



**Comments by *Offshore Wind California* to Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) California
Intergovernmental Renewable Energy Task Force
June 3, 2022**

I'm Adam Stern, Executive Director of *Offshore Wind California*, a trade group that represents the offshore wind industry. We hosted the Pacific Offshore Wind Summit held in San Francisco in March.

We want to thank BOEM and all the federal and state agencies serving on this task force. We look forward to commenting on the Proposed Sale Notice and suggesting improvements.

BOEM's progress today sends an important signal to the industry and other federal and state agencies that California is ready to move forward to make offshore wind power a reality. The key steps include the lease auction this fall and further planning for ports, transmission, energy procurement, workforce development, and a sustainable supply chain.

While the focus of today's meeting is the Proposed Sale Notice for the first lease sales in California, we shouldn't lose sight of the need to study and propose new call areas. The first two Wind Energy Areas have the potential to generate up to 4.6 gigawatts (GW) of power. But the California Energy Commission's (CEC) draft report released last month recommends goals of 10-15 GW by 2045 and up to 20 GW by 2050.

As encouraged as we are about plans for a BOEM lease auction in the fall, the agency needs to start work with the state on a new round of call areas. On the north coast, the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) has identified two potential areas at Mendocino and Del Norte. On the central coast, Diablo Canyon, which is already a call area, deserves more serious examination on how to resolve potential conflicts with the Department of Defense.

In coordination with the federal government, California can make offshore wind a key part of the state's diverse clean power portfolio, while also protecting marine, coastal, and cultural resources. Looking ahead, we're committed to working with BOEM and other federal and state agencies to continue implementing these plans. Thank you.