

## Statement by *Offshore Wind California* on Biden Administration Actions to Expand U.S. Offshore Wind, Including California Joining the Federal-State Offshore Wind Implementation Partnership February 22, 2023

We're excited to see the Biden Administration's <u>actions today</u> to expand U.S. offshore wind, including California joining the <u>Federal-State Offshore Wind Implementation Partnership</u>. This is excellent news for the Golden State's offshore wind industry, workers, and electricity ratepayers, and recognition of <u>Governor Newsom's</u> leadership in advancing this important clean energy resource for California. President Biden launched this partnership last year with eleven East Coast governors to strengthen federal-state collaboration, accelerate responsible offshore wind development, and reach the Administration's goals to deploy 30 gigawatts (GW) of U.S. offshore wind by 2030 and 15 GW of floating offshore wind by 2035.

California's decision to join the partnership, along with Louisiana, will expand this national initiative from sea to shining sea, and help build a sustainable offshore wind supply chain that creates tens of thousands of high-skilled, good-paying jobs. For California, it promises to play an instrumental role in realizing offshore wind's substantial climate, clean energy, and jobs benefits, and help the state meet its ambitious <u>planning goals</u> to generate up to 5 GW from offshore wind by 2030 and a nation-leading 25 GW by 2045.

We're also encouraged to see the Department of Energy <u>launch</u> a new <u>West Coast Offshore Wind Transmission</u> <u>Study</u>, utilizing \$100 million in transmission planning funding in the Inflation Reduction Act. And we welcome California becoming the first West Coast state to <u>join</u> the National Offshore Wind Development and Research Consortium.

California – and the U.S. as a whole – have a remarkable opportunity to establish global leadership by going big on floating offshore wind, which represents two-thirds of America's offshore wind resource. Last December's first-ever auction of floating wind off California's coast was the most consequential milestone yet for making floating wind a key part of our diverse, reliable clean energy future. To make this a reality, we need to move forward at speed and scale in a full-court federal-state press to implement California's strategic plan for floating offshore wind.

As an industry, we're committed to working in close partnership with state and federal agencies and other key stakeholders on the essential <u>next steps</u> to bring California offshore wind power online, including investments in transmission and port infrastructure, a clear roadmap for permitting, procurement, a robust supply chain, workforce training, and more call areas to reach the state's 25 GW goal.

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