

## DOCKETED

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<b>Document Title:</b>	Request to Establish Federal-California Marine Renewable Energy Task Force
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## OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

May 12, 2016

The Honorable Sally Jewell  
Secretary  
US Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20240

**Re: Request to Establish Federal-California Marine Renewable Energy Task Force**

Dear Secretary Jewell,

California currently has the nation's most comprehensive set of climate change policies. This includes ambitious statutory renewable energy targets of 33 percent renewables by 2020 and 50 percent by 2030. We will have to even further dramatically increase our share of renewable energy to meet our long term climate objectives.

While offshore renewable energy resources have not yet played a significant role in California's energy system, they present important potential future opportunities. There are significant offshore wind resources along most of California's coast that complement the profile of onshore solar resources, and new developments in offshore wind technology-- such as larger facilities that are not visible from land and present little to no adverse avian impacts-- will likely make projects more viable. Private developers now are starting to pursue specific offshore wind projects. Additionally, the California Wave Energy Testing Center recently received funding from the Department of Energy to assess the feasibility of siting a wave energy testing center off the California coast.

As we explore these opportunities, there are numerous planning, permitting and coordination issues to work through. California has been coordinating state policy related to offshore renewable resources through the California Marine Renewable Energy Working Group, established in 2010, but many issues require the strong and active collaboration of federal agencies as well.

To facilitate such collaboration, I request that the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management establish a Federal-California Marine Renewable Energy Task Force, as authorized by the Energy Policy Act of

The Honorable Sally Jewell  
May 12, 2016  
Page 2

2005. I understand that such task forces already have been established in thirteen other coastal states. I anticipate that numerous state entities, including the California Coastal Commission, the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, the California Energy Commission, the California Public Utilities Commission, the California Independent System Operator, the Ocean Protection Council, the San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission, and the State Lands Commission, would participate in the task force.

Over the past several years, California partnered very effectively with federal agencies in helping to permit onshore renewable resources through the Renewable Energy Policy Group (REPG). We look forward to working together with the federal government on this effort as well.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Edmund G. Brown Jr.", with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

Edmund G. Brown Jr.