



## Regulations.gov How-To Guide

**Regulations.gov** is the online source for U.S. government regulations from nearly 300 federal agencies. It is mainly used by members of the public to share their knowledge and opinions on proposed rules and notices before they are finalized. It is also used by communities such as regulated industries, consultants, lobbyists, lawyers, and academia. Through this site, you can find, read, and comment on regulatory issues that are important to you.

### How do I submit my comment?

The “Comment” button can be found on the following pages:

- **Docket Details** page when a document within the docket is open for comment,
- **Document Details** page when the document is open for comment, and
- **Document Search Tab** with all search results open for comment displaying a “Comment” button.

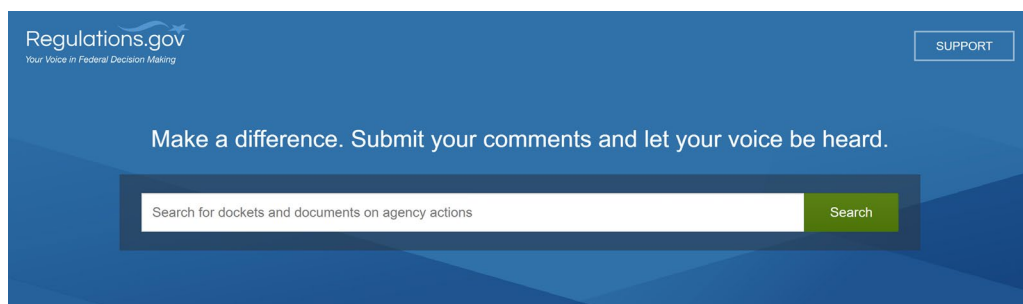
Clicking “Comment” on any of the above pages will display the comment form. You can enter your comment on the form, attach files (maximum of 20 files up to 10MB each), and choose whether to identify yourself as an individual, an organization, or anonymously. Be sure to complete all required fields depending on which identity you have chosen.

Please note that information entered on the web form may be viewable publicly. Once you have completed all required fields and chosen an identity, the “Submit Comment” button is enabled.

Please note, comments are not editable or retrievable once submitted. To make changes, submit another comment referring to your previous comment correcting any errors and/or re-stating your position or opinion.

For this comment period, BOEM is also accepting comments by mail. To view this information, visit the document’s section labeled “Addresses.”

The comment due date on **Regulations.gov** is based on Eastern Time. Comments for the Beacon Wind Programmatic Environment Impact Statement Scoping Process are due on July 31, 2023, so you have until 11:59 p.m. ET on July 31, 2023 to complete your comment on **Regulations.gov**.





## Why can't I submit my comment?

Prior to submitting your comment, please make sure that you:

- Entered information in all required fields marked with an asterisk (\*).
- Selected an identity as an Individual, Organization or Anonymous.
- Resolved any errors on the form.

If you continue to have issues please contact the Help Desk:



**Call:** Monday - Friday, 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. ET  
1-877-378-5457 (toll free) 703-454-9859



**Email:** [regulationshelpdesk@gsa.gov](mailto:regulationshelpdesk@gsa.gov)

## How do I find my comment?

After submitting your comment, the Success Screen will display a Comment Tracking Number; the Comment Tracking Number is the best way to find your comment again once it has been posted on **Regulations.gov**. It is recommended that you save this number (i.e. print the page or email the number to yourself) or provide your email address and click the email opt-in button on the comment form prior to submitting.

Once your comment is received, the appropriate agency must process it before it is posted to **Regulations.gov**. Certain regulations may have thousands of comments and processing could take several weeks before it may be viewed online.

Once processed, your comment is publicly viewable on **Regulations.gov**. Then, you will be able to find it online by entering the **Comment Tracking Number** in the search field on the homepage and navigating to the Comments browser tab on the search results page. You can also search by **Keyword** or **Submitter Name**.

## How do I find and read all comments submitted by others on a docket?

Comments are made on individual documents within a docket. Please note that while everyone can comment, not every comment is made publicly available to read. You can only access those comments that are posted to **Regulations.gov** by the agencies.

When viewing the **Docket Details** page, you have two options for accessing these posted comments:

1. From the "Browse All Comments" tab, you can access a consolidated list of all comments from all documents in the docket.
2. From the "Browse Documents" tab, you can link to individual documents to make comments or review comments posted by others for that specific document.





## What personal information does Regulations.gov collect?

**Regulations.gov** can collect personal information depending on how you choose to submit your comment:

- **As an Individual:** **Regulations.gov** requires a first and last name that may be publicly disclosed on a document or on the Internet (via **Regulations.gov** and/or **Regulations.gov** APIs, a federal agency website, or a third-party, non-government website with access to publicly disclosed data on **Regulations.gov**).
- **As an Organization:** **Regulations.gov** does not require any personal information if you choose to submit a comment on behalf of an organization, only the organization type and name.

BOEM does not consider anonymous comments. Please include your name and address as part of your comment. BOEM makes all comments, including personally identifiable information included in the comment, available for public review online.

**Regulations.gov** temporarily collects information in a summary format that is used to make improvements to the system. The statistics collected include IP addresses, browser types, operating systems, visited pages, search terms entered, and other similar data.

For additional information, please read the **Regulations.gov** Privacy Notice.

## Does my comment make a difference?

Yes, public participation matters. Democratic, legal, and management principles justify why public comments make a difference in regulatory policy. Public participation is an essential function of good governance. Participation enhances the quality of law and its realization through regulations.

Visit **Regulations.gov** for more information.

## Comment period

Scoping comments informing the development of the Beacon Wind Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement must be received or postmarked no later than July 31, 2023. You may comment with the following methods.



**During the virtual public meetings** through testimony.



**In writing to:** Chief, Division of Environmental Assessment,  
Office of Environmental Programs  
Bureau of Ocean Energy Management  
45600 Woodland Road (VAM-OEP),  
Sterling, Virginia 20166



**Online at Regulations.gov** using docket number BOEM 2023-0037.

Visit [Regulations.gov](https://www.regulations.gov) for more information.

