



**Natural Resources and Renewables  
Office of the Minister**

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September 18, 2024

Senator Paul J. Massicotte  
Committee Chair  
Senate Committee on Energy, the Environment and Natural Resources  
The Senate of Canada  
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0A4  
Via Email <[Paul.Massicotte@sen.parl.gc.ca](mailto:Paul.Massicotte@sen.parl.gc.ca)>

Senator Marc Gold  
Government Representative in the Senate  
The Senate of Canada  
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0A4  
Via Email <[Marc.Gold@sen.parl.gc.ca](mailto:Marc.Gold@sen.parl.gc.ca)>

Dear Senators Massicotte & Gold:

I am writing to you regarding the Senate's consideration of Bill C-49: *An Act to amend the Canada-Newfoundland and Labrador Atlantic Accord Implementation Act and the Canada-Nova Scotia Offshore Petroleum Resources Accord Implementation Act and to make consequential amendments to other Acts.*

As I underscored to the Senate Committee on Energy, the Environment and Natural Resources on June 13, 2024, offshore wind is one of the greatest economic opportunities to face Nova Scotia in the history of our province. It is critical to a sustainable and prosperous future of our province and our communities.

The Bill as drafted is the product of extensive negotiations between our governments and in cooperation with the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador. This message has been reaffirmed by Premiers Houston and Furey in recent communications to the Committee, in addition to other organizations.

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I strongly urge the Senate to pass Bill C-49 in its current form, without amendments. Nova Scotia is readying itself to be a global leader in offshore wind energy, starting with the first call for bids in 2025. Already, we have undertaken efforts to meaningfully engage with the Mi'kmaq of Nova Scotia and Nova Scotians about what this opportunity can mean to them, their businesses, and their communities. Moving forward, we will build off the good work of our Regional Assessment for Offshore Wind, ensure regulations and policies are developed with input from stakeholders and community members, and identify ways in which the development can occur in an inclusive and respectful manner. This work will continue after our joint legislation comes into force and throughout the development of this new and exciting sector in Nova Scotia.

Regards,



Tory Rushton  
Minister

c: Raymond St. Martin, Committee Clerk  
Senator Josée Verner, Committee Deputy Chair

Nova Scotia Senators:

Senator Stephen Greene  
Senator Wanda Thomas Bernard  
Senator Réjean Aucoin  
Senator Jane Cordy  
Senator Mary Coyle  
Senator Rodger Cuzner  
Senator Colin Deacon  
Senator Stan Kutcher  
Senator Michael L. MacDonald  
Senator Paul J. Prosper

Hon. Jonathan Wilkinson, Minister of Energy and Natural Resources Canada  
Hon. Andrew Parsons, Minister of Industry, Energy and Technology, Province of  
Newfoundland and Labrador