

## International Regulators Forum Offshore Renewable Energy Subcommittee

### Mid-year virtual meeting

May 27, 2025

The International Regulators' Forum Offshore Renewable Energy Subcommittee (IRFORES) held its second mid-year meeting virtually on May 27, 2025.

Hosted by Australia, the mid-year meeting included representatives from Canada, Denmark, The Netherlands, Norway, The United Kingdom, and Germany.

Participants provided an update on the latest developments within their respective jurisdictions including a brief overview of the current state and future plans for offshore renewables development.

Participants shared insights into the maturity of respective legislative and regulatory frameworks, regulatory approaches, and the scope of their regulatory responsibilities.

Participants also noted critical and emerging industry health and safety risks and regulatory challenges and outlined proposals for future initiatives or reforms that are being considered to respond to changes in industry risk profile. Emerging technologies and innovations were a key area of focus, particularly in relation to the integration of hydrogen production infrastructure, further advancements in wave energy and proposals for multiple use approaches such as integrating seaweed farming and other aquaculture into offshore renewables projects.

Common themes emerged among jurisdictions with a series of topics identified as mutual areas of interest that would benefit from further discussion including:

- Share best practices and lessons learned in drafting offshore wind legislation, specially around health and safety, environmental management, and infrastructure integrity.
- Approaches to development of offshore wind emergency response standards, including equipment compatibility and training protocols.
- Collaboration on international training standards, mutual recognition of qualifications, and certification pathways.
- Exchange of best practices for risk based inspection models and remote inspection technologies.
- Establishment of technical groups to discuss standardisation of technical and operational standards, safety by design and design principles for floating turbines, compliance monitoring and increased regulatory collaboration.
- Regulatory approaches for floating wind, hydrogen generation, wave energy and multiuse platforms.
- Exploring models for inter-agency coordination and streamlined approval processes.

The IRFORES AGM is scheduled for 08 October 2025 in St Johns, Canada.