



# Great Lakes Wind Collaborative

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## Offshore Siting Principles and Guidelines for Wind Development on the Great Lakes Released

The Great Lakes Wind Collaborative has released Offshore Siting Principles and Guidelines for Wind Development on the Great Lakes, now available at

<http://www.glc.org/energy/wind/publications.html>. The document was a collaborative effort by members of the group's Offshore Wind Workgroup and other stakeholders.

"The guidelines are a timely response to what the Collaborative sees as a wave of interest in offshore wind development that is sweeping across the Great Lakes. Offshore wind must be environmentally and economically sustainable and reduce the carbon footprint of the binational Great Lakes region," said Terry Yonker, U.S. Co-chair of the Collaborative's Steering Committee.

The document provides guidance to state regulators, as well as developers, about potential environmental and other regulatory considerations that might be of concern with an offshore wind project. Its intent is to promote more informed decisionmaking and ensure that offshore wind development is being done in an environmentally-sensitive manner.

"Offshore wind development in the Great Lakes region is a new and exciting undertaking, but we have to get it right. The siting principles and guidelines are an important first step", said Joyce McLean of Toronto Hydro and Canadian Co-chair of the Collaborative's Steering Committee.

"The Collaborative is working to ensure that as the wind industry develops, it not only provides clean energy and green collar jobs, but also preserves the diverse Great Lakes ecosystem for future generations," said Tony Logan, Chief Legal Counsel and Wind Policy Coordinator with the Ohio Department of Natural Resources. Logan is also a member of the Collaborative's Advisory Committee.

The document identifies environmental concerns, such as lake floor habitat, fisheries, and migratory birds, among others, and suggests ways they can be addressed. Hence, the document provides regulatory agencies the groundwork to develop individual state and provincial policies and best practices.

"The Offshore Siting Principles and Guidelines report is a valuable resource for industry, policy makers and stakeholders engaged in considering offshore windpower development opportunities throughout the Great Lakes Basin," said Kevin Edwards of the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and one of the Collaborative's Advisory Committee co-chairs. "For Ontario, it is an important reference tool that will complement other strategic resources as the province moves to implement the new Green Energy Act."

The Great Lakes Wind Collaborative is a multi-sector coalition of wind energy stakeholders working to facilitate the sustainable development of wind power in the binational Great Lakes region. For more information on the Collaborative, visit <http://www.glc.org/energy/wind/>.

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