

DOCKETED

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Project Title:	California Offshore Renewable Energy
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Document Title:	Notice of Lead Commissioner Workshop on Assembly Bill 525
Description:	AB 525: Offshore Wind Maximum Feasible Capacity and Megawatt Planning Goals for 2030 and 2045
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CEC-70 (Revised 11/2021)

*IN THE MATTER OF:**California Offshore Renewable Energy*

Docket No. 17-MISC-01

NOTICE OF WORKSHOP ON
ASSEMBLY BILL 525 DRAFT
REPORT

RE: Offshore Wind Energy

**Notice of Lead Commissioner Workshop on Assembly Bill 525:
Offshore Wind Maximum Feasible Capacity and Megawatt
Planning Goals for 2030 and 2045****June 27, 2022**

9:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

**Warren-Alquist State Energy Building
1516 Ninth Street
First Floor, Art Rosenfeld Hearing Room
Sacramento, CA 95814
(Wheelchair Accessible)**

Workshop will Support In-Person and Remote Attendance

Commissioner Kourtney Vaccaro, the California Energy Commission (CEC) Lead Commissioner for offshore wind energy will host a workshop to further explore meeting the requirements of Assembly Bill 525 (AB 525, Chiu, Chapter 231, Statutes of 2021).

On May 6, 2022, CEC staff released for public review the draft report [Offshore Wind Energy Development off the California Coast: Maximum Feasible Capacity and Megawatt Planning Goals for 2030 and 2045](https://www.energy.ca.gov/publications/2022/offshore-wind-energy-development-california-coast-maximum-feasible-capacity-and) (<https://www.energy.ca.gov/publications/2022/offshore-wind-energy-development-california-coast-maximum-feasible-capacity-and>) and on May 18, 2022, the CEC held a public workshop to present and receive public comment on the draft report. The CEC received a

significant number of public comments recommending higher offshore wind megawatt planning goals. Comments submitted during the May 18 public workshop referenced specific studies, released after the posting of the draft report, that recommend higher megawatt offshore wind planning goals than those in the draft report. This workshop will provide the CEC and the public an opportunity to review these and other studies, and how they all relate to the AB 525 requirements and the draft report.

A quorum of CEC commissioners may participate, but no votes will be taken. Commissioners from the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) may also attend. If CPUC commissioners are present at the workshop, the CPUC's rules governing ex parte contacts with commissioners and their staff remain in effect even though this is a CEC-initiated and noticed workshop.

The workshop will support both in-person and remote attendance. The public can participate in the workshop consistent with the direction provided below. Please note that the CEC aims to begin the workshop promptly at the start time posted and the end time is an estimate based on the agenda proposed. The workshop may end sooner or later than the posted end time depending on various factors.

Attendance Instructions

In-person participants may join at the Warren-Alquist State Energy Building, First Floor, Rosenfeld Hearing Room, 1516 Ninth Street, Sacramento, California 95814. Please sign in at the security desk. Masks and social distancing are encouraged, but not required.

Remote Attendance Instructions

The workshop may be accessed by clicking the Zoom link below or visiting [Zoom](https://join.zoom.us) at <https://join.zoom.us> and entering the ID and password for the workshop listed below. If you experience difficulties joining, contact Zoom at (888) 799-9666 ext. 2, or the Public Advisor at publicadvisor@energy.ca.gov or at (916) 957-7910.

Link to Workshop:

<https://energy.zoom.us/j/99811635340?pwd=LzJhbWw4bUk2RIJraWIMckxkK3drQT09>

Meeting Workshop ID: 998 1163 5340

Meeting Workshop Password: 099038

Use the "raise hand" feature to indicate you want to speak and the event facilitator will indicate when your line is open and ready for you to make comment.

To Participate by Telephone, dial (213) 338-8477 (Toll) or (877) 853-5257 (Toll Free). When prompted, enter the ID: 998 1163 5340. To comment, dial *9 to "raise your hand" and *6 to mute/unmute your phone line.

Zoom's closed captioning service will be enabled for the meeting. Attendees participating remotely can use the service by clicking on the "live transcript" icon and then choosing either "show subtitle" or "view full transcript". The closed captioning service can be stopped by exiting

out of the “live transcript” or selecting the “hide subtitle” icon. Closed captioning cannot be exited by phone.

