

**STEP BY STEP GUIDE TO SUBMIT COMMENTS by SEPTEMBER 23\*, 2021, 11:59pm**

**Public Comments Due on Environmental Impacts of Building Offshore Wind Turbines  
in 800,000 acres of Ocean off NY/NJ Coast**

**Request More Time for Review & Pause the Sale of Public Ocean**

**RESPONSIBLE AND REASONABLE OFFSHORE WIND IS A CLIMATE CHANGE SOLUTION  
BUT...THE OCEAN IS AT RISK FROM TOO MUCH, TOO FAST!!!**

On June 11, 2021, the Department of the Interior's Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) is proposing the sale of **800,000** acres of public ocean waters (eight auction areas) for offshore wind development on the Outer Continental Shelf off the New York/New Jersey coast. These proposed lease sales are *in addition to* the nearly **425,000** acres off New Jersey already sold for offshore wind. On August 10, 2021, BOEM announced the release of a "Draft Environmental Assessment" for these 800,000 acres. BOEM is accepting public comments until **September 23, 2021**, on the Draft EA.

*For comparison, 800,000 acres is roughly:*

- **30 times the size of Disney World in Florida, the largest amusement park in the world.**
- **Over 1.5 times the size of Smoky Mountain National Park.**
- **Nearly 1,000 times the size of Central Park in New York City.**

**TOO MUCH: IN TOTAL, Over 1 Million Acres Slated for Offshore Wind Energy:**

Combined, the areas off the coast already sold and proposed for sale for offshore wind **total 1.28 million acres, which is larger than the Grand Canyon National Park!**

**TOO FAST:** BOEM is fast-tracking the process and sought bidders *before* a complete Environmental Assessment -- which evaluates the marine life at risk.

**TAKE ACTION:** Submit comments and urge BOEM, in the name of good governance, transparency, and concern for protecting environmental resources and for responsible OSW development, to:

1. pause the sale of these 800,000 acres until more is known about the environmental impacts of the first 425,000 acres off New Jersey already underway for offshore wind development;
2. hold an additional public meeting for people to learn about the draft Environmental Assessment (EA); and,
3. extend the public comment period on the draft EA to 90 days to allow for adequate and comprehensive review.

**THEY DON'T MAKE IT EASY...To submit written or online comments, follow this Step-by-Step guide:**

✓ **How to Submit Public Comments in Written Form:**

1. Hand write or type your comments
2. Enclose your comments in an envelope labeled, "NY Bight Draft EA Comments" and addressed to Program Manager, Office of Renewable Energy, Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, 45600 Woodland Road, Sterling, Virginia 20166.

✓ **How to Submit Public Comments Online:**

1. Go to [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov)
2. Type "Docket No. BOEM-2021-0054" in the white "search" box and click the green "Search" button
3. On the new page that appears, click "Comment" under the title and summary of the NYBight\_DraftEA\_2021Aug10
4. Type your comments in the space provided, or upload/attach your comments as a file
  - a. To attach your comments as a file, first create & download your comments as a PDF to your computer
  - b. Then, click "Browse..." and find your comments file on your computer; click Open to upload the comments
5. Enter your email address and select an identity (i.e., individual, organization, or anonymous)
  - a. If prompted, enter your personal/organization's information in the space provided
6. Click the white box under "reCAPTCHA" for "I'm not a robot"
7. Click "Submit Comment"

***For more information about the many large-scale offshore wind projects in various stages of development off the NY/NJ coast, go to [CleanOceanAction.org](http://CleanOceanAction.org).***