



November 20, 2023

Dear Governor Kotek,

Please accept these comments on behalf of thousands of fishing-related jobs which are the economic engine of rural Oregon coastal communities. There is overwhelming opposition to the current offshore wind energy development process taking place off Oregon. BOEM has indicated that state leadership will play a key role in whether leasing of wind energy areas off our state occurs in 2024. **We ask you to please send a message to BOEM that while offshore wind energy may play a role in Oregon's transition to meet clean energy goals, the current process has been inadequate, and it is not in the best interest of coastal communities and the state of Oregon to move forward at this time.**

First, all of Oregon's tribes have voiced strong opposition to offshore wind energy and have asked for a full-stop on development. In addition to a lack of required meaningful consultation, the tribal voices have been largely ignored. Further, West Coast treaty tribes who are based in Washington and who are impacted by development off Oregon have called for a full-stop on all West Coast offshore wind energy development.

The voices of Oregon commercial and recreational fishermen have also been largely disregarded in this process. There has not been authentic engagement with these directly impacted groups. There is zero transparency within the BOEM process. Holding meetings without two-way dialog results in lackluster confidence that BOEM is listening to our feedback. Plenty of fishing occurs in the two draft wind energy areas and BOEM has determined that those fisheries and the millions of pounds of seafood harvested in those areas is apparently not important to Oregon coastal community economies.

The voices of NOAA combined with the detailed feedback from Oregon agencies and the Pacific Fishery Management Council to BOEM clearly demonstrate that much more needs to be understood about the impacts of floating offshore wind before leases are auctioned off.

Communities up and down the Oregon coast have also voiced their strong concerns with the process and with offshore wind energy development in general. Municipalities that have a charge of economic development still question the rush to industrialize the ocean and the potential negative impacts to the environment and existing jobs and businesses. Developments on the East Coast that include cancellation of power purchase agreements and full cancellation

of projects are telling a cautionary tale that these hugely expensive projects will not ultimately pencil out, potentially leaving States and the average consumer on the hook for millions of dollars.

Over 1,100 public comments were submitted on the Oregon draft wind energy areas. Most are in opposition to moving forward with finalizing and leasing these areas. Even letters that support moving forward urge the careful consideration of tribal, fishing, and community voices. If Oregon leadership signals to BOEM it is okay to move forward and finalize these areas for lease, then tribal, fishing and community voices are once again being ignored. Recall that most of the 276 public comments previously submitted on the call areas were also in opposition to the areas being used for offshore wind development and those voices were also ignored.

At the same time, a diverse group of stakeholders has been convened to consider a roadmap for offshore wind energy development off Oregon. The group is made up of representation from fisheries, environmental organizations, labor, and renewable advocates. The group is in the early stages of convening but shows promise in determining a consensus approach for identifying needed information and high-level principles on how the offshore wind energy siting process should take place off Oregon. If Oregon leadership allows BOEM to move forward with finalizing the current draft wind energy areas, this will undermine the work of the ad-hoc group.

We understand that wind advocates and labor unions are anxious to further the process quickly. Both groups stand to gain, but at what cost? As food providers and stewards of a healthy ocean and sustainable seafood, Oregon's fishing industry stands united asking you to provide strong and decisive leadership on this issue and tell BOEM that the current process is not sufficient for moving forward at this time.

Sincerely,

See [Attached List](#) of signers that represent thousands of Oregon jobs.

cc U.S. Senator Jeff Merkley  
U.S. Senator Ron Wyden  
U.S. Congresswoman Val Hoyle  
U.S. Congresswoman Suzanne Bonamici  
U.S. Congresswoman Andrea Salinas  
U.S. Congresswoman Lori Chavez-Deremer  
U.S. Congressman Cliff Bentz  
OR Representative David Gombert  
OR Senator Dick Anderson  
OR Senator David Brock Smith  
OR Senator Suzanne Weber  
OR Representative Cyrus Javadi  
OR Representative Court Boice  
OR Representative Boomer Wright