Background

California has been working with the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) since 2016 to explore potential offshore wind energy opportunities. The first meeting of the BOEM California Intergovernmental Renewable Energy Task Force (California Task Force) was held in October 2016. In October 2018, BOEM published a Call for Information and Nominations for three areas off the California coast: Diablo Canyon Call Area, Morro Bay Call Area, and Humboldt Call Area.

Following extensive engagement with and comment from the CEC, local, state and federal agencies, tribal governments, ocean users, and other interested persons and agencies, in May 2021, California Governor Newsom, the Department of the Interior Secretary Deb Haaland, and Under Secretary of Defense for Policy Dr. Colin Kahl announced an agreement to advance areas for wind energy development off the northern and central coasts of California for the Humboldt Call Area and areas within and adjacent to the Morro Bay Call Area. BOEM and the State of California held a Task Force meeting on July 13, 2021, to discuss BOEM’s process and schedule for moving forward with leasing areas for wind energy in California.

BOEM identified the Morro Bay Wind Energy Area (WEA) and Humboldt WEA from within the respective call areas. BOEM completed an environmental review and found no significant impacts in the Humboldt WEA. BOEM released a draft environmental review for the Morro Bay WEA in April 2022 which is expected to be finalized in summer 2022. On May 26, 2022, the Department of the Interior announced proposed auction details and lease terms for offshore wind energy development in the Morro Bay WEA and WEA, with a goal of holding a lease sale auction in fall of 2022. The California Proposed Sale Notice (PSN) includes information about potential areas that could be available for leasing within the two WEAs as well as proposed lease provisions, conditions, and auction details. On June 3, 2022 BOEM and the State of California held a Task Force meeting to discuss the PSN and other related topics.

In September 2021, the California State Legislature approved, and the Governor signed AB 525, which requires the CEC in coordination with the California Coastal Commission, the Ocean Protection Council, the State Lands Commission, the Office of Planning and Research, the Department of Fish and Wildlife, the Governor’s Office of Business and Economic Development, the California Independent System Operator, the CPUC, other relevant federal, state, local agencies, tribal governments, and stakeholders, as needed, to develop a strategic plan for offshore wind energy developments installed off the California coast in federal waters. The CEC must submit the strategic plan to the California Natural Resources Agency and the Legislature on or before June 30, 2023.

AB 525 specifies the requirements that the CEC must meet in developing the strategic plan, including that on or before June 1, 2022, the CEC must evaluate and quantify the maximum feasible capacity of offshore wind to achieve reliability, ratepayer, employment, and

decarbonization benefits and establish megawatt offshore wind energy planning goals for 2030 and 2045.

In establishing the planning goals, AB 525 requires the CEC to consider the following:

- 1) The findings of the 2021 joint agency report issued pursuant to The 100 Percent Clean Energy Act of 2018.
- 2) The need to develop a skilled and trained offshore wind workforce.
- 3) The potential to attract supply-chain manufacturing for offshore wind components throughout the Pacific region.
- 4) The need for reliable renewable energy that accommodates California's shifting peak load.
- 5) The generation profile of offshore wind off the coast of California.
- 6) The need for economies of scale to reduce the costs of floating offshore wind.
- 7) The need to initiate long-term transmission and infrastructure planning to facilitate delivery of offshore wind energy to Californians.
- 8) The availability of federal tax incentives for offshore wind investments.
- 9) The National Renewable Energy Laboratory report finding that California has 200 gigawatts of offshore wind technical power potential.
- 10) The opportunity for California to participate in the federal government's intention to deploy 30,000 megawatts of offshore wind by 2030 and to create a pathway to unlocking 110,000 megawatts by 2050.
- 11) Any executive action from the Governor regarding offshore wind.
- 12) Potential impacts on coastal resources, fisheries, Native American and Indigenous peoples, and national defense, and strategies for addressing those potential impacts.

On May 6, 2022, CEC staff published a [draft report for public comment](https://www.energy.ca.gov/publications/2022/offshore-wind-energy-development-california-coast-maximum-feasible-capacity-and) (https://www.energy.ca.gov/publications/2022/offshore-wind-energy-development-california-coast-maximum-feasible-capacity-and) to meet the June 1, 2022 requirement that addresses the 12 factors above. On May 18, 2022, the CEC hosted a public workshop to present the draft report and to seek public comment. Comments submitted during the May 18 public workshop referenced specific studies released after the posting of the draft report that recommend higher megawatt offshore wind planning goals than those in the draft report. This workshop will provide the CEC, its state agency partners, and the public an opportunity to review these and other studies and how they relate to the June 1, 2022 AB 525 requirement and the draft report. A list of the studies that will be explored at the workshop will be made available in advance of the workshop. See the Availability of Documents section below for more information.

