

Weekly Ways to Take Action on Offshore Wind

UPDATED September 13, 2023

OCEAN INDUSTRIALIZATION: TOO MUCH ~ TOO FAST MAKE YOUR VOICES HEARD!

TAKE ACTION TODAY:

The current process to fast-track large-scale industrialization of offshore wind (OSW) development without due diligence, transparency, and robust scientific baseline information is not reasonable or responsible.

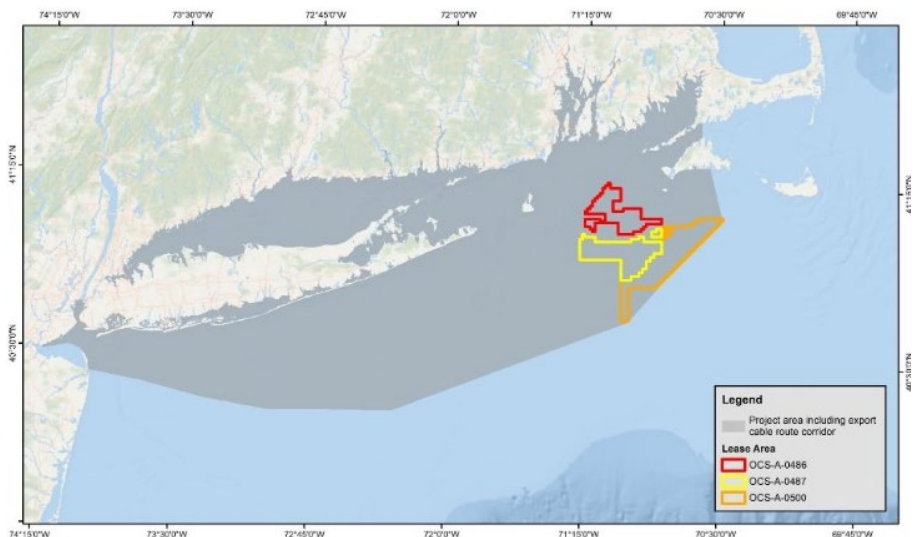
- See below for action opportunities to support responsible and reasonable OSW.
- Follow the links for referenced documents within each action.
- For additional information and resources, go to CleanOceanAction.org.



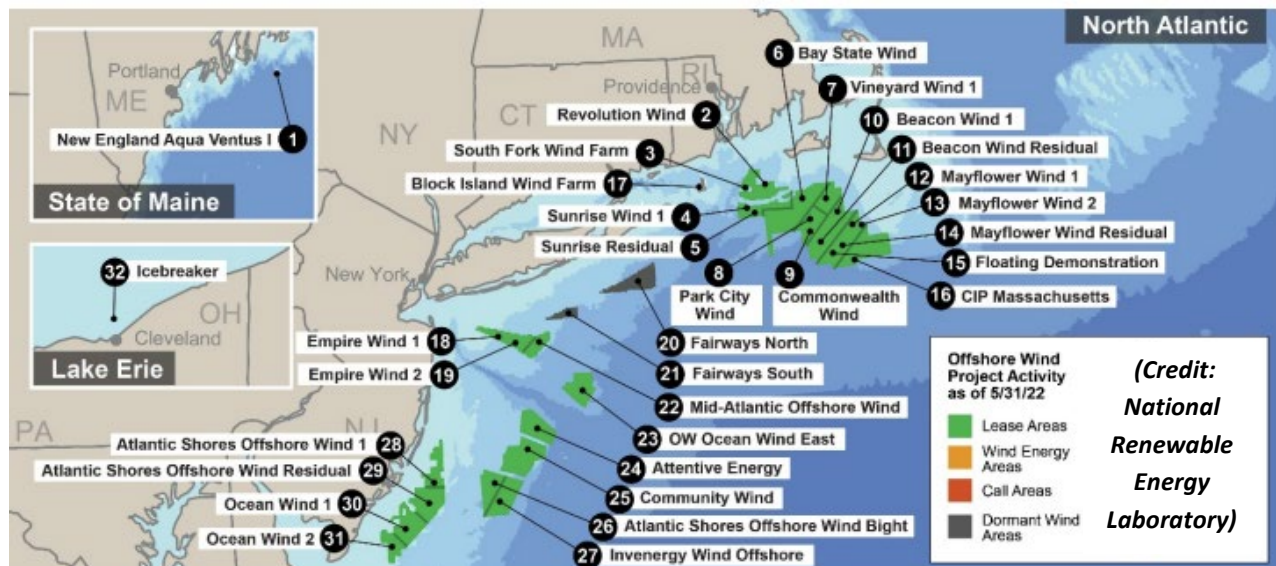
Action: STOP THE HARASSMENT OF 7,086 MARINE MAMMALS BY “LEVEL B” FOR MARINE (Revolution Wind, Sunrise Wind, & Bay State Wind) SITE CHARACTERIZATION SURVEYS USING SONAR FOR ORSTED’S THREE OFFSHORE WIND LEASE AREAS OFF NY/NJ; Public Comments due SEPTEMBER 26, 2023.

