

DOCKETED	
Docket Number:	17-MISC-01
Project Title:	California Offshore Renewable Energy
TN #:	248699
Document Title:	BOEM Comments - on CEC's Draft Conceptual Permitting Roadmap
Description:	N/A
Filer:	System
Organization:	BOEM
Submitter Role:	Public
Submission Date:	2/8/2023 5:03:31 PM
Docketed Date:	2/8/2023

*Comment Received From: BOEM
Submitted On: 2/8/2023
Docket Number: 17-MISC-01*

on CEC's Draft Conceptual Permitting Roadmap

Additional submitted attachment is included below.



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF OCEAN ENERGY MANAGEMENT

Pacific OCS Region

760 Paseo Camarillo, Suite 102

Camarillo, CA 93010-6064

February 8, 2023

Susan Fleming
Executive Assistant
Siting, Transmission, and Environmental Protection Division
California Energy Commission
715 P Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Docket No. 17-MISC-01

Dear Ms. Fleming:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the California Energy Commission's (CEC) *Draft Conceptual Permitting Roadmap for Offshore Wind Energy Facilities Operating in Federal Waters off the Coast of California*. The Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) appreciates the CEC's ongoing partnership as we continue to work together to responsibly manage the permitting requirements for California's offshore wind energy development, and BOEM recognizes that offshore wind energy development requires the efforts of many agencies.

The State of California has set the ambitious planning goals of 2–5 GW of offshore wind energy by 2030 and 25 GW by 2045. The *Draft Conceptual Permitting Roadmap* provides an excellent overview of the state agencies that will play crucial roles in the permitting process for offshore wind and BOEM's authorization process. BOEM agrees with the process described in the *Draft Conceptual Permitting Roadmap*, which relies on the development of interagency memoranda of agreement and/or understanding for the coordination of permitting schedules and processes. BOEM anticipates this interagency coordination will be especially important for areas where offshore wind projects transverse jurisdictional boundaries and in the development of mitigations and monitoring requirements.

Since 2016, BOEM has worked successfully with the State of California throughout the planning process for offshore wind energy development to identify appropriate wind lease areas and effectively communicate with stakeholders. BOEM looks forward to continued collaboration with the CEC and other state agencies in the next permitting phase, as the State of California and the Federal Government seek to achieve shared goals for renewable energy production and environmental stewardship.

We would like to draw the CEC's attention to two recent BOEM announcements: 1) a proposed rule to update BOEM regulations for clean energy development on the U.S. Outer Continental Shelf, and 2) the transfer of regulations governing offshore renewable energy activities—including workplace safety and environmental compliance—from BOEM to the Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement (BSEE). The proposed rules will help modernize regulations, streamline overly complex and burdensome processes, clarify ambiguous provisions, and enhance compliance provisions in order to decrease costs and uncertainty associated with deployment of offshore wind facilities. The proposed rule and transfer of regulations should be considered as we continue to coordinate and develop the permitting roadmap.

BOEM values our agencies' collaborative relationship and the effort required to establish a permitting roadmap for the federal and state permitting processes. BOEM thanks the CEC for its continued leadership in moving offshore wind forward, and we look forward to our continued partnership to meet our shared mission of environmental stewardship along with California's renewable energy goals.

Sincerely,

Douglas P. Boren
Regional Director
Pacific Regional Office