



## Pacific Fishery Management Council

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7700 NE Ambassador Place, Suite 101 Portland, OR 97220-1384  
Phone 503-820-2280 | Toll free 866-806-7204 | Fax 503-820-2299 | [www.pcouncil.org](http://www.pcouncil.org)  
Brad Pettinger, Chair | Merrick J. Burden, Executive Director

September 20, 2023

Jean Thurston-Keller  
Bureau of Ocean Energy Management  
Pacific Regional Office – Renewable Energy Section  
760 Paseo Camarillo, Suite 102 (CM 102)  
Camarillo California 90101

Re: Draft Wind Energy Areas – Commercial Leasing for Wind Power Development on the Oregon Outer Continental Shelf

Dear Ms. Thurston-Keller:

On behalf of the Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council), I request a 30-day extension of the comment period for the Draft Wind Energy Areas (WEAs) off the Oregon Coast, until November 15, 2023. The Council has considered offshore wind energy issues numerous times over the past few years, including at its September 2023 meeting. The announcement of the draft WEAs did not provide sufficient time for our Marine Planning Committee to adequately evaluate and discuss the draft WEAs prior to the September Council meeting. A 30-day extension would provide the opportunity to more fully evaluate the draft WEAs and to develop meaningful comments beneficial to the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management's decision-making process related to final WEAs.

Thank you for considering our request. Please contact Mr. Kerry Griffin ([Kerry.griffin@noaa.gov](mailto:Kerry.griffin@noaa.gov)) on our staff with any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Merrick J. Burden".

Merrick J. Burden  
Executive Director

KFG:kma

Cc: Doug Boren  
Necy Sumait  
Brad Pettinger  
Susan Chambers  
Mike Conroy