

DOCKETED

Docket Number:	23-MISC-01
Project Title:	Offshore Wind Waterfront Facilities Improvement Program
TN #:	252673
Document Title:	Notice of Staff Workshop (Hybrid)
Description:	Notice of Staff Workshop on Offshore Wind Waterfront Facility Improvement Program - November 3, 2023; 1:00 p.m.
Filer:	susan fleming
Organization:	California Energy Commission
Submitter Role:	Commission Staff
Submission Date:	10/20/2023 3:14:38 PM
Docketed Date:	10/20/2023

CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

715 P Street
Sacramento, California 95814

energy.ca.gov

CEC-70 (Revised 7/22)



IN THE MATTER OF:

*California Offshore Wind Waterfront
Facility Improvement Program*

DOCKET NO. 23-MISC-01

NOTICE OF HYBRID WORKSHOP

RE: Offshore Wind Waterfront Facility
Improvement Program

**Notice of Staff Workshop on Offshore Wind Waterfront Facility
Improvement Program**

November 3, 2023

1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Hybrid Workshop

See Attendance Instructions

In-Person at:

California Natural Resources Agency Building
Auditorium, First Floor
715 P Street Sacramento, CA 95814 (Wheelchair Accessible)

Remote Option via Zoom™ <https://zoom.us/>
Webinar ID: **860 4172 4501** and passcode: **585987**

The California Energy Commission (CEC) will host a workshop addressing the requirements of Assembly Bill (AB) 209 (Chapter 251, Statutes of 2022) for the CEC to develop and implement a program to support offshore wind infrastructure improvements. The workshop will explore the development of a funding program to advance the capabilities of California ports, harbors, and other waterfront facilities to support the buildout of offshore wind facilities and maximize the economic and environmental benefits of an offshore wind industry in California.

A quorum of commissioners may participate, but no votes will be taken.

The public can participate in-person or using the Remote Access Instructions consistent with the attendance instructions provided below. Please note that the CEC aims to begin promptly at the start time posted and the end time is an estimate based on the proposed agenda. The workshop may end sooner or later than the posted end time.

Agenda

Staff will provide an overview of the Offshore Wind Waterfront Facility Improvement Program authorized by AB 209 and AB 179 (Chapter 249, Statutes of 2022, Budget Act of 2022). The workshop will include discussions and presentations on key topics related to program design and implementation.

There will be opportunity for public comment.

A more detailed schedule and workshop materials will be available prior to the workshop on the CEC's Event page (<https://www.energy.ca.gov/events>). Materials will also be posted to the CEC's California Offshore Wind Waterfront Facility Improvement Program docket, [23-MISC-01](https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/Lists/DocketLog.aspx?docketnumber=23-MISC-01) (<https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/Lists/DocketLog.aspx?docketnumber=23-MISC-01>).

Background

In September 2022, Governor Newsom signed Assembly Bill (AB) 209 (Chapter 251, Statutes of 2022) and AB 179 (Chapter 796, Statutes of 2022). AB 209 includes Public Resources Code (PRC) section 25666, which directs the CEC to develop and implement a program to support offshore wind infrastructure improvements. AB 179 appropriated \$42,750,000 to the CEC to provide incentives to support offshore wind infrastructure improvements.

The CEC is proposing to establish an [Offshore Wind Waterfront Facility Improvement Grant Program](https://www.energy.ca.gov/programs-and-topics/programs/offshore-wind-waterfront-facility-improvement-program) (<https://www.energy.ca.gov/programs-and-topics/programs/offshore-wind-waterfront-facility-improvement-program>) to support offshore wind port infrastructure improvements and advance the capabilities of these facilities to develop floating offshore wind projects.

As authorized by PRC section 25666, the grant program supports three categories of investment types:

- Category I activities support developing individual or regional retrofit concepts and investment plans.
- Category II activities support final design, engineering, environmental studies and review, and construction of retrofits.
- Category III activities include cost share funding to an eligible applicant that receives a federal award for purposes consistent with Category I or Category II activities.

Additionally, funding may be allocated to activities related to preliminary engineering and environmental review work, including taking actions and preparing material to comply with the California Environmental Quality Act (Division 13 (commencing with Section 21000)) or federal environmental laws.

California Offshore Wind

California has some of the best offshore wind resources in the world with the potential to advance the state's progress toward its renewable and zero carbon electricity goals and climate mandates by 2045. The state is planning for the workforce that will be needed to build port and transmission facilities, as well as to manufacture, assemble, operate and maintain offshore wind turbine systems. These efforts have the potential to create thousands of well-paying jobs and billions of dollars in economic benefits to the communities and regions where these projects are located.

The state legislature passed Assembly Bill 525 (Chiu, Chapter 231, Statutes of 2021) ([AB 525](#)) in 2021 (https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill_id=202120220AB525). AB 525 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 California Public Utilities Commission, relevant federal, state, local agencies, tribal governments, and others, as needed, to develop a strategic plan for offshore wind energy developments installed off the California coast in federal waters.

Of the range of topics the CEC is required to include in the strategic plan, AB 525 requires the CEC, in coordination with relevant state and local agencies, to develop a plan to improve waterfront facilities that could support a range of floating offshore wind energy development activities, including construction and staging of foundations, manufacturing of components, final assembly, and long-term operations and maintenance facilities.

