



California Wind Energy Association

March 26, 2024

The Honorable Cottie Petrie-Norris, Chair
Committee on Utilities and Energy
California State Assembly
1020 N Street, Room 408A
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 3006 (Zbur) Offshore Wind Port Infrastructure Plan – Support

Dear Chair Petrie-Norris,

The California Wind Energy Association (CalWEA) is pleased to support AB 3006, which would require the state to include offshore wind port infrastructure in its existing Five-Year Infrastructure Planning Process. CalWEA is a 24-year-old trade association. Our members are focused on operating and developing wind energy resources within and directly interconnected to California and off the coast of California, as well as capturing related economic and workforce development benefits for California.

Ports infrastructure is the indispensable cornerstone for developing offshore wind and reaping the substantial economic benefits and well-paying jobs that will come with it. Moreover, without offshore wind, California will not be able to fully achieve the critical resource diversity benefits that offshore wind will provide to California. A resource portfolio that balances the daytime production of solar resources with the steadier round-the-clock production profile of offshore and onshore wind resources requires *tens of gigawatts less capacity* compared to a portfolio that relies heavily on solar and storage. That is a remarkably large amount of saved capacity that represents a considerable reduction in land use and use of raw materials in the U.S. and globally. Moreover, it is a more reliable portfolio that also diversifies supply chain risks.

Given the long lead-time for development at multiple ports, it is critical that California begin *now* to address the port infrastructure constraints that currently exist offshore wind is to meet the state's electrification goals in the next decade. As the Energy Commission's draft AB 525 Strategic Plan discusses, a multiport strategy must accommodate the staging, integration, and maintenance of offshore wind technology which is estimated to cost at least \$12 billion in port infrastructure upgrades.

While CalWEA supports efforts to include \$1 billion for port infrastructure upgrades in a potential climate bond for the November 2024 ballot, we support AB 3006 because it complements those efforts by requiring the Governor, in consultation with state agencies, to include an assessment of funding needs for offshore wind port infrastructure and integrating the resource into the state's existing Five-Year Infrastructure Planning Process. Under current law, the Governor is required to submit a detailed infrastructure plan as part of the budget process that outlines statewide infrastructure needs and funding priorities for various purposes. However, the state's current definition of "infrastructure" for the planning process should be updated to clearly recognize the funding needs of offshore wind. AB 3006 does this by including offshore wind within the definition of "infrastructure" for the purposes of implementing the Five-Year Infrastructure Planning Process.

For these reasons, CalWEA respectfully requests your "Aye" vote on AB 3006.

Sincerely,



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cc: Members of the Assembly Utilities and Energy Committee
Grant Mack, Deputy Legislative Secretary, Governor's Office
Jana Ganion, Governor's Offshore Wind Energy Advisor
Lauren Greenwood, Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development
Elizabeth Huber, California Energy Commission
