



Statement on Governor Newsom's Inclusion of \$45 Million to Spur Responsible Offshore Wind Development as Part of Clean Energy Commitment in California Blueprint Budget Proposal

January 10, 2022

We are very pleased that Governor Newsom has committed \$45 million in California's proposed FY 2022-23 budget to create an Offshore Wind Energy Deployment Facility Improvement Program as part of his California Blueprint plan to generate more clean energy resources for the Golden State. This investment – coming on top of the enactment last fall of the landmark AB 525 legislation – will advance needed infrastructure to spur responsible development of offshore wind power in federal waters off California.

• *Offshore Wind Infrastructure—\$45 million General Fund in 2022-23 to create the Offshore Wind Energy Deployment Facility Improvement Program, which will invest in activities to advance the capabilities of deploying offshore wind energy in federal waters off California in the areas of facility planning and development. [from Gov. Newsom's California Blueprint announcement]*

In addition, Governor Newsom is committing further funding to help the California Energy Commission (CEC) and other state agencies implement AB 525. In September, the state Legislature gave overwhelming bipartisan approval to and Governor Newsom signed AB 525, which among other things, directs the CEC to establish clear offshore wind targets for 2030 and 2045, and also requires the CEC and other agencies to develop a permitting roadmap that involves all affected stakeholders, including strengthening marine and coastal protection and addressing other environmental issues. The CEC and California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) have already begun taking steps to implement this important new law.

Today's commitment by Governor Newsom is another sign of things to come for Golden State workers and its nascent offshore wind industry. In March 2021, the [Joint Agency SB 100 report](#) concluded the state will need to develop a diverse portfolio of renewable energies that includes at least 10 gigawatts (GW) of offshore wind power to cost-effectively achieve its 100% renewable and zero-carbon goals by 2045. This represents a small fraction of California's technical offshore wind potential, yet its benefits are huge.

Ten GW of offshore wind would supply almost 15% of the state's current electricity needs, providing clean, reliable energy that complements the state's solar and other renewable resources, and helps keep the lights on for Californians around the clock. Moreover, building 10 GW of offshore wind will create thousands of good-paying jobs, save ratepayers [\\$1 billion or more](#) for installed clean power capacity, enable California to efficiently meet its 100% clean energy goals, and also help the state manage its growing climate risks while protecting marine and coastal resources.

Accelerated state and federal planning can result in an initial 3 GW of offshore wind power for California by 2030, contributing to President Biden's national goal of 30 GW by the end of the decade. To realize offshore wind's promise, we must move forward with the leasing process in the fall of 2022, complete environmental reviews, upgrade transmission and port infrastructure, support supply chain development, and streamline federal/state permitting. OWC is committed to working with state and federal agencies to make California a leader in offshore wind power, a key contributor in our new clean energy economy.

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