For more information about the AB 525 Strategic Plan, interim reports, and consultant reports visit this webpage: <https://www.energy.ca.gov/data-reports/reports/ab-525-reports-offshore-renewable-energy>

Coordination with the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM)

California has been working with BOEM since 2016 to explore potential offshore wind energy opportunities. The first meeting of the BOEM California Intergovernmental Renewable Energy Task Force (BOEM-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.¹ On October 18, 2022, the Department of the Interior announced a final sale notice by BOEM for an offshore wind energy lease sale for three lease areas in the Morro Bay Wind Energy Area (WEA) and two in the Humboldt WEA. On December 6, 2022, BOEM initiated an offshore wind energy lease sale. The lease sale concluded on December 7, 2022, resulting in winning bids for the five lease areas from five companies.

For more information about BOEM California activities visit this webpage: <https://www.boem.gov/renewable-energy/state-activities/california>

¹ BOEM identifies areas with wind potential, which it designates as call areas. BOEM will issue a call for information and nominations to determine the level of commercial interest and to identify areas within the call area that may be appropriate to analyze for potential leasing.

Attendance Instructions:

In-Person participants may join the meeting in the auditorium room on the first floor of the California Natural Resources Agency Building located at 715 P Street Sacramento, CA 95814. Visitors of the building attending the workshop should proceed directly to the auditorium and do not need to sign in at the lobby security desk. Please note that visitors are solely permitted in the auditorium, restrooms, and cafeteria without a visitor badge or staff escort. Masks and social distancing are encouraged, but not required.

Remote participants may join via Zoom by internet or phone.

- **To join via zoom.** Click on <https://energy.zoom.us/j/86041724501?pwd=S1drbVYzNXJsU3orUVZJRvdabXo1QT09> or login in at <https://zoom.us/> and enter the **Webinar ID 860 4172 4501** and **passcode 585987** and follow all prompts.
- **To join by telephone.** Call toll-free at (888) 475-4499 or toll at (669) 219-2599. When prompted, enter the **Webinar ID 860 4172 4501**. No Participant ID is required. Press the “#” key to bypass.

Zoom Closed Captioning Service. At the bottom of the screen, click the Live Transcript CC icon@ and choose “Show Subtitle” or “View Full Transcript” from the pop-up menu. To stop closed captioning, close the “Live Transcript” or select “Hide Subtitle” from the pop-up menu. If joining by phone, closed captioning is automatic and cannot be turned off. While closed captioning is available in real-time, it can include errors. A more accurate transcript of the workshop will be docketed and posted as soon as possible after the meeting concludes.

Zoom Difficulty. Contact Zoom at (888) 799-9666 ext. 2, or the CEC Public Advisor at publicadvisor@energy.ca.gov, or by phone at (916) 957-7910.

Public Comment.

The CEC encourages the use of its electronic commenting system. Visit the e-commenting page for docket [23-MISC-01](#) at <https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/Lists/DocketLog.aspx?docketnumber=23-MISC-01>. Enter your contact information and a subject title that describes your comment. 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.

Oral comments will be accepted at the workshop. Comments may be limited to three minutes or less per speaker. To comment via Zoom, use the “raise hand” feature so the administrator can announce your name and unmute you. To comment via telephone, press *9 to “raise your hand” and *6 to mute/unmute.

Written comments may be submitted to the Docket Unit by 5:00 p.m. on **December 1, 2023**. 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. Written comments may also be submitted by email. Include docket number 23-MISC-01 in the subject line and email to docket@energy.ca.gov.

A paper copy may be mailed to:

California Energy Commission
Docket Unit, MS-4
Docket No. 23-MISC-01
715 P Street
Sacramento, California 95814

Public Advisor. The CEC's Public Advisor assists the public with participation in CEC proceedings. To request assistance, interpreting services, or reasonable modifications and accommodations, call (916) 957-7910 or email publicadvisor@energy.ca.gov as soon as possible but at least five days in advance of the workshop. The CEC will work diligently to meet all requests based on availability.

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

Direct general inquiries to Eli Harland at eli.harland@energy.ca.gov or call (916) 908-7921 and/or Elizabeth Barminski at elizabeth.barminski@energy.ca.gov or call (916) 775-0694.

Availability of Documents: Documents and presentations for this meeting will be available at <https://www.energy.ca.gov/event/workshop/2023-11/workshop-ab-209-offshore-wind-waterfront-facilities-improvement-program> or at [Docket 23- MISC-01](#) <https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/Lists/DocketLog.aspx?docketnumber=23-MISC-01>. When new information is posted, an email will be sent to those subscribed to the topics of "Offshore Renewable Energy" and "Offshore Wind Waterfront Facility Improvement Program." To receive these notices or notices of other email subscription topics, visit [Subscriptions](#) at <https://www.energy.ca.gov/subscriptions>.

Dated: October 20, 2023, at Sacramento, California.



Elizabeth Huber
Director
Siting, Transmission, and Environmental Protection Division

Subscription List: Offshore Renewable Energy; Offshore Wind Waterfront Facility Improvement Program