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Comments of Tri Agency on draft commission report on Offshore Wind Energy Development off of California's Coast

Tri Agencies Economic Development Agency is the economic development arm for Del Norte County. Its board is comprised of two county supervisors, two city council persons and two harbor commissioners. Its board unanimously supports offshore wind power off Del Norte's shores. Tri Agencies is very appreciative of the efforts that CEC's staff have put into the draft on Offshore Wind Energy and their efforts to further the development of this industry. We are also appreciative of your willingness to engage with the stakeholders and collaboratively determine how to best meet California's legislative requirements.

We would like to offer some comments for your consideration which we feel might further the report's intended results.

1. This report as well as industry leaders all tell us that scale is one of the important factors in cost reduction for offshore wind power. NREL has shown that both the north coast of California and the southern coast of Oregon possess world class wind resources. We believe it is important to consolidate the infrastructure this area has (at a minimum from a southern point of offshore Del Norte to the northern point offshore Bandon Oregon). The region above could achieve large scale offshore wind power energy production with both the port of Humboldt and/or the port of Coos Bay serving as potential construction sites for floating wind turbines whereas other ports between could serve as operations and maintenance centers and possibly supply other supply chain needs. This region thus could easily achieve the needed scale to supply the economically beneficial required offshore power.) Certainly, the states of California, Oregon and the federal governments need to cooperatively work together in order to achieve the most efficient results.

2. While the above area certainly has the greatest wind resource almost anywhere in the world ironically it also has very poor transmission infrastructure. We would suggest that the CEC advocate specifically for transmission infrastructure that consolidates this region's offshore generation in order to take our energy production to the grid. We would suggest laying sea cable from various production sites to the north and from the south to a point located somewhere in the middle of the region and then finding the shortest route overland to transmit power to the grid. This would allow for transmission scale to be achieved bringing costs to the ultimate ratepayer down. (As a side note we appreciate your recent RFP for the Northern CA & Southern OR Mission Compatibility and Transmission Infrastructure Assessment Project).

3. We support the thought process that industry needs assurances from the federal and state governments will pay for infrastructure (ports and transmission). State and federal governments also need to clearly define policy and goals with follow through with regarding to exactly what offshore energy power requirements are needed.

4. We appreciate and advocate for continuing to suggest a range of MW generation rather than set a hard number as further development of technologies and refinement of

goals will possibly change many important factors.

From our understanding we believe this region to have the greatest wind resource, the least amount of DOD restrictions, a large economic need due to the devastation of the fishing and timber industries, is receptive to development and will most likely produce the largest amount of offshore energy on the pacific coast.

Thank you for your consideration.