

1 AN ACT concerning wind energy.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 1. Short title. This Act may be cited as the Lake
5 Michigan Offshore Wind Energy Council Act.

6 Section 5. Definitions. In this Act:

7 "Council" means the Lake Michigan Offshore Wind Energy
8 Council created under this Act.

9 "Department" means the Illinois Department of Natural
10 Resources.

11 "Local government" means county, township, or
12 municipality.

13 Section 10. The Lake Michigan Offshore Wind Energy Council.

14 (a) The Council is created as a separate entity within the
15 Department of Natural Resources and shall consist of the
16 Directors or Chairman, or their designees, of the following 4
17 State agencies:

18 (1) The Department of Natural Resources.

19 (2) The Illinois Environmental Protection Agency.

20 (3) The Illinois Power Agency.

21 (4) The Illinois Commerce Commission.

22 (b) The Director of Natural Resources shall serve as

1 chairperson of the Council. The chairperson shall select the
2 following public members to serve on the Council:

3 (1) One individual representing a statewide
4 environmental organization.

5 (2) One individual representing the tourism industry.

6 (3) One resident of the State representing an Illinois
7 institution of higher education.

8 (4) One Cook County resident representing lakefront
9 communities.

10 (5) One Lake County resident representing lakefront
11 communities.

12 (6) One individual representing an electrical utility
13 industry.

14 (7) One individual representing an independent
15 transmission company.

16 (8) One individual representing the offshore wind
17 energy industry.

18 (9) One individual representing local government
19 officials.

20 (10) One individual representing a regional
21 environmental organization.

22 (c) The Speaker of the House, Minority Leader of the House,
23 Senate President, and Minority Leader of the Senate shall each
24 appoint one member of the General Assembly to serve on the
25 Council.

26 (d) Members of the Advisory Council shall serve without

1 compensation, but may be reimbursed for actual and necessary
2 expenses incurred in the performance of their official duties
3 as members of the Advisory Council.

4 Section 15. Duties of the Council. The Council shall
5 examine the following topics:

6 (1) Criteria that can be used to review applications
7 for offshore wind development.

8 (2) Criteria for identifying areas that are favorable,
9 acceptable, and unacceptable for offshore wind
10 development.

11 (3) A recommended process for ensuring public
12 engagement.

13 (4) Options for how the State should be compensated for
14 Lake Michigan bottomland leasing.

15 (5) A summary of the lessons learned from other
16 domestic and international offshore wind development
17 experiences including, but not limited to, those related to
18 public policy, regulatory, and siting concerns for
19 offshore wind development.

20 (6) Recommendations for needed State legislation and
21 regulations governing offshore wind farm development.

22 The Council shall assess and make recommendations on these
23 topics and report its findings and recommendations to the
24 Governor and General Assembly by December 31, 2011.

1 Section 20. Repeal of Act. This Act shall be repealed on
2 July 1, 2012.

3 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect July 1,
4 2011.