



BOEM's Offshore Wind Leasing Process in the Central Atlantic

Central Atlantic Intergovernmental Task Force Meeting September 10, 2024

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BOEM's Office of Renewable Energy Programs

Mission: facilitate the responsible development of renewable energy resources on the Outer Continental Shelf through conscientious planning, stakeholder engagement, comprehensive environmental analysis, and sound technical review.





Renewable Energy Leasing Process





BOEM Five-Year Offshore Wind Leasing Schedule





Central Atlantic 1 Outcomes





Central Atlantic 2 Drivers (State OSW Goals)

State	Overall Goal	Remaining Goal	Required Acreage*
North Carolina	8 GW by 2040	3 GW	185,000 ac
Virginia	5.2 GW by 2034	0 GW	0 acres
Maryland	8.5 GW by 2031	1.5 – 4GW	95,000 – 250,000 ac
Delaware		1.2 GW	75,000 ac
Total		5.7 – 8.2 GW	355,000 – 510,000 ac

Additional expressed interest:

- State of Maryland interested in areas further north of Central Atlantic 1 Call Area and the deepwater portions of the Central Atlantic 1 Call Area
- State of North Carolina interested in areas further south of Cape Hatteras

*Acreage estimates are based upon power density estimates of 4.0 megawatts (MW) per square kilometer, as described in the U.S. Department of Energy Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy's Offshore Wind Market Report: 2023 Edition, available at: https://www.energy.gov/sites/default/files/2023-09/doe-offshore-wind-market-report-2023-edition.pdf.



Central Atlantic 2 Call for Information and Nominations





BOEM Renewable Energy Planning Process:

Call for Information and Nominations





BOEM Renewable Energy Planning Process: Wind Energy Area





BOEM Renewable Energy Planning Process: Lease Areas





Identifying Draft Wind Energy Areas



- BOEM has partnered with NOAA NCCOS to utilize best available science and data through spatial modeling to inform WEA identification.
- Public input will inform spatial modeling and decisions on draft WEAs.
- BOEM is committed to ensuring draft WEAs will be made available for public review.

NCCOS NATIONAL CENTERS FOR COASTAL OCEAN SCIENCE BURGAU of Ocean Energy Burgau of Ocean Energy Management





What's in the Call?:

Overview of Feedback from Central Atlantic 1

- Review of input from Central Atlantic 1:
 - Recreational and Commercial Fisheries
 - Marine Habitats
 - Protected Species
 - Industry and Navigation
- The currently open comment period provides an opportunity for new feedback and/or updates, revision, or expansion of past feedback





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What's in the Call?: Information on Specific Considerations

- Identification of historic properties and information on visual and scenic resources, including recommendations on minimum distances between the coastline and lease areas
- Information related to Tribal Nations in the region, such as potential impacts to Tribal cultural practices, lands, treaty rights and other considerations
- Information regarding transmission planning considerations, including potential shared transmission infrastructure
- Information regarding size and number of WEAs
- Auction formats





What's in the Call?:

Nominations

- BOEM seeks nominations for areas for commercial wind energy leasing within the Central Atlantic 2 Call Area and Central Atlantic 1 Call Areas E+F (i.e., specific locations, rationale)
- Opportunity for potential developers to provide info on where they might wish to see development occur
- Nominations will be published in an aggregated view, used to inform WEA identification



Nominations from Central Atlantic 1 Call



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Leasing Milestones

Milestone*	Action	Target Date**
Publish Call for Information & Nominations	Publish Call 60-Day Comment Period	August 22, 2024
Area Identification	Draft Wind Energy Areas (WEAs)	Q1 2025
	Designate Final Wind Energy Areas	Q3 2025
	Proposed Sale Notice (PSN) 60-Day Comment Period	Q4 2025
Lease Sale	Final Sale Notice (FSN)	Q1 2026
	Hold auction	Q2 2026

* Task Forces are incredibly valuable tools in the leasing process and **additional meetings** can be expected, likely to be scheduled around significant process milestones.

** Dates of planning/leasing milestones are all tentative.



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Outreach on the horizon

In-Person Engagement Meetings

- NC, VA Sept. 17-19
- MD, DE, NJ Sept 24-26

Virtual Public Meeting

• October 2, 6pm-8pm

Written Public Comment

 Comment Period Closes October 21

https://www.boem.gov/renewable-energy/state-activities/central-atlantic-2-public-meetings







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