

DOCKETED	
Docket Number:	17-MISC-01
Project Title:	California Offshore Renewable Energy
TN #:	255780
Document Title:	Port of San Francisco Comments - Draft AB525 Strategic Plan Comments - Port of San Francisco
Description:	N/A
Filer:	System
Organization:	Port of San Francisco
Submitter Role:	Public Agency
Submission Date:	4/18/2024 10:23:57 AM
Docketed Date:	4/18/2024

*Comment Received From: Port of San Francisco
Submitted On: 4/18/2024
Docket Number: 17-MISC-01*

Draft AB525 Strategic Plan Comments - Port of San Francisco

Additional submitted attachment is included below.



April 18, 2024

Chair David Hochschild
California Energy Commission
715 P Street
Sacramento, California 95814

Cc: Eli Harland, Energy Policy and Planner

Re: Draft AB 525 Strategic Plan Comments
Docket Unit, MS-4
Docket No. 17-MISC-01

Dear Chair Hochschild, Commissioners, and Staff,

The Port of San Francisco recognizes the significant impact offshore wind will have on California's ports, harbors, and waterfront communities. The Port thanks the California Energy Commission (CEC) for opportunity to provide comments on the Draft AB 525 Strategic Plan, and to recognize the CEC's hard work and extensive outreach evident in this report.

The Port of San Francisco strongly supports the multi-port strategy proposed in the document. As it explains, no single port has the capability to deliver the materials or to provide the ongoing support required by this new industry. The Port of San Francisco has advanced a concept plan for the development of Piers 94/96 to serve as a manufacturing site for offshore wind components and floating foundations. And more recently the Port has identified additional sites within its jurisdiction that could serve other industry uses such as a base for operations and maintenance support or for material laydown. Work to date has been entirely self-funded - a demonstration of the Port's commitment and readiness for this industry. Ports will not be able to advance this project much further without investment from the state, federal government, or private partners.

The Port recognizes there is still much to be learned about the impact of deploying offshore wind in California and acknowledges it will take time to develop a thoughtful and environmentally responsible path forward. However, it is critical that work begins on port infrastructure while these best practices and environmental safety measures are developed. If investments are not made today, when the industry is in a position to advance there will not be adequate infrastructure to support it. Opportunities like the AB 209 grant program are essential for advancing port work, initiating environmental review, and sustaining momentum.

Again, the Port applauds the work of the CEC. This report lays the groundwork for offshore wind in California and just as importantly, identifies gaps in our understanding as a focus for future efforts. The Port of San Francisco looks forward to continued collaboration and to a greener, wind powered future.

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:
Michael Martin
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Michael Martin
Acting Executive Director
Port of San Francisco