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## US and Japan team up in floating offshore wind push

Japan's Prime Minister Fumio Kishida and President Joe Biden at the White House. Photo: Twitter/The White House



*US aiming to unlock estimated 2.8TW in floating offshore wind potential in its coastal waters*

By **Cosmo Sanderson**

The US has signed up Japan as its first international partner in a Biden administration plan to get 15GW of floating offshore wind installed in American waters in the next decade.

The news was announced on Wednesday during a visit of Japan's Prime Minister Fumio Kishida to the White House to meet President Joe Biden.

The US Floating Offshore Wind Shot aims to reduce the cost of floating offshore wind by more than 70%, to \$45/MWh, and reach 15GW of deployment in the US by 2035.

The plan, **unveiled in 2022**, will help the US unlock two-thirds (2.8TW) of its offshore wind potential, which is in waters deeper than 60 metres and accessible only through floating technology.

Areas off the coasts of California and Oregon are seen as particularly promising, with the US offshore energy regulator last month **announcing its finalised wind energy areas** for the Gulf of Maine, holding some 32GW of potential floating wind capacity.

Through the partnership, the White House said that US and Japan will work to “accelerate breakthroughs across engineering, manufacturing and other innovation areas”.

The countries have committed to reporting publicly on progress each year under their previously agreed Clean Energy and Energy Security Initiative.

The White House said Japan will contribute around ¥120bn (US\$783mn) to the plan through its Green Innovation Fund.

The US also welcomed Japan's recently launched industry platform, the Floating Offshore Wind Technology Research Association.

A group of Japanese companies last month teamed up to form the association and foster the development of floating wind capacity in the country.

Japan aims to put 10GW of offshore wind capacity in place by 2030 and up to 45GW by 2040.

The US said it will continue its efforts under its Department of Energy's strategy to advance offshore wind to “leverage more than \$5.8bn in cumulative public and private sector supply chain investments”.

The 2035 floating goal added to the US government's aim to have 30GW of offshore wind turning by 2030.