

Planning for offshore wind



Nova Scotia has some of the strongest offshore wind resources in the world. Safely developing offshore wind energy in the Canada-Nova Scotia offshore area can create jobs, attract investment, provide long-term energy security, and help reduce carbon emissions.

To guide development, the provincial government has set a target to issue licences for up to **5 gigawatts of offshore wind energy by 2030**. Private companies wanting to build offshore wind projects will be able to participate in a **competitive licencing process**, with the first call for bids expected in late 2025.

To prepare, the federal and provincial governments are working together to identify suitable locations for safe offshore wind development, known as **Wind Energy Areas**. Identifying these areas creates more certainty for development and investment by clarifying where:

- Future call for bids may happen
- Future licences may be issued
- Future offshore wind projects may be built

The location and size of future call for bids areas within Wind Energy Areas will be determined during the subsequent steps in the licencing process.

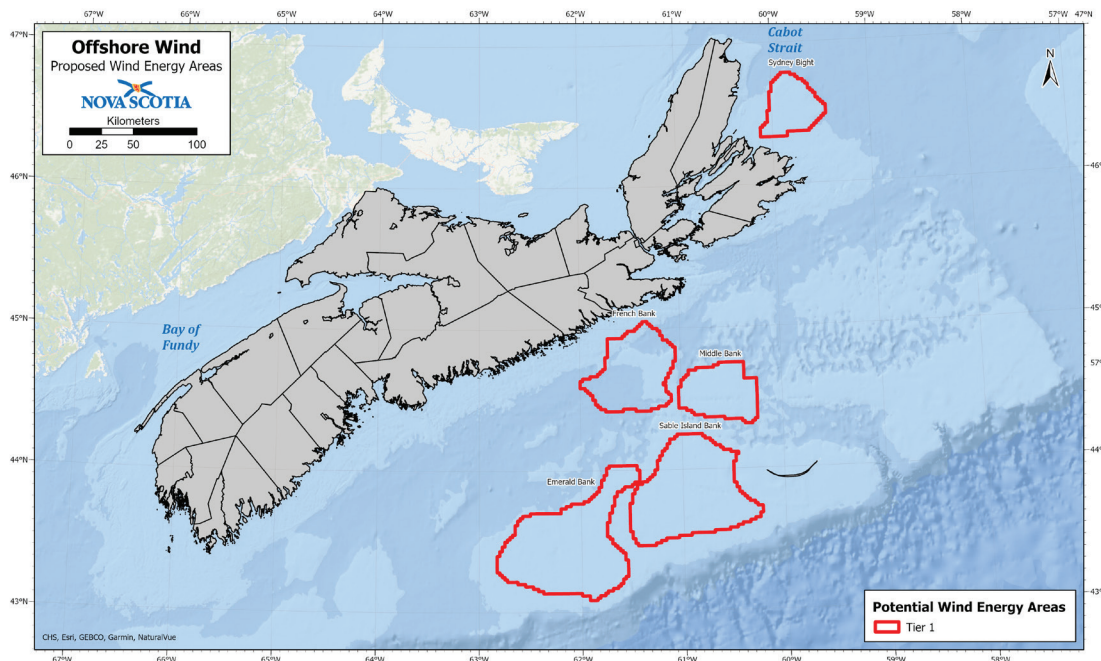
Identifying Wind Energy Areas

The federal and provincial governments jointly manage the Canada-Nova Scotia offshore area through the Canada-Nova Scotia **Accord Acts**. In 2023, they appointed an independent **regional assessment committee** to help inform the planning and consideration of safe offshore wind development in the Canada-Nova Scotia offshore area.

The committee reviewed scientific data, engaged with communities and industries, and provided recommendations to governments for safe offshore wind development, including the identification of **eight areas** with strong potential for offshore wind. Based on their recommendations, the governments are proposing **five areas** as Wind Energy Areas:

- French Bank
- Middle Bank
- Sable Island Bank
- Sydney Bight
- Western/Emerald Bank

The following map shows where the five proposed Wind Energy Areas are located:



More maps and details on the proposed Wind Energy Areas are available in a [discussion paper](#).

Providing Feedback

Public engagement and input are key to shaping Nova Scotia's offshore wind industry.

We welcome your feedback on the proposed Wind Energy Areas by **April 14, 2025**.

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Thank you for your participation.