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Business support for ambitious offshore wind targets

See attached letter of support.

Additional submitted attachment is included below.



May 11, 2022

California Energy Commission Public Comment Docket #17-MISC-01 RE: California Offshore Renewable Energy

Dear Chair Hochschild and Commissioner Vaccaro,

Sierra Nevada Brewing Co. is the largest craft brewery in California and I write on behalf of the company to express support for ambitious state offshore wind deployment targets through the AB 525 implementation process. We specifically urge the Energy Commission to set bold deployment targets of 5 GW by 2030 and 20 GW by 2045, with minimum requirements of at least 3 GW by 2030 and 10 GW by 2045. Ambitious targets will initiate the state's opportunity to capture the economic and clean air benefits of this industry, an especially valuable boost as California grapples with the economic and public health impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.

As a business dependent on agriculture, climate change poses a significant risk to our long-term economic success, impacts the health and livelihood of the communities in which we operate and live, and disrupts the value chains on which we rely. Our facility, town, and employees were deeply impacted by the 2018 Camp Fire and additional record-breaking fires that followed. We're also preparing for the adaptability that will be needed for increased heat waves and more extreme droughts. Because of these risks, we are making commitments and investments to reduce our greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and currently operate the largest solar array in craft beer.

Offshore wind in CA will add more renewable, clean energy to the grid which helps lower our emissions footprint from purchased electricity. This is why we joined 12 of our peers in support of AB 525's passage (see support letter here).

We urge you to set bold deployment targets that meet the urgency required at this moment. Targets of 5 GW by 2030 and 20 GW by 2045 will initiate California's opportunity to capture the economic benefits of the offshore wind industry, while ensuring that the state meets its renewable energy and climate goals.

Thank you for your time and consideration. Please feel free to reach out with any questions.

Sincerely,

Mandi McKay Director, Sustainability & Social Responsibility Sierra Nevada Brewing Co.