



Statement by Offshore Wind California Commending California Energy Commission (CEC) & Other State Agencies for Assembly Bill (AB) 525 Draft Strategic Plan to Advance California Offshore Wind

January 19, 2024

We commend the California Energy Commission (CEC) and other state agencies for preparing this detailed [draft strategic plan](#) to deploy California offshore wind at scale, as directed by the landmark [AB 525](#) law signed by Gov. Newsom in 2021. This is the kind of comprehensive plan California needs for the responsible development of this remarkable renewable energy resource off the state's coast.

For the Golden State, the foundation and future of offshore wind is floating. The CEC's strategic plan describes the essential [next steps](#) California must take to achieve its goal of a nation-leading [25 gigawatts \(GW\)](#) of floating offshore wind by 2045. They include investments in a multi-port strategy and new electric transmission, an efficient and timely process for permitting, a robust supply chain and workforce training, engaging key stakeholders, and identifying suitable sea space to reach the state's ambitious offshore wind goals.

California is setting a course to make offshore wind a key part of its diverse clean-power portfolio to generate [100%](#) clean electricity by 2045. The CEC's strategic plan follows earlier action by California lawmakers to [enact](#) the ground-breaking [AB 1373](#), which enables the state to procure large-scale, long lead-time clean energy resources and bring offshore wind online.

Much work remains to review and refine the details of this strategic plan, but its determination and direction is clear. It represents an important milestone that underscores California's commitment to go big on offshore wind to help meet its ambitious climate, clean-energy, and grid-reliability goals.

Offshore wind promises to deliver a host of [benefits](#) for California workers, residents, and electricity ratepayers. Deploying 25 GW off the state's North and Central Coasts will create [thousands](#) of family-wage jobs and supply clean power to up to [25 million homes](#). Offshore wind can also save ratepayers [billions](#), help avoid rolling blackouts, and bring real environmental and health benefits, all while coexisting with other ocean users and protecting California's coastal communities and cultural resources. As an industry, we're committed to work with state and federal agencies, the California Legislature, and key stakeholders to make offshore wind's promise a reality.

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

Links to CEC AB 525 Offshore Wind Strategic Plan (January 2024)

[Volume I – Overview Report](#)

[Volume II – Main Report](#)

[Volume III – Technical Appendices](#)