

<b>DOCKETED</b>	
<b>Docket Number:</b>	17-MISC-01
<b>Project Title:</b>	California Offshore Renewable Energy
<b>TN #:</b>	248012
<b>Document Title:</b>	Notice of Workshop on Assembly Bill 525
<b>Description:</b>	December 19, 2022; 2:00 p.m. - Developing a Permitting Roadmap for Offshore Wind Energy Development off the Coast of California
<b>Filer:</b>	susan fleming
<b>Organization:</b>	California Energy Commission
<b>Submitter Role:</b>	Commission Staff
<b>Submission Date:</b>	12/9/2022 3:33:19 PM
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**CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION**715 P Street  
Sacramento, California 95814[energy.ca.gov](http://energy.ca.gov)

CEC-70 (Revised 7/22)

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

DOCKET NO. 17-MISC-01

NOTICE OF REMOTE-ONLY-ACCESS  
WORKSHOP ON ASSEMBLY BILL 525  
STRATEGIC PLAN

RE: Offshore Renewable Energy

**Notice of Workshop on Assembly Bill 525:  
Developing a Permitting Roadmap for Offshore Wind Energy  
Development off the Coast of California****December 19, 2022**

2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Remote Access Only  
See Remote Access Instructions

The California Energy Commission (CEC) will host a workshop that will focus on the requirements established in Assembly Bill 525 (AB 525, Chiu, Chapter 231, Statutes of 2021) to develop and produce, and submit to the Natural Resources Agency and the relevant fiscal and policy committees of the Legislature by December 31, 2022, a permitting roadmap that describes timeframes and milestones for a coordinated, comprehensive, and efficient permitting process for offshore wind energy facilities and associated electricity and transmission infrastructure off the coast of California.

A quorum of CEC commissioners may participate, but no votes will be taken.

The public can participate in the workshop consistent with the Remote Access Instructions 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 proposed agenda. The workshop may end sooner or later than the posted end time.

## **Agenda**

The workshop will include a presentation on a draft conceptual permitting roadmap, followed by an opportunity for audience questions and answers. The workshop will conclude with an opportunity for public comment on the presentation and draft conceptual permitting roadmap.

The draft conceptual permitting roadmap will be available prior to the workshop and will be available on the CEC's California Offshore Renewable Energy docket, at <https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/Lists/DocketLog.aspx?docketnumber=17-MISC-01>. A Notice of Availability of the draft conceptual permitting roadmap will be sent to the Subscription list below. Please take note that the CEC intends to accept written comments on the draft conceptual permitting roadmap through December 21, 2022, which will be further described in the forthcoming Notice of Availability Please see the Availability of Documents section below for more information on how to access documents for this workshop.

## **Background**

### *Coordination with the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM)*

California has been working with BOEM since 2016 to explore potential offshore wind energy opportunities. The first meeting of the BOEM California Intergovernmental Renewable Energy Task Force (BOEM-California Task Force) was held in October 2016. In October 2018, BOEM published a Call for Information and Nominations for three areas off the California coast: Diablo Canyon Call Area, Morro Bay Call Area, and Humboldt Call Area.<sup>1</sup>

Following extensive engagement with and comment from the CEC, local, state and federal agencies, tribal governments, ocean users, and other interested persons and agencies, in May 2021, California Governor Newsom, the Department of the Interior Secretary Deb Haaland, and Under Secretary of Defense for Policy Dr. Colin Kahl announced an agreement to advance areas for wind energy development off the northern and central coasts of California for the Humboldt Call Area and areas within and adjacent to the Morro Bay Call Area. BOEM and the State of California held a BOEM-California Task Force meeting on July 13, 2021, to discuss BOEM's process and schedule for moving forward with leasing areas for wind energy in California.

