



Statement on California Senate Joining Assembly in Approving AB 525 to Spur Offshore Wind Power Development in Golden State, Legislation Sent to Governor Newsom for Signature

Labor, environmental, and industry coalition powers passage of AB 525
to accelerate offshore wind plan for California

September 10, 2021

This is great news and a major milestone for California's offshore wind industry and workers. The state Senate's 38-0 vote for AB 525 yesterday follows the Assembly's initial 71-1 approval and the Biden Administration and Governor Newsom's [announcement](#) for California offshore wind earlier this spring. The measure received final approval from the Assembly last night and was sent to Governor Newsom's desk for signature. The overwhelming bipartisan backing by both houses highlights the broad support for this landmark legislation, which directs state agencies to set offshore wind targets for 2030 and 2045 and prepare a strategic plan and timeline to spur responsible development of large-scale offshore wind power for the Golden State. The bill will help address California's pressing climate challenges and send a strong signal to the offshore wind market. It cites a [recent interagency report](#) showing at least 10 gigawatts (GW) of this renewable resource will be needed to ensure California's 100% clean energy future.

We want to thank the principal Senate co-authors, Senators Josh Becker and Susan Eggman, and Senator John Laird and Senate President pro Tempore Toni Atkins, as well as the lead Assembly authors, Assembly Members David Chiu, Jordan Cunningham, and Laura Friedman, and key labor, industry, environmental and environmental justice supporters, for their leadership and advocacy. We look forward to seeing the legislation ultimately signed into law by Gov. Newsom.

We are committed to partnering with state and federal agencies to map out a path to achieve at least 10 GW of offshore wind for California by 2040. This is an essential and complementary clean energy source that produces power in the evening when solar generation is down. California has some of the world's most powerful offshore wind resources and can build a thriving new industry that delivers thousands of jobs and an initial 4.6 GW from wind leases 20-25 miles off the Central and North coasts. This first phase of development will contribute to President Biden's national goal of 30 GW of offshore wind by 2030, while potentially saving billions for California ratepayers, supplying clean power to 1.6 million households, and generating billions for the state's economy. To reach these ambitious goals, the state needs to complete environmental reviews, upgrade port and transmission infrastructure, support development of an offshore wind supply chain, and streamline permitting while protecting wildlife and cultural resources.

The future of California offshore wind power is bright, using proven floating wind technologies already deployed elsewhere in the world. But to realize its promise, and reduce our climate risks, we must get started now.

Adam Stern, Executive Director, Offshore Wind California, a business association of offshore wind developers and technology companies