Agenda

The workshop will include presentations on studies assessing different outcomes of integrating a range of different amounts of offshore wind into the electric grid, as well as a roundtable discussion with invited participants to explore those studies and how they relate to the June 1, 2022 AB 525 requirement and the draft report. In addition to a discussion of the studies the

roundtable participants will also share their perspectives on planning for offshore wind energy developments installed off the California coast in federal waters in the context of the June 1, 2022 AB 525 requirement including the 12 factors above.

A detailed meeting schedule will be posted prior to the workshop in [Docket 17-MISC-01](https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/Lists/DocketLog.aspx?docketnumber=17-MISC-01) at <https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/Lists/DocketLog.aspx?docketnumber=17-MISC-01>.

Public Comment

Written Comments

Written comments specific to the draft report and workshop should be submitted in writing to the Docket Unit to be considered in further development and finalization of the draft report.

Written and oral comments, attachments, and associated contact information (including address, phone number, and email address) will become part of the public record of this proceeding with access available via any internet search engine.

The CEC encourages use of its electronic commenting system. Visit the [e-commenting page](https://www.energy.ca.gov/proceedings/e-filing-and-e-commenting) at <https://www.energy.ca.gov/proceedings/e-filing-and-e-commenting>, or [Docket 17-MISC-01](https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/Ecomment/Ecomment.aspx?docketnumber=17-MISC-01) at <https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/Ecomment/Ecomment.aspx?docketnumber=17-MISC-01>, which links to the comment page for this docket. Enter your contact information and a comment title describing the subject of your comment(s). Comments may be included in the "Comment Text" box or attached as a downloadable, searchable document in Microsoft® Word or Adobe® Acrobat®. The maximum file size allowed is 10 MB. Written comments may be submitted by email. Include docket number 17-MISC-01 and "Offshore Renewable Energy" in the subject line and email to docket@energy.ca.gov.

A paper copy may be sent to:

California Energy Commission
Docket Unit, MS-4
Docket No. 17-MISC-01
715 P Street
Sacramento, California 95814

Oral Comments

Oral comments will be accepted at the workshop. Comments may be limited to three minutes or less per speaker. If participating via Zoom's online platform, use the "raise hand" feature so the administrator can announce your name and unmute you. If you are participating by telephone, press *9 to "raise your hand" and *6 to mute/unmute.

Public Advisor and Other CEC Contacts

The CEC's Public Advisor provides the public with assistance in participating in CEC proceedings. For information about how to participate in this workshop or to request interpreting services or other reasonable modification and accommodations, reach out via email

at publicadvisor@energy.ca.gov, or by phone at (916) 957-7910. Requests should be made for interpreting services, reasonable modifications and accommodations as soon as possible but at least five days in advance of the workshop. However, the CEC will work diligently to meet all requests based on the availability of the service or resource requested.

Direct media inquiries to mediaoffice@energy.ca.gov or (916) 654-4989.

Direct general and technical subject inquiries to Rhetta deMesa at rhetta.demesa@energy.ca.gov or (916) 628-1640.

Availability of Documents

Presentations and other workshop materials including a list of the studies that will be explored during the workshop will be available on the [California Offshore Renewable Energy](#) docket, at <https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/Lists/DocketLog.aspx?docketnumber=17-MISC-01>.

The [draft report](#) can be found at <https://www.energy.ca.gov/publications/2022/offshore-wind-energy-development-california-coast-maximum-feasible-capacity-and>. Public comments filed in [Docket 17-MISC-01](#) can be found at <https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/Lists/DocketLog.aspx?docketnumber=17-MISC-01>.

When new information is posted, an email will be sent to those on the Offshore Renewable Energy list subscription. To receive these notices, subscribe at the CEC's [Offshore Renewable Energy](#) webpage at <https://www.energy.ca.gov/programs-and-topics/topics/renewable-energy/offshore-renewable-energy>. Manage existing subscriptions or sign-up for others at [CEC Subscriptions](#), <https://www.energy.ca.gov/subscriptions>.

Dated: June 17, 2022

 Approved
Kourtney Vaccaro
Commissioner

List Subscriptions: Offshore Renewable Energy, Joint-Agency Report - SB 100, Disadvantaged Communities Advisory Group