



Remarks by *Offshore Wind California* to California Energy Commission (CEC) on Assembly Bill (AB) 525: Preliminary Report on Economic Benefits of Offshore Wind re Seaport Investments & Workforce Development

December 19, 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 begin by thanking the CEC staff, commissioners, and other state agencies for advancing the essential next steps for realizing California's [planning goals](#) to add offshore wind to its diverse clean power portfolio and generate up to 5 gigawatts (GW) of offshore wind by 2030 and a nation-leading 25 GW by 2045.

Just two weeks ago, the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) successfully concluded its initial auction that identified five provisional lease holders and made California the big winner in this first lease sale for the state's multi-gigawatt floating offshore wind resource. The [auction](#) was great news for California's offshore wind industry, its workers, and for electricity ratepayers. It may have been the most consequential milestone yet for establishing California, and the U.S. as a whole, as global leaders in going big on floating offshore wind.

To make that a reality, the CEC is working with other state and local agency staff and leaders on what it will take to bring California's offshore wind online, following the landmark AB 525 law signed by Governor Newsom last year.

I want to thank the CEC staff for this excellent report. You've done a great job covering the seaport investments underway on the East Coast, the plans for doing similar investments in California, and articulating what's going to be required in that area to realize the promise of offshore wind. And similarly, your descriptions of the workforce development opportunities, the jobs potential for offshore wind, the summary of all of the economic reports that have already been issued, are excellent background from which to build going forward.

Our organization and the offshore wind industry in California looks forward to working with the CEC in the coming months as you build out this report and develop recommendations on the very large investments still required to make offshore wind a reality for California.

Thank you very much.

Adam Stern, Executive Director, [Offshore Wind California](#) (OWC), a trade group of offshore wind developers and technology companies

For more information, see OWC's [California Offshore Wind Industry Report – November 2022](#)