

DOCKETED

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**Oct 8 Bus Mtg Item 9 Waterfront Facility Improvement Program for
Offshore Wind Energy Development GFO- 24-701**

Additional submitted attachment is included below.

MORRO BAY COMMERCIAL FISHERMEN'S ORGANIZATION, INC.



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September 29, 2025

California Energy Commission,

Regarding: Waterfront Facility Improvement Program for Offshore Wind Energy
Development. GFO- 24-701. Item 9 on 10/8/25 Business Meeting

The Morro Bay Commercial Fishermen's Organization represents ~100 commercial fishermen off the Central Coast of California. We will be directly impacted by the development of the Morro Bay Wind Energy Area.

We realize the current California Administration is pushing forward with Offshore Wind Energy (OSW) development despite the Federal Administration's change in policy due to the President's recognition of the high cost, environmental impacts, and inefficiencies of using wind energy, particularly on the ocean. So, we find California's "backdooring" permissions for OSW development **treasonous**. California should be spending their funds on clean energy technologies that are in alignment with our duly elected national leader but also with the will of many Californians, especially those impacted. In the recent November 2024 election, Central Californians overwhelmingly elected the Port San Luis Harbor Commissioner that came out adamantly against Offshore Wind Development, Richard Scangarello. Look it up.

California does not have the geography for offshore wind energy; **forcing engineers to fight mother nature** to make it work. In Europe and on the East Coast, they have long flat inlets ideal for assembling, maintaining, and storing offshore wind turbines. Not California. We (California taxpayers) are going to have to spend billions of dollars to adapt ports for offshore wind energy. This is requiring formation of man-made land. OSW ports will need expensive, environmentally unfriendly, hazardous, ugly giant concrete platforms to provide level areas for the 1000 ft. turbines and 300ft blades, storage space for all the needed lubricants, and dock space for the 300' Service and Operation Vessels.

It is going to **require unwanted industrialization** in small fishing and tourist town harbors full of marine life and beautiful scenery for the public to enjoy. It's going to require thousands of tons of dredging altering the ecosystems of the harbors. It's going to increase the noise level in the harbors with loud pile driving for new piers and large

ship propellers and thrusters constantly in and out of the bay. It will bring an increase in ship traffic and navigational obstacles for the local fishermen and recreational community. And will bring an increase in light pollution to areas normally peaceful and star-filled at night.

What seems crazy is that all this is being done **for a technology that hasn't even been invented yet, let alone tested!** There are only 25 floating wind turbines in the world! None have been installed in more than 900 ft of water. None over 9.5 MW. None more than 11 turbines to a "wind farm". The Morro Bay Wind Energy Area is in 3000-5000 ft. 15 to 20 MW and ~300 turbines! Floating substation converters and flexible cable needed for the project has not even been invented yet! None of the existing floating wind turbines have lasted more than 5 years before needing to be towed back to shore and completely rebuilt. All were no more than 30% productive. Floating turbines must be turned off if they pitch more than 7 degrees or ~ a 10 ft. swell, which occurs quite often in the Pacific Ocean. The blades brake, they catch fire, they erode, they freeze up – all the things you would expect from putting giant machines with moving parts in the ocean. We are recklessly turning our pristine productive beautiful coastline into a testing lab for unresearched technology that has not yet proven itself effective. This puts us at risk of being stuck with giant piles of expensive abandoned trash. The State is spending billions of dollars on a unicorn, and the CEC is promoting it.

It takes guts to go against the tide and do the right thing for Californians.
We hope you do your research and come to the realization this is a bad idea and JUST SAY NO.

Sincerely,

Tom Hafer, Secretary MBCFO