## PRESS RELEASE

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## **Public Listening Session – BOEM Offshore Renewable Energy Program**

Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council (MAFMC) Meeting Tuesday, April 10, 2012 - 5:00 pm to 6:00 pm

Sanderling Inn, 1461 Duck Road, Duck, NC And Via the Internet at http://www.mafmc.org/

The Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) is engaged in siting offshore renewable energy facilities along the Atlantic seaboard. As part of the planning and analysis for the offshore renewable energy process BOEM is reaching out to fishers to solicit their thoughts regarding offshore renewable energy as well as informing fishers about the offshore renewable energy leasing process.

This update will primarily focus on offshore renewable energy activities in the Mid-Atlantic (New York to North Carolina). Updates on the status of various BOEM-funded studies will also be presented. Information regarding BOEM's renewable energy program found http://www.boem.gov/Renewable-Energy-Program/index.aspx. Incorporating input and feedback from fishers is important to BOEM's planning process. With this in mind, the Council will host a Public Listening Session in which BOEM representatives, will provide an update and take questions and input from the audience and those online (see below for registration). If you have questions, need answers, or just want to express your concerns regarding the BOEM offshore renewable energy program, you will be able to talk directly to BOEM staff and leaders from the Council and the National Marine Fisheries Service.

You can attend in person in Duck or via the internet. **For online webinar access register at:** <a href="https://www1.gotomeeting.com/register/357029721">https://www1.gotomeeting.com/register/357029721</a>. This is the same link for listening-in to the Council meeting - <a href="Agenda">Agenda</a>.

Regarding the Listening Session process, please contact Jason Didden at jdidden@mafmc.org or (302) 526-5254 if you have any questions or if you would like to confirm that your computer is set-up to access the webinar. The webinar works for most computers, but sometimes remote voice communication from online participants has problems. In such cases, participants may still use a chat feature in the webinar to type submit their comments or questions. You can also email questions for the Listening Session before the meeting begins to jdidden@mafmc.org.