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Comments on the Draft SB 605 Wave and Tidal Energy Report

Thank you for the Draft SB 605 Wave and Tidal Energy Report. I appreciate the work to consider marine energy's potential alongside its costs, environmental effects, and the needs of people who already depend on California's coast.

My name is Roshan Saxena. I'm a student in Santa Clara County and serve as a youth member of the Santa Clara County Sustainability Commission. I also help lead the FUHSD Climate Collective. I'm commenting in my personal capacity.

Chapter 4's emphasis on pilot projects, together with Chapter 3's discussion of monitoring and adaptive management, is a sensible foundation. One useful next step would be to recommend a common set of publicly reported results for state-supported pilots. Actual electricity output, operational availability, storm-related downtime, maintenance requirements, and costs would help make projects more comparable. Measured results should remain clearly distinguishable from projections for larger deployments.

I would also welcome a clearer explanation of how those findings would guide decisions to expand, modify, or stop a project. Establishing project-specific monitoring thresholds and response responsibilities before installation would make adaptive management more concrete.

Retrieval and decommissioning deserve continued attention in economic assessments. Including those costs from the beginning would provide a more complete picture of feasibility and help prevent an unsuccessful demonstration from leaving equipment or obligations behind.

Finally, I support the report's attention to ongoing engagement with California Native American tribes, fishing communities, and other coastal users. Documenting how their input changes siting or operations would make that engagement more meaningful, while respecting confidential cultural information.

Thank you for considering these suggestions and for pursuing an approach that allows promising technology to be evaluated carefully without losing sight of the coast and its communities.

Roshan Saxena