

Advocacy Comments on DOE's Request for Information on Research Needs for Impacts of Offshore Wind Development

On February 9, 2022, the U.S. Department of Energy's Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Wind Energy Technologies Office published a request for information on knowledge gaps and research needs related to the impacts of offshore wind energy. On March 11, 2022, Advocacy submitted the below comments on the request.

- Advocacy noted that, to date, there have been no comprehensive studies analyzing the impacts of offshore wind on small businesses and in particular small fisheries and coastal communities.
- Advocacy encouraged DOE to gather data on the number of small fisheries that currently operate in or on proposed offshore wind development leasing sites, and to analyze the impacts the developments will have on these businesses.
- Advocacy also asked DOE to look at the impacts of offshore wind development on coastal communities whose primary source of income is fishing, charter vessels, and other activities that may be disrupted because of wind energy developments.
- Advocacy asked DOE to consider food supply chain issues and disruptions that may result from these developments.
- Advocacy provided suggestions to DOE on sources of small business data to include within its research. Advocacy also offered assistance to DOE to ensure that the agency has the necessary information it needs to complete its research.

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