

DOCKETED

Docket Number:	17-MISC-01
Project Title:	California Offshore Renewable Energy
TN #:	242255
Document Title:	Notice of Staff Webinar
Description:	Study Outcomes from Conservation Biology Institute Project - March 22, 2022; 2:00 p.m.
Filer:	susan fleming
Organization:	California Energy Commission
Submitter Role:	Commission Staff
Submission Date:	3/11/2022 7:53:50 AM
Docketed Date:	3/11/2022

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CEC-70 (Revised 11/2021)

*IN THE MATTER OF:**California Offshore Renewable Energy*

Docket No. 17-MISC-01

NOTICE OF REMOTE-ACCESS
WEBINARRE: Conservation Biology Institute
Study Outcomes

Notice of Staff Webinar
Study Outcomes from Conservation Biology Institute Project
March 22, 2022
2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Remote Access Only

The California Energy Commission (CEC) will host a webinar in coordination with the California Ocean Protection Council (OPC) on study outcomes from a project led by the Conservation Biology Institute (CBI). CBI received grant funding from OPC to develop a set of spatial models, using existing data from the [California Offshore Wind Energy Gateway](https://caoffshorewind.databasin.org/) (<https://caoffshorewind.databasin.org/>), designed to synthesize information to help stakeholders and decision-makers assess the suitability of offshore wind energy development in federal waters off the coast of California. These models, developed using the Environmental Evaluation Modeling System (EEMS), provide a transparent and data-driven means for assessing a range of considerations at a given location, such as existing energy potential, deployment feasibility, ocean uses, fisheries, and marine life occurrence. Together, these models can be used to inform planning processes for offshore wind energy development to avoid or minimize impacts to existing ocean uses and the environment.

The webinar will be held remotely, consistent with Assembly Bill 361 (Rivas, Chapter 165, Statutes of 2021) as extended by Governor Newsom's Executive Order N-1-22 to improve and enhance public access to state agency meetings during the COVID-19 pandemic. The public can participate in the webinar consistent with the direction provided below. Please note that the CEC aims to begin promptly at the start time posted and the end time is an estimate based on the agenda proposed. The webinar may end sooner or later than the posted end time depending on various factors.

Agenda

The webinar will include a presentation by the Conservation Biology Institute on the project and study outcomes. The webinar will include discussion and comments from state agency staff that have been involved in the project and study. A public comment period will follow. A detailed meeting schedule will be posted prior to the webinar in [Docket 17-MISC-01](https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/Lists/DocketLog.aspx?docketnumber=17-MISC-01) at <https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/Lists/DocketLog.aspx?docketnumber=17-MISC-01>.

Background

California has been working with the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) since 2016 to explore potential offshore wind energy opportunities. The first meeting of the BOEM California Intergovernmental Renewable Energy Task Force (California Task Force) was held in October 2016, and the second meeting in September 2018. In October 2018, BOEM published a Call for Information and Nominations (Call) for three areas off the California coast: Diablo Canyon Call Area, Morro Bay Call Area, and Humboldt Call Area.

Following extensive engagement with and comment from the CEC, local, state and federal agencies, California Native American tribes, ocean users, and other interested persons and agencies, BOEM identified the Morro Bay Wind Energy Area (WEA) and Humboldt WEA from within the respective call areas and is currently conducting environmental review of their action to lease these areas with a goal of having a combined lease sale auction in fall 2022.

In September 2021, the California State Legislature approved, and the Governor signed, AB 525 which requires the CEC in coordination with the California Coastal Commission, the Ocean Protection Council, the State Lands Commission, the Office of Planning and Research, the Department of Fish and Wildlife, the Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development, the California Independent System Operator, and the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC), and other relevant federal, state, and local agencies as needed, to develop a strategic plan for offshore wind energy developments installed off the California coast in federal waters. The CEC must submit the strategic plan to the California Natural Resources Agency (CNRA) and the Legislature on or before June 30, 2023. AB 525 specifies the requirements that the CEC must meet in developing the strategic plan, including that on or before June 1, 2022, the CEC must evaluate and quantify the maximum feasible capacity of offshore wind to achieve reliability, ratepayer, employment, and decarbonization benefits and to establish offshore wind energy planning goals for 2030 and 2045.

To support the offshore wind planning process, OPC has funded a series of projects to fill identified gaps around potential impacts to marine life, fisheries, and tribal cultural resources. Together the results of these projects will provide critical information on potential ecosystem impacts and use conflicts to support offshore wind planning and evaluation. The findings from these projects will support data-driven offshore wind planning and increase transparency in communicating information to stakeholders.

