

**The RIDEM Marine Fisheries Office will be holding a public meeting for interested stakeholders regarding federal wind farm projects and their potential impacts to the state of Rhode Island. The meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 18, 2016 at 6:00 PM at URI's Narragansett Bay Campus, Coastal Institute building, Hazard Room.**

**The meeting will begin with a brief overview of ongoing federal wind projects and the federal process by which they are initiated, evaluated, and leased. The remainder of the meeting will focus on the New York Wind Energy Area and its potential impacts on the Rhode Island fishing industry.**

**The goals of the meeting are to:**

- 1) Provide an overview of DEM's new offshore renewable energy stakeholder process**
  - 2) Discuss stakeholder concerns pertaining to the New York project**
  - 3) Notify stakeholders of upcoming opportunities to provide additional input to the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM)**
  - 4) Discuss methodology for collecting information on fishing activity and other current uses in the New York Wind Energy Area so Marine Fisheries may provide comments and a detailed analysis to BOEM and others demonstrating the importance of the area to Rhode Island**
- A reminder email including a meeting agenda will be sent out as the meeting approaches.**

**For more information contact Julia Livermore at 401.423.1937 or**

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