



TINA KOTEK
GOVERNOR

October 31, 2023

Director Elizabeth Klein
Bureau of Ocean Energy Management
1849 C Street NW
Washington, DC 20240

Dear Director Klein,

On behalf of the State of Oregon, thank you for extending the public comment period for the proposed Oregon draft Wind Energy Areas (WEAs) through October 31, 2023. I appreciate that BOEM was responsive to requests from members of the public, Tribes, and federal advisory bodies for additional time to provide feedback. Community, tribal, and state partnerships will be essential to the long-term success of floating offshore wind energy.

Given the national importance of offshore wind energy, Oregon is closely coordinating among the six state agencies that hold important regulatory and policy roles in evaluating offshore renewable energy development. On behalf of these respective agencies, I am attaching and submitting the following comments from Business Oregon, the Department of Land Conservation and Development, the Department of State Lands, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, Oregon Department of Energy, and Oregon Parks and Recreation Department.

These comments demonstrate the depth and breadth of our state agency expertise in Oregon's coastal communities, marine ecosystems, energy needs, and territorial seas. In particular, the Department of Land Conservation and Development has noted the community feedback from the September 26-28, 2023, public meetings in Gold Beach, Coos Bay, and Brookings. Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife has provided extensive recommendations to assist BOEM in avoiding conflicts with sensitive and important habitats, and their findings will undoubtedly be important to BOEM as your agency reviews further refinement of the two potential WEAs.

My administration is committed to continuing to work with BOEM to incorporate the broader feedback and analysis provided during this public comment period, and we look forward to that conversation soon.

Thank you for your time and attention.

Sincerely,

Governor Tina Kotek

cc: Doug Boren, Regional Director, Pacific Regional Office
Jean Thurston-Keller, Renewable Energy Specialist & Oregon Task Force Coordinator

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