

**DOCKETED**

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<b>Project Title:</b>	Business Meeting Agendas, Transcripts, Minutes, and Public Comments
<b>TN #:</b>	249035
<b>Document Title:</b>	Item 6 National Offshore Wind Research and Development Consortium Block Grant Program
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<b>Filer:</b>	Kaycee Chang
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# **Item 6: National Offshore Wind Research and Development Consortium (NOWRDC) Block Grant Program**

March 6, 2023 Business Meeting

Daphne Molin, Supervisor  
Energy Research & Development Division (ERDD), Energy Generation  
Research Branch



# Presentation Overview

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- Background on CEC's Planning Activities to Support Offshore Wind
  - Elizabeth Huber, Director, *Siting, Transmission, and Environmental Protection Division (STEP)*
- Background on CEC's Research & Development (R&D) Investments to Support Offshore Wind
  - Daphne Molin, Supervisor, *ERDD*
- Proposed Agreement: NOWRDC Block Grant Program
  - Daphne Molin, Supervisor, *ERDD*



# California's Strategic Focus on OSW

**“We’re in the midst of a clean energy revolution and ramping up the development of offshore wind energy will help move our state off dirty fossil fuels.”**

***~ Governor Gavin Newsom,  
February 2023***





# California Focused Activities

## 2021-2022 and 2022-2023 State Budget Investments

- \$20 million to support environmental research, stakeholder engagement, and infrastructure upgrades
- \$45 million to support waterfront facility improvements
- \$4.1 million to support Assembly Bill 525 implementation
- Voluntary Offshore Wind and Coastal Resources Protection Program

## Electric Program Investment Charge (EPIC)

- \$8 million spent to advance offshore wind
- \$14 million currently available

## Integrated Resource and Transmission Planning

- Assess within resource portfolios and in longer-term transmission outlooks



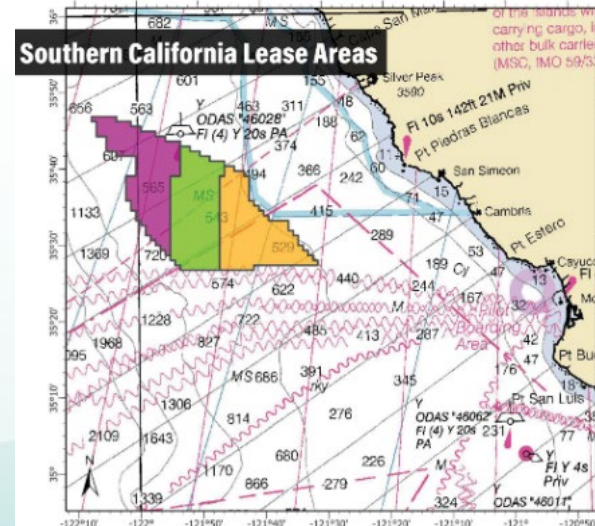
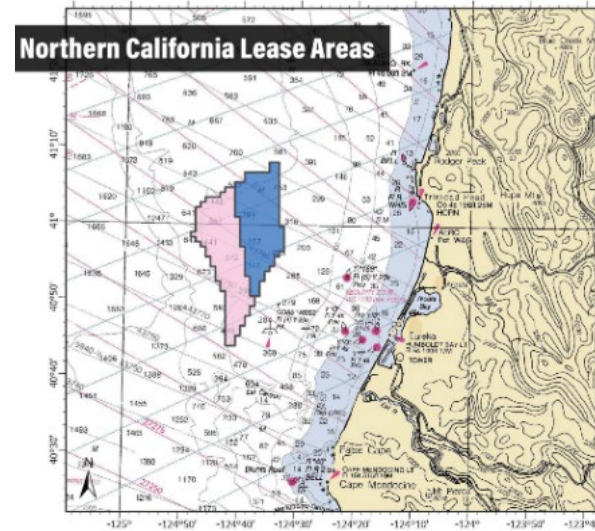
# Federal Focused Activities

## Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM)

- BOEM-CA Intergovernmental Task Force
- Coordination with the 5 California provisional lease holders

## Biden Administration





- Deploy 30 GW nationwide of OSW by 2030
- Floating Offshore Wind Shot- \$45/MWh by 2035
- 15 GW of floating technology nationwide by 2035







# Offshore Wind Benefits for California

-  Economic and environmental benefits
-  Advance climate goals and diversify the energy portfolio
-  Improve grid reliability
-  Serve electricity needs and improve air quality in disadvantaged communities.
-  Stimulate state and local economic and workforce development



# EPIC Offshore Wind R&D Investments

**\$8.4M**

AWARDED

**3 COMPLETED PROJECTS**

ENVIRONMENTAL EVALUATIONS

**5 ACTIVE PROJECTS**

ENDING 2023-2024



AKER  
OFFSHORE  
WIND



**\$15.7M**

OFFSHORE WIND INVESTMENTS  
IN PROGRESS

**\$29M**

EPIC FUNDING FOR OFFSHORE WIND  
AND SOLAR THROUGH 2025





# Investments in Progress

## GFO-22-401 - Advancing Environmental Monitoring Technologies for Floating Offshore Wind



- Fiber optic sensors and advanced vector hydrophones to monitor marine mammals
- Sensing technologies to monitor seabird interactions
- Sensing technologies and ROVs to detect collisions and entanglement hazards

<https://www.energy.ca.gov/solicitations/2022-08/gfo-22-401-advancing-environmental-monitoring-technologies-floating-offshore>



