

Statement by *Offshore Wind California* on Conclusion of First-ever Lease Auction for California Offshore Wind Energy by the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM)

December 7, 2022

California is the big winner in this first lease sale for the state's multi-gigawatt (GW) floating offshore wind resource. Today's <u>final auction results</u> are great news for California's offshore wind industry, workers, and electricity ratepayers. This is the most consequential milestone yet for the Golden State's efforts to make offshore wind a key part of its diverse clean energy future, and meet its ambitious <u>planning goals</u> to generate up to 5 GW by 2030 and a nation-leading 25 GW by 2045.

BOEM's auction process has identified five provisional winners who are prepared to responsibly develop five California lease areas, and make the big investments necessary to realize offshore wind's very substantial climate, clean energy and jobs benefits.

California, and the U.S. as a whole, have a remarkable opportunity to establish global leadership by going big on floating offshore wind. BOEM's initial <u>lease auction</u> for the Morro Bay and Humboldt Wind Energy Areas is an important step to making that a reality.

California has committed to moving forward on offshore wind at speed and scale. The <u>Biden Administration</u> has given the state a huge boost by setting a national floating offshore wind goal to bring down costs and generate 15 GW by 2035. Looking ahead, we need to focus on the essential <u>next steps</u> to bring California offshore wind online, which include investments in transmission and port infrastructure, a clear roadmap on 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

For more information, see OWC's California Offshore Wind Industry Report – November 2022