BOEM identified the Morro Bay Wind Energy Area (WEA) and Humboldt WEA from within the respective call areas. BOEM completed environmental reviews and found no significant impacts for both the Humboldt and Morro Bay WEAs. On May 26, 2022, the Department of Interior announced a public comment period on proposed auction details and lease terms presented in a [proposed sale notice](https://www.boem.gov/sites/default/files/documents/renewable-energy/state-activities/california/2022-11537.pdf) (PSN, <https://www.boem.gov/sites/default/files/documents/renewable-energy/state-activities/california/2022-11537.pdf>) for the two WEAs. On June 3, 2022, BOEM and the State of California held a BOEM-CA Task Force meeting to discuss the PSN and other related topics and on August 1, 2022, a group of nine California state agencies [submitted a comment letter to BOEM](#)

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<sup>1</sup> BOEM identifies areas with wind potential, which it designates as call areas. BOEM will issue a call for information and nominations to determine the level of commercial interest and to identify areas within the call area that may be appropriate to analyze for potential leasing.

(<https://www.regulations.gov/comment/BOEM-2022-0017-0043>) in response to the PSN with recommendations that reflect California priorities.<sup>2</sup> On October 18, 2022, the Department of the Interior announced a final sale notice ([Federal Register: Pacific Wind Lease Sale 1 \(PACW-1\) for Commercial Leasing for Wind Power on the Outer Continental Shelf in California-Final Sale Notice](#)) by BOEM for an offshore wind energy lease sale for three lease areas in the Morro Bay WEA and two in the Humboldt WEA. On December 6, 2022 BOEM initiated an offshore wind energy lease sale. The lease sale concluded on December 7, 2022, resulting in winning bids for the five lease areas from five companies totaling \$757.1 million. For more information, see the BOEM California webpage at <https://www.boem.gov/renewable-energy/state-activities/california>.

### Assembly Bill 525

In September 2021, the California State Legislature approved, and the Governor signed [AB 525](#) ([https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill\\_id=202120220AB525](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill_id=202120220AB525)), 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, the California Public Utilities Commission, other relevant federal, state, local agencies, tribal governments, and others, 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 and the Legislature on or before June 30, 2023.

AB 525 specifies 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 establish megawatt offshore wind energy planning goals for 2030 and 2045.

In July 2022, Governor Newsom issued [a letter to state climate and energy leaders](#) (<https://www.gov.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/2022/07/07.22.2022-Governors-Letter-to-CARB.pdf?emrc=1054d6>) asking the CEC to "establish a planning goal of at least 20 gigawatts (GW) by 2045 in the AB 525 process, and to work with our federal partners to accelerate the deployment of offshore wind and account for the needs of all those who use and care about California's precious coastal resources."

In August 2022, to inform the strategic plan, the CEC established preliminary, aspirational offshore wind planning goals of 2 to 5 gigawatts (GW) of floating offshore wind technologies in federal waters off the California coast by 2030 and 25 GW by 2045 as adopted in the [Offshore Wind Energy Development off the California Coast: Maximum Feasible Capacity and Megawatt Planning](#)

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<sup>2</sup> The comment letter was submitted on behalf of the state of California by the California Energy Commission, Ocean Protection Council, State Lands Commission, California Coastal Commission, California Public Utilities Commission, Department of Fish and Wildlife, Governor's Office of Planning and Research, Governor's Office Business and Economic Development, and the California Labor & Workforce Development Agency.

[Goals for 2030 and 2045](#) report

(<https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/GetDocument.aspx?tn=244285&DocumentContentId=78261>).

The CEC is currently working toward meeting the remaining requirements of AB 525, including identifying suitable sea space, completing a preliminary assessment of the economic benefits of offshore wind as they relate to seaport investments and workforce development needs and standards, developing a plan to improve ports and waterfront facilities, assessing transmission investments needed to achieve the megawatt planning goals, and identifying potential impacts and strategies for addressing those impacts.

*Developing a Permitting Roadmap for Offshore Wind Facilities and Associated Electricity and Transmission Infrastructure*

AB 525 requires the CEC, in consultation and collaboration, with relevant local, state, and federal agencies, to develop and produce a permitting roadmap that describes timeframes and milestones for a coordinated, comprehensive, and efficient permitting process for offshore wind energy facilities and associated electricity and transmission infrastructure off the coast of California. The permitting roadmap is to include a goal for the permitting timeframe, clearly define local, state, and federal agency roles, responsibilities, and decision-making authority, and include interfaces with federal agencies, including timing, sequence, and coordination with federal permitting agencies, and coordination between reviews under the California Environmental Quality Act and the federal National Environmental Policy Act of 1969. AB 525 requires that the CEC submit the permitting roadmap to the Natural Resources Agency and the relevant fiscal and policy committees of the Legislature by December 31, 2022. AB 525 also requires the findings of the permitting roadmap be included as a chapter of the strategic plan.