Orsted Wind Power North America, LLC, requested an incidental harassment authorization (“IHA”) to “take” or “harass” endangered and protected marine mammals of **16** different species. Orsted proposes to take marine mammals “incidental to marine site characterization surveys, using high-resolution geophysical equipment, in coastal waters” and “along potential export cable routes (ECR)s to landfall locations between Raritan Bay and Falmouth, MA.” The National Marine Fisheries Service proposes to issue an IHA for the harassment of **7,086 marine mammals** in addition to previous harassment authorizations already issued for these three lease areas.

- [Click here to Review the Public Notice](#)
- Write comments addressed to Jolie Harrison, Chief, Permits and Conservation Division, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS.
- Send comments via email to ITP.Lock@noaa.gov by **September 26, 2023, at 11:59pm.**



CURRENT GOVERNMENT PLANS FOR OFFSHORE WIND ARE RECKLESS

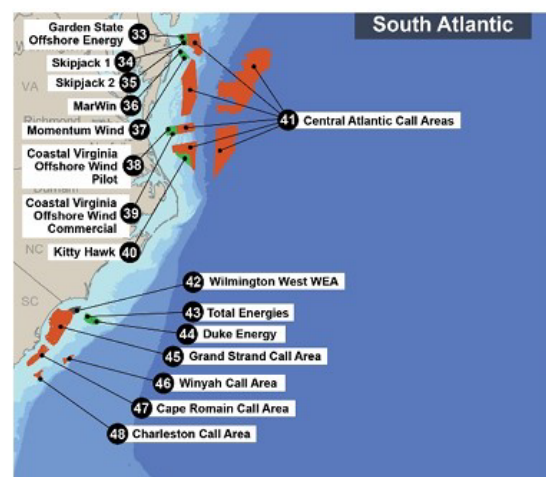


According to the NMFS, by 2030 the Northeast marine ecosystem will be occupied by:

- ✓ **Over 2.4 million acres** of leases (twice the size of Grand Canyon National Park)
- ✓ **3,400 turbines** (as tall as the Chrysler Building)
- ✓ **10,000 miles** of submarine cables (3 ½ times the distance from LA to NYC)

PLUS, **an additional 5.7 million acres** is under review for development. Offshore wind energy is renewable but will impact the ocean and marine life. While reasonable and responsible offshore wind could provide some needed renewable energy, the current

scope, magnitude, and speed of the industrialization for wind energy are unprecedented and will result in vast marine ecosystem destruction. Studies to determine impacts are underway, but are too little too late, and cumulative impacts are largely unknown or ignored. There are few laws protecting marine life. The risks are high. There are cheaper, faster, and safer energy-wise solutions that can be implemented now on land, such as energy waste and use reduction. A reasonable pilot studies may help determine how to conduct offshore wind in an environmentally responsible manner, but the government has rejected such a responsible approach. **For more information and resources, go to CleanOceanAction.org.**



HELPFUL RESOURCES ON MARINE MAMMAL HARASSMENT AUTHORIZATION:

- ✓ List of all active, pending, and expired incidental harassment authorizations (IHAs) on offshore wind energy projects: <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/national/marine-mammal-protection/incidental-take-authorizations-other-energy-activities-renewable>
- ✓ Details about IHAs: <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/permit/incidental-take-authorizations-under-marine-mammal-protection-act>
- ✓ Definitions related to IHAs: <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/national/laws-and-policies/glossary-permits-protected-resources#marine-mammal-protection-act-terms>