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

RE: AB 525 Draft Strategic Plan for Offshore Wind Development (Docket No. 17-MISC-01) – Request for Extension of Public Comment Period

Chair Hochschild and Commissioners:

This firm represents RWE Offshore Wind Holdings, LLC and its affiliates ("RWE"). RWE appreciates the opportunity to submit comments on the California Energy Commission's ("CEC") Assembly Bill 525 Offshore Wind Strategic Plan Draft Report ("Draft Strategic Plan"). As the CEC is aware, RWE entered a lease with the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, effective June 1, 2023, for Lease Area OCS-P 0561, a 63,338-acre area on the Outer Continental Shelf. RWE has continued to devote substantial resources toward the assessment and development of Lease Area OCS-P 0561.

Given the significance of the topics addressed by the Draft Strategic Plan, the considerable length of the report, and paramount importance of public participation and engagement, RWE respectfully requests an extension of the public comment period to April 26, 2024, consistent with similar extension requests submitted to the CEC.

Such an extension will provide the time and means necessary for engaging all interested parties, including Tribal Nations and small or underrepresented communities, and to enable the submission of informed and meaningful public comment. Further, a modest extension will allow adequate time for all interested parties to address any potential matters raised or identified at the CEC's AB 525 workshop currently scheduled for March 20, 2024, only two days prior to the current March 22, 2024 comment deadline. Further, the requested extension will be consistent with the CEC website announcement, which indicates "There will be opportunities for public comment to receive feedback as well as the ability to submit written comments after the workshop.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this important matter. RWE looks forward to submitting its comments on the Draft Strategic Plan.

Sincerely,

Timothy M. Taylor