The CEC has been working with partner state agencies to develop and produce a permitting roadmap and the CEC plans to release a draft conceptual permitting roadmap prior to the workshop for public review and comment.

### **Remote Access Instructions**

The meeting workshop may be accessed by:

- **Zoom.** Click on <https://energy.zoom.us/j/86403327102?pwd=ZEkwNDhOY2JBQ2tPMHZQOHNwbXFqUT09> or login in at <https://zoom.us/> and enter the **Webinar ID 864 0332 7102** and **passcode 052551** and follow all prompts.
- **Telephone.** Call toll-free at (888) 475-4499 or toll at (669) 219-2599. When prompted, enter the **Webinar ID 864 0332 7102** and **passcode 052551**.

**Zoom Closed Captioning Service.** At the bottom of the screen, click the Live Transcript CC icon and choose "Show Subtitle" or "View Full Transcript" from the pop-up menu. To stop closed captioning, close the "Live Transcript" or select "Hide Subtitle" from the pop-up menu. If joining by phone, closed captioning is automatic and cannot be turned off. While closed captioning is

available in real-time, it can include errors. A more accurate transcript of the workshop will be docketed and posted as soon as possible after the meeting concludes.

**Zoom Difficulty.** Contact Zoom at (888) 799-9666 ext. 2, or the CEC Public Advisor at [publicadvisor@energy.ca.gov](mailto:publicadvisor@energy.ca.gov), or by phone at (916) 957-7910.

**Public Comment.**

The CEC encourages the use of its electronic commenting system. Visit the [e-commenting page](#) for docket 17-MISC-01, at <https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/Ecomment/Ecomment.aspx?docketnumber=17-MISC-01>. Enter your contact information and a subject title that describes your comment. 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.

**Oral comments** will be accepted at the end of the workshop. Comments may be limited to three minutes or less per speaker and one person per organization. To comment via Zoom, use the "raise hand" feature so the administrator can announce your name and unmute you. To comment via telephone, press \*9 to "raise your hand" and \*6 to mute/unmute.

**Written comments** may be submitted to the Docket Unit by 5:00 p.m. on December 21, 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. Written comments may also be submitted by email. Include docket number 17-MISC-01 in the subject line and email to [docket@energy.ca.gov](mailto:docket@energy.ca.gov).

A paper copy may be mailed to:

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

**Public Advisor.** The CEC's Public Advisor assists the public with participation in CEC proceedings. To request assistance, interpreting services, or reasonable modifications and accommodations, call (916) 957-7910 or email [publicadvisor@energy.ca.gov](mailto:publicadvisor@energy.ca.gov) as soon as possible but at least five days in advance of the workshop. The CEC will work diligently to meet all requests based on availability.

**Direct media inquiries** to [mediaoffice@energy.ca.gov](mailto:mediaoffice@energy.ca.gov) or call (916) 654-4989.

**Direct general inquiries** to Kristy Chew at [kristy.chew@energy.ca.gov](mailto:kristy.chew@energy.ca.gov) or call (916) 891-8212.

**Availability of Documents:** Documents and presentations for this meeting will be available at [Docket 17-MISC-01](https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/Lists/DocketLog.aspx?doctetnumber=17-MISC-01), <https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/Lists/DocketLog.aspx?doctetnumber=17-MISC-01>. When new information is posted, an email will be sent to those subscribed to the topics of "Offshore Renewable Energy" and "Disadvantaged Communities Advisory Group". To receive these notices or notices of other email subscription topics, visit [Subscriptions](https://www.energy.ca.gov/subscriptions) at <https://www.energy.ca.gov/subscriptions>.

**Dated:** December 9, 2022, at Sacramento, California.

-- Original Signed --

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Elizabeth Huber, Director  
Siting, Transmission,  
and Environmental Protection Division

**Subscription List:** Offshore Renewable Energy; Disadvantaged Communities Advisory Group;  
Joint-Agency Report - SB 100