

<b>DOCKETED</b>	
<b>Docket Number:</b>	17-MISC-01
<b>Project Title:</b>	California Offshore Renewable Energy
<b>TN #:</b>	255902
<b>Document Title:</b>	April 5, 2024 Working Group Comments
<b>Description:</b>	Summary of Working Group Comments of AB 525 Strategic Plan
<b>Filer:</b>	susan fleming
<b>Organization:</b>	California Energy Commission
<b>Submitter Role:</b>	Commission Staff
<b>Submission Date:</b>	4/24/2024 9:59:00 AM
<b>Docketed Date:</b>	4/24/2024

Summary of 4/5/24 OSW TWG Comments (Comments provided after the AB525 draft release on January 19, 2024).

Tribal representatives had the following concerns and recommendations:

- The strategic plan should include language that acknowledges that port improvements and developments related to offshore wind will destroy or cause catastrophic damage to cultural resources. Existing ports that were built years ago already damaged cultural resources, such as Morro Rock, and tribal homelands.
- Tribal representatives noted that the AB 205 opt-in certification process for fast-tracking projects should consider inevitable impacts to cultural resources. Avoiding impacts to and protecting cultural resources must be a priority for port improvements and all other aspects of offshore wind development.
- Page 68 of Volume II of the strategic plan reads as follows: “tribes have expressed concerns with the impacts of offshore wind and associated infrastructure on sacred and culturally significant sites, features, places, and objects in the ocean, on the coast, and inland.”
  - o The word “concerns” is not strong enough. Throughout the report, the language should be reworked and strengthened to reflect tribes’ deep unease and fears surrounding offshore wind impacts in their unceded waters. Additionally, language should be added to discuss impacts from substations and Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) units at substations.
- Tables 6-12, 6-13, and 6-14 on pages 152-154 of Volume II compare the impacts associated with developing different port sites for offshore wind development. These tables do not consider a variety of important impacts, such as impacts to aquaculture, the Yurok-Tolowa-Dee-ni’ Indigenous Marine Stewardship Area, cultural viewsheds, and other North Coast culturally significant locations. These resources and impacts need to be considered in this analysis.
- The section on social impacts from ports should include a discussion of increased opioids and drug traffic from the incoming workforce,
- The section on social impacts from ports should include an acknowledgement of the displacement of long-term residents and impacts to an already stressed housing supply.
- Missing and Murdered Indigenous Peoples should be capitalized.

Comments Collected from Offshore Wind Tribal Working Group Attendees on 4/5/24 Date.

Summary Approved by Offshore Wind Tribal Working Group Attendees on 4/22/24 Date.