

Statement on Biden Administration's Approval of the Vineyard Wind Project, the First Utility-Scale, Offshore Wind Farm in the U.S. May 11, 2021

This is great news and a major milestone for America's offshore wind industry and its workers. The Vineyard Wind project off Massachusetts will be the first utility-scale offshore wind farm to put "steel in the water" in the United States. It will demonstrate the power of this renewable energy technology to deliver gigawatts of competitively priced electricity and family-wage, union jobs for America's clean energy economy, while protecting marine and coastal resources.

For California, this approval is a preview of what's ahead when the state works with federal partners to finalize sites for offshore wind projects. Responsible development of offshore wind will be essential if California is to reach its clean energy and climate goals. Accelerated federal and state planning can result in 3 GW of offshore wind power for California by 2030, thus contributing to President Biden's national goal of 30 GW by 2030. With some of the most powerful and reliable offshore wind resources in the world, California can develop an entirely new industry with thousands of high-skilled jobs and deliver a minimum of 10 GW of renewable offshore wind energy by 2040.

Approval of the Vineyard Wind project solidifies the Biden Administration's commitment to jumpstart U.S. offshore wind by fast-tracking lease sales and permitting, while protecting wildlife and cultural resources, investing in port and transmission infrastructure, and building out a new clean energy industry and supply chain — from sea to shining sea.

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