Remote Attendance Instructions

The webinar may be accessed by clicking the Zoom link below or visiting [Zoom](#) at <https://join.zoom.us> and entering the ID and password for the webinar listed below. If you experience difficulties joining, contact Zoom at (888) 799-9666 ext. 2, or the Public Advisor at publicadvisor@energy.ca.gov or at (916) 957-7910.

Link to Webinar:

<https://energy.zoom.us/j/95984999200?pwd=UzJUdGI5MG9YdHlzeWVsdEJ2QzJEdz09>

Meeting Webinar ID: 959 8499 9200

Meeting Webinar Password: 625579

Use the "raise hand" feature to indicate you want to speak and the event facilitator will indicate when your line is open and ready for you to make comment.

To Participate by Telephone, dial (213) 338-8477 or (877) 853-5257. When prompted, enter the ID: 959 8499 9200. To comment, dial *9 to "raise your hand" and *6 to mute/unmute your phone line.

Zoom's closed captioning service will be enabled for the meeting. Attendees can use the service by clicking on the "live transcript" icon and then choosing either "show subtitle" or "view full transcript". The closed captioning service can be stopped by exiting out of the "live transcript" or selecting the "hide subtitle" icon. Closed captioning cannot be exited by phone.

Public Comment

Oral Comments

Oral comments will be accepted at the end of the webinar. Comments may be limited to three minutes or less per speaker and one person per organization. If participating via Zoom's online platform, use the "raise hand" feature so the administrator can announce your name and unmute you. If you are participating by telephone, press *9 to "raise your hand" and *6 to mute/unmute.

Written Comments

While Docket No. 17-MISC-01 is open for submitting comments on a range of activities related to offshore wind, comments specific to the webinar should be submitted to the Docket Unit by 5:00 p.m. on April 5, 2022.

Written and oral comments, attachments, and associated contact information (including address, phone number, and email address) will become part of the public record of this proceeding with access available via any internet search engine.

The CEC encourages use of its electronic commenting system. Visit the [e-commenting page](#) at <https://www.energy.ca.gov/proceedings/e-filing-and-e-commenting>, or [17-MISC-01](#), at <https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/Ecomment/Ecomment.aspx?docketnumber=17-MISC-01>, which links to the comment page for this docket. Enter your contact information and a comment title describing the subject of your comment(s). Comments may be included in the "Comment Text"

box or attached as a downloadable, searchable document in Microsoft® Word or Adobe® Acrobat®. The maximum file size allowed is 10 MB. Written comments may be submitted by email. Include docket number 17-MISC-01 and Offshore Renewable Energy in the subject line and email to docket@energy.ca.gov.

A paper copy may be sent to:

California Energy Commission
Docket Unit, MS-4
Docket No. 17-MISC-01
715 P Street
Sacramento, California 95814

Public Advisor and Other CEC Contacts

The CEC's Public Advisor provides the public with assistance in participating in CEC proceedings. For information about how to participate in this webinar or to request interpreting services or other reasonable modification and accommodations, reach out via email at publicadvisor@energy.ca.gov, or by phone at (916) 957-7910. Requests should be made for interpreting services, reasonable modifications and accommodations as soon as possible but at least five days in advance of the webinar. However, the CEC will work diligently to meet all requests based on the availability of the service or resource requested.

Direct media inquiries to mediaoffice@energy.ca.gov or (916) 654-4989.

Direct general and technical subject inquiries to Erica Brand at Erica.Brand@energy.ca.gov or (916) 695-5448.

Availability of Documents

Documents and presentations for this webinar will be available on the [California Offshore Renewable Energy](#) docket, at <https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/Lists/DocketLog.aspx?docketnumber=17-MISC-01>.

When new information is posted, an email will be sent to those on the Offshore Renewable Energy list server. To receive these notices, subscribe at the [CEC's Offshore Renewable Energy webpage](#), (<https://www.energy.ca.gov/programs-and-topics/topics/renewable-energy/offshore-renewable-energy>). Manage existing list servers or sign up for others at [CEC List Servers](#), https://ww2.energy.ca.gov/listservers/index_cms.html.

Dated: March 11, 2022

Shawn Pittard
Deputy Director, Siting, Transmission, and Environmental Protection Division

List Servers: Offshore Renewable Energy, SB 100, DCAG