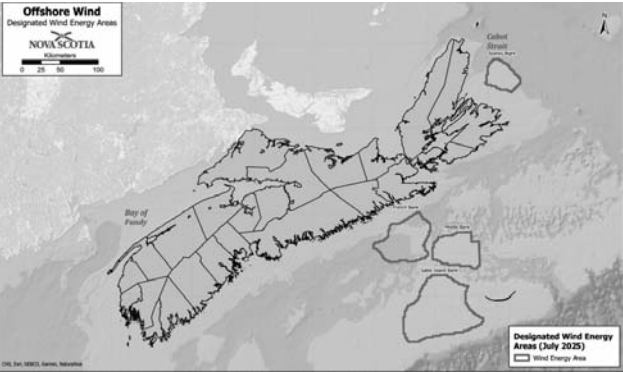


Canada's First Offshore Wind Energy Areas Designated

Canada's first four offshore wind energy areas have been designated on Nova Scotia's offshore. The Province of Nova Scotia and the Government of Canada jointly designated the areas - French Bank, Middle Bank and Sable Island Bank off mainland Nova Scotia and Sydney Bight off Cape Breton - today, July 29. It is a key step to develop the offshore wind in-



OBFB Fall Auction – September 27

By: Clair Peers
The annual O.B.F.B. Harvest Sale & Auction has been a tradition since 1961. The sale has always had good community support and is looked upon as an annual fun, social event. Onslow Belmont Firefighters are happy to announce that the popular "Harvest Sale & Auction" is back again this year. The auction will be a one day again this year (Saturday September 27), doors open at 8 AM for viewing, AUCTION AT 9 SHARP, so mark your calendar! Members will be contacting businesses for donations as before, but our usual community blitz of each household will not happen. Instead, we will be accepting drop-offs at the fire hall starting Sunday, Sept 7 until sale date. Contact any member to donate. We will also take messages on the fire hall phone (902 662 2555) or by email, obfb@eastlink.ca and on our Facebook page. Onslow Belmont Fire. (regular updates will be posted). Also look for our ad on page 7.



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New Independent Energy System Operator Names CEO

Continued from page 1
States Midwest providing transmission planning services for three major utilities. A registered professional engineer and Fellow of the Institution of Engineering and Technology, Johnston holds an engineering degree from Oxford University and completed his business education at Cranfield University and Harvard Business School.

"This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity," said Johnston. "This is about more than just managing the grid—NSIESO is about enabling the energy transformation in Nova Scotia. We have an opportunity to reshape our electricity system around clean and reliable energy, and as a not-for-profit organization we are singularly focused on long-term value for Nova Scotians. It's an honour to help lead that transforma-



Longtime senior energy executive Johnny Johnston will be the inaugural President and Chief Executive Officer of the Nova Scotia Independent Energy System Operator (NSIESO).

tion, and to work alongside many who are already driving this change." NSIESO was created following the recommendations of the 2024 Clean Electricity Solutions Task Force. It will play a key role in the province's energy transition to renewables. NSIESO will be responsible for grid planning, interconnection assessments, competitive procurement, and ultimately, real-time operations of the province's bulk electricity system.

"We're just getting started," added Reid. "We're establishing a modern, independent operator—one that welcomes clean energy investment, encourages competition, and puts Nova Scotians first." Johnston will be based in Halifax and started on August 18, 2025. The appointment of the CEO by NSIESO's Board of Directors follows a national search led by recruitment firm KBRS.

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Council Meeting

Thursday, August 28 @ 6pm

Presentations Meeting

Tuesday, September 2 @ 6pm

Council Committee Meeting

Thursday, September 11 @ 6pm

Council Meeting

Thursday, September 25 @ 6pm

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