# Investments in Progress

## GFO-22-402 – Advancing Designs for Floating Offshore Wind Mooring Lines and Anchors

- **Purpose:** Design and test mooring line materials, anchor designs, and/or shared mooring lines and anchors for California conditions
- **Solicitation released:** September 7, 2022
- **Notice of Proposed Awards:** Anticipated release week of March 6
- **Funding Amount:** \$7,700,000



# Upcoming EPIC Investments

Potential topics include:

1. Optimizing Designs for Cost and Operational Efficiency
2. Cost-Effective Installation and Operations and Maintenance Developments
3. Grid Integration Innovations and Port Infrastructure Readiness Strategies
4. Environmental Impact Assessment and Minimization

# \$29M

EPIC FUNDING FOR OFFSHORE WIND  
AND SOLAR THROUGH 2025



# **National Offshore Wind Research and Development Consortium (NOWRDC) Block Grant Program**





# Agreement Overview



- Co-develop a cost-share solicitation with NOWRDC, a nationally-focused, not-for-profit organization.
- Projects will align with EPIC investment plans.
- NOWRDC to administer block grants.
- Sole source agreement approved by Joint Legislative Budget Committee





# Benefit to Californians

Leverage federal & other states' funding to advance technologies to support California's clean energy goals and offshore wind planning goals:

- 2-5 GW by 2030
- 25 GW by 2045





# NOWRDC Members

## Government & Utilities



NY Power Authority



## Offshore Wind Developers

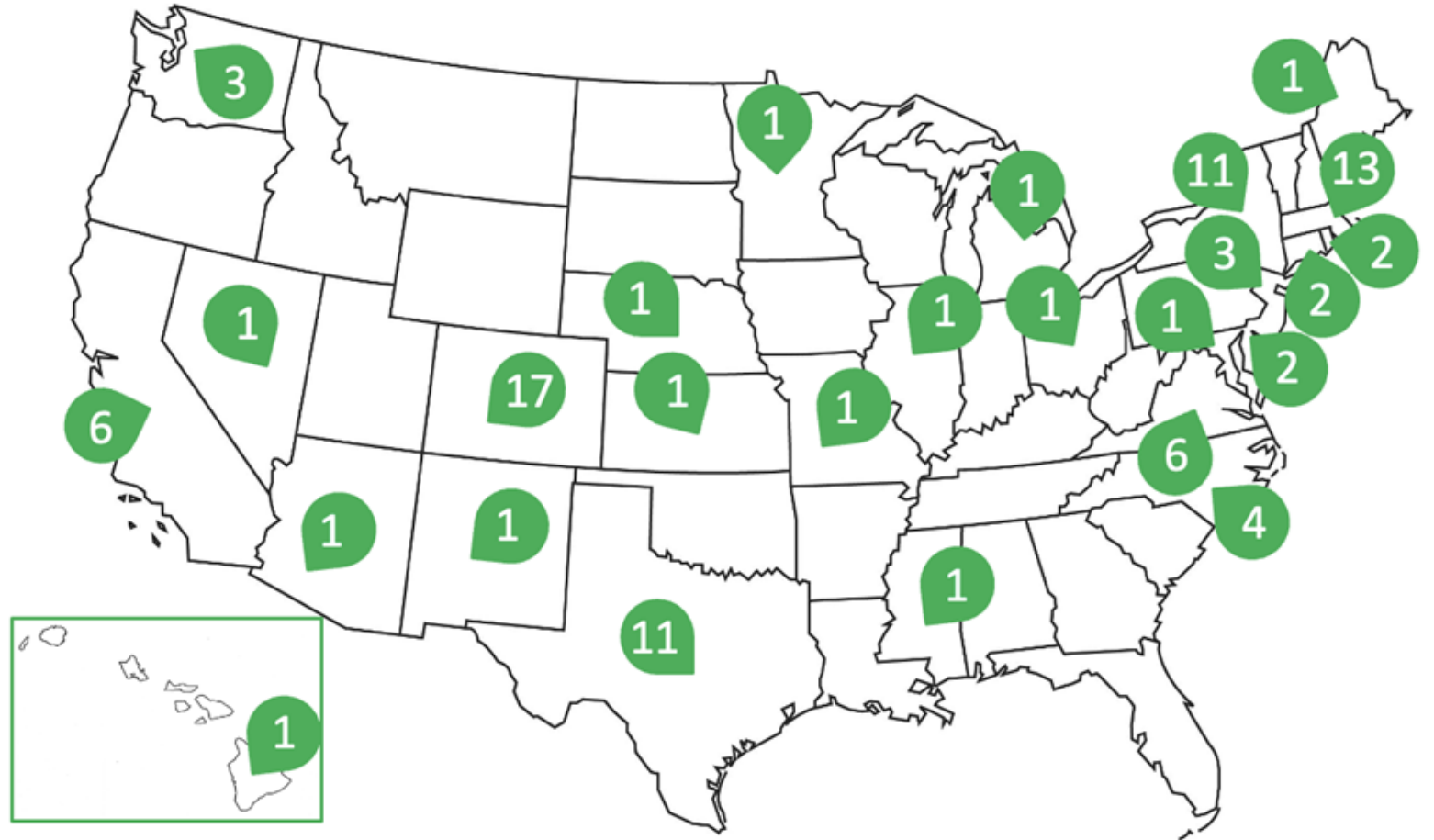


## Independent Offshore Wind Industry Members





# NOWRDC Background



Full list of projects: <https://nationaloffshorewind.org/project-database/>



# Staff Recommendation

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- Approve the agreement to initiate the NOWRDC Block Grant program.
- Adopt staff's determination that this action is exempt from CEQA.