



Remarks by *Offshore Wind California* to California Energy Commission Workshop on Assembly Bill 525: Preparing a Strategic Plan for California's Offshore Wind Development

October 6, 2022

I'm Adam Stern with *Offshore Wind California (OWC)*, a trade group that represents the offshore wind industry in our state. I want to start by just congratulating the staff of the State Agencies for all the work that's underway. While we've been in touch regularly, it's impressive to hear the scope of activities that you're working on, and to have the schedule of workshops and public comment opportunities now before us.

I want to also cite and congratulate the California Energy Commission (CEC) for [setting](#) these goals of up to 5 gigawatts (GW) of offshore wind by 2030 and 25 GW by 2045.

In order to get there, it's going to require some very significant actions, which have been reviewed in your program today. I just want to highlight the following:

Going big on offshore wind means moving ahead with the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) plans for an initial **federal lease auction** later this year at the Morro Bay and Humboldt Wind Energy Areas.

On **permitting**, it means preparing a clear road map – by December 31 this year – to provide greater certainty for completing the environmental and other necessary reviews in an efficient and timely manner. I want to mention that we've worked closely with our partners, *American Clean Power*, to submit a suggested timeline and other deadlines associated with the permitting process, and that's now part of the CEC docket.

On **port infrastructure**, it means identifying the benefits and planning of a multi-port strategy for both the North Coast and Central Coast.

On **transmission**, it means siting, permitting, and building power lines to transmit up to 25 GW of offshore wind power to load centers in North, Central and Southern California.

For **new call areas**, it means working with BOEM, state agencies and other stakeholders to identify new areas for the next rounds of leasing to reach California's goal of 25 GW by 2045.

On **procurement**, as has been observed here today, the CEC, California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC), and other agencies need to work together to provide procurement at scale for the power offshore wind will generate.

On **workforce development**, the CEC, GO-Biz, and other agencies must begin job training programs for the tens of thousands of workers who will install and service offshore wind turbines.

For a **sustainable supply chain**, it means advancing all of the above, at scale, to attract a wide range of businesses and investment to the state to service and supply this new clean energy industry.

Our ultimate goal is to develop a thriving, world-leading, floating offshore wind industry for California. We're committed to working closely with the CEC, other state and federal agencies and local leaders and stakeholders to realize, as quickly as possible, the benefits of this important renewable energy resource for the Golden State.

Thank you very much.