for the Committee.

In accordance with section 5 of the Committee's Agreement, and with section 23 of the IAA, the Committee can 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 may include providing information, knowledge or advice related to any matter relevant to the Regional Assessment.

Attached to this correspondence is the Request for Advice form that contains further detail on the request. The Committee requires your department to complete and return no later than August 23, 2024. You can contact the Committee to discuss the due date if needed. Your department is encouraged to provide as much detail as practicable in responding to the questions in this request.

As per the Committee's [Operational Procedure](#), the information submitted to the Committee in response to this Request for Advice will be made public on the Canadian Impact Assessment Registry Internet Site. Please do not include any information that cannot be shared publicly. The Committee's [Confidentiality Procedure](#), outlines the procedures in place regarding participants confidential information.

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

If you have any questions regarding the regional assessment process or this request, please do not hesitate to contact the Committee at [OffshoreWindNL-EolienneExtracotiereTNL@iaac-aeic.gc.ca](mailto:OffshoreWindNL-EolienneExtracotiereTNL@iaac-aeic.gc.ca).

Sincerely,

The Committee for the Regional Assessment of Offshore wind Development in Newfoundland and Labrador

/Attachment

**ATTACHMENT: July 19, 2024**

**Advice Record**

**Response due by August 23, 2024**

Regional Assessment of Offshore Wind Development in Newfoundland and Labrador

Department/Agency	Health Canada
Lead Contact	J�r�mie Allain, Environmental Assessment Specialist
Email	jeremie.allain@hc-sc.gc.ca

**Overview of Request:**

As a result of input received to date from the Committee’s [Interim Report: Preliminary Recommendations \(iaac-aeic.gc.ca\)](#), as well as the Committee continually looking forward to their draft and final reports (due September 30, 2024 and January 23, 2025, respectively), the Committee is requesting advice and input from Health Canada on the following:

1. Potential positive and adverse effects (including cumulative effects) of offshore wind (OSW) energy development impact pathways during all phases (preconstruction, construction, operation and decommissioning) on human health, also specifically including the health of Indigenous peoples. Effects should include, but are not limited to:
  - 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. Recommendations on mitigation measures 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.

### **Additional Information**

There may be additional information that Health Canada sees as relevant, beyond what the Committee has requested. Health Canada is welcome to identify any additional information as they deem appropriate for consideration in the Regional Assessment, and work with the Committee to provide this information in a useful format.

### **Use of Data and Information in this Request**

The Committee is aware that there may be limitations to the information or data shared, and therefore should not be used in a way that infers that there are no gaps or areas of uncertainty within the Focus Area. The Committee encourages Health Canada to identify these gaps and uncertainties where applicable. The identification of these knowledge gaps can be used to help form recommendations around how to address these gaps in the future for potential offshore wind developments. The Committee would also like to note if any work is ongoing, but cannot be publicly shared, Health Canada can request confidentiality. If the confidential information can be utilized to some degree (beyond the Committee's consideration) please explain conditions of use.

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Name of Departmental / Agency  
Responder

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Title of Responder

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Date