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*Comment Received From: Assemblymember Rick Chavez Zbur
Submitted On: 3/22/2024
Docket Number: 17-MISC-01*

**Support Letter to Governor Newsom- 1 Billion Dollars for Offshore
Wind Seaport Infrastructure**

Additional submitted attachment is included below.

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE

STATE CAPITOL
SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA
95814

March 18, 2024

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
Governor of California
1021 O Street, Suite 9000
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable Robert Rivas
Speaker of the California
California State Assembly
1021 O Street, Suite 8330
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable Mike McGuire
President pro Tem
California State Senate
1021 O Street, Suite 8518
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Governor Newsom, Speaker Rivas, and Senate pro Tem McGuire:

As you know, our state has ambitious climate change and energy reliability goals to meet. But for California to successfully transition to a carbon-neutral economy, we must adequately build and fund the clean energy infrastructure that is needed to help us achieve our goals.

To that end, the undersigned respectfully requests the inclusion of \$1 billion in a climate bond that will help fund and accelerate port-related infrastructure to support offshore wind (OSW) development. We strongly believe California can develop necessary port infrastructure to launch this new industry, help meet our climate and renewable energy goals, and provide good paying jobs for working families. However, without significant state and federal public and private investment, the state will be at risk of not meeting its goal of building up to 5 gigawatts of offshore wind energy by 2030 and 25 gigawatts by 2045.

Simply put, due to the immense scale and extent of OSW components, significant offshore wind development can only feasibly occur in the state if supported by port facilities retrofitted or developed with laydown areas, heavy loading capacities to assemble the turbine systems, and manufacturing capability. As noted in the California Energy Commission's draft *AB 525 Offshore Wind Strategic Plan* released on January 19, 2024, "no single port site in California can serve all the needs of the offshore wind industry. Instead, a coordinated multipoint strategy will be needed and could require more than 16 large and 10 small port sites to support offshore wind development over the next decade or more. Staging, integration, operations, and maintenance sites are all essential and these sites must be

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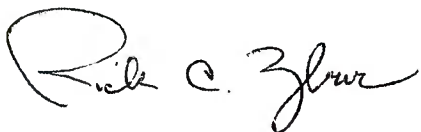

developed as soon as possible . . . with an estimated investment need of about \$11 billion to \$12 billion. This will provide the state with the best opportunity to achieve the offshore wind planning goal of 25 GW by 2045." Similar findings were presented in the National Renewable Energy Lab's "A Supply Chain Road Map for Offshore Wind Energy in the United States" and the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management's "California Floating Offshore Wind Regional Ports Assessment," both of which were published in January 2023. According to BOEM, up to 15 specialized port facilities will need to be developed across the State in the coming five years to meet the state's deployment goals.

Unfortunately, since existing port infrastructure on the U.S. West Coast - including California - lacks these capabilities, sizable investment is required to develop purpose-built offshore wind port facilities. Our request for \$1 billion is just a small percentage of what will ultimately be needed to support a robust California OSW industry and the thousands of jobs associated with it. According to the above NREL study, the number of potential new jobs created by the offshore wind industry is estimated to range from 10,000 to 60,000, depending upon how many offshore wind components are manufactured at U.S. ports rather than at foreign ports. With adequate investment, California job creation could amount to the upper end of the above range. The job creation that will result from a robust OSW industry in California will be critical as we transition jobs away from fossil fuel industries to our future clean energy workforce.

Finally, we understand that six mid-Atlantic States have already collectively pledged over \$1.5 billion in port investments for offshore wind terminals. To remain competitive, California needs to follow suit and commit substantial investments into port facilities which could also help us leverage potential federal dollars.

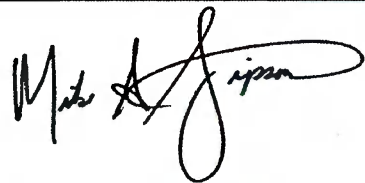
For these reasons, the undersigned Members wish to voice our collective support for \$1 billion in the climate bond for purposes of OSW and port development. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

 <p>Assemblymember Rick Chavez Zbur District 51-Hollywood</p>	 <p>Assemblymember Josh Lowenthal District 69-Long Beach</p>
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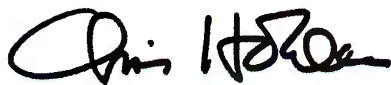
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Assemblymember Mike Gipson
District 65-Carson



Assemblymember Jim Wood
District 02-Healdsburg



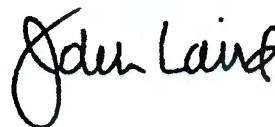
Assemblymember Chris Holden
District 41-Pasadena



Assemblymember Eduardo Garcia
District 36-Coachella



Senator Steven Bradford
District 35- Inglewood



Senator John Laird
District 17-Santa Cruz



Assemblymember Al Muratsuchi
District 66-Torrance



Assemblymember Pilar Schiavo
District 40 - San Fernando Valley



Assembly Member Steve Bennett
District 38-Ventura