**Fishing Vessels**

F/V Alex  
F/V Annihilator  
F/V Arctic Ram  
F/V Bay Islander  
F/V Bernadette  
F/V Bountiful  
F/V Calimari  
F/V Cape Foulweather  
F/V Cape Windy  
F/V Carter Jon  
F/V Cayuse  
F/V Charlie D  
F/V Coast Pride  
F/V Coho  
F/V Collier Brothers  
F/V Donita  
F/V Eco Belle  
F/V Excalibur  
F/V Fishwish  
F/V Footloose  
F/V Galway Bay  
F/V Gladnik  
F/V Granada  
F/V Grumpy J  
F/V Haida  
F/V Hapi Sea  
F/V Hickory Wind  
F/V James Lee  
F/V Jamie Marie  
F/V Jeanette Marrie  
F/V Jeanoah

**Fishing Vessels**

F/V Kylie Lynn  
F/V Lady Kay  
F/V Lake Bay  
F/V Last Dance  
F/V Leslie Lee  
F/V Libra  
F/V Lisa Melinda  
F/V Majesty  
F/V Mandy J  
F/V Marathon  
F/V Majesty  
F/V Marathon  
F/V Midori  
F/V Miss Berdie  
F/V Miss Pacific  
F/V Miss Sue  
F/V Ms. Julie  
F/V Muir Milach  
F/V New Life  
F/V Noah's Ark  
F/V Nordic Star  
F/V Northern Ram  
F/V Ossian  
F/V Pacific  
F/V Pacific Conquest  
F/V Pacific Future  
F/V Pacific Hooker  
F/V Pacific Ram  
F/V Predator  
F/V Resolution  
F/V Raven

**Fishing Vessels**

F/V Rozema  
F/V Sea Clipper  
F/V Sea Princess  
F/V Sea Storm  
F/V Seadawn  
F/V Seeker  
F/V Shenanigan  
F/V Sojourn  
F/V Stormie C  
F/V Summer Place  
F/V Swell Rider  
F/V Tabitha  
F/V Tana C  
F/V Tawny Ann  
F/V Texas Lady  
F/V Timmy Boy  
F/V Triple Star  
F/V Warrior II  
F/V Winona J  
F/V Kathleen  
F/V Resolute  
West Coast Seafood Processors  
Westport Charter Boat Assn  
Ocean Gold Seafoods  
Clear Ocean  
Ocean Transport  
Ocean Companies  
Ocean Protien  
Ocean Express  
Ocean Cold  
Fishpatrick's Specialty Tuna

**Organizations / Processors / Other Businesses**

Bornstein Seafoods Astoria  
Bornstein Seafoods Newport  
Coalition of Coastal Fisheries  
Chelsea Rose Seafoods  
Columbia River Crab Fishermen's Association  
Da Yang Seafoods Astoria  
Englund Marine Supply Astoria  
Englund Marine Supply Newport  
Englund Marine Supply Charleston  
Fishermen's Marketing Association  
Fishing Vessel Owner's Association  
Hallmark Fisheries Charleston  
Newport Fishermen's Wives Association  
Ocean Run Seafoods, Inc  
Oregon Albacore Commission  
Oregon Angler's Alliance  
Oregon Dungeness Crab Commission  
Oregon Salmon Commission  
Oregon Trawl Commission  
Midwater Trawlers Cooperative  
Pacific Seafood Brookings  
Pacific Seafood Group Clackamas  
Pacific Seafood Warrenton  
Pacific Seafood Newport  
Pacific Seafood Charleston  
Purse Seinen Vessel Owners Association  
Pacific Whiting Conservation Coop  
Shrimp Producers Marketing Cooperative  
United Catcher Boats  
Washington Dungeness Crab Fishermen's Assn  
West Coast Pelagic Conservation Group