

**HUMBOLDT BAY HARBOR, RECREATION,
AND CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-05

**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
CONCERNING OFFSHORE WIND DEVELOPMENT OFF THE WEST COAST OF THE UNITED STATES
AND AROUND HUMBOLDT BAY**

WHEREAS, offshore wind energy and attendant project development is a crucial strategy to address global climate change and to meet the state and federal administrations' ambitious climate and renewable energy targets; and

WHEREAS, it is essential that the offshore wind industry develops and operates equitably and sustainably, and in partnership with the region's communities, to address the area's unique assets, needs, and connections with natural resources; and

WHEREAS, the Humboldt Bay Harbor, Recreation and Conservation District (District) is deeply committed to ensuring that the development of the offshore wind industry in this region yields a strong slate of community benefits, minimizes and mitigates impacts wherever possible, compensates communities for unavoidable impacts, and generates robust and sustainable economic opportunities for the region's communities; and

WHEREAS, the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management's (BOEM) offshore wind Final Sale Notice for wind lease areas off the coast of Humboldt County offers tremendous opportunities to pursue and achieve community benefits, including through a 20% workforce and/or supply chain development credit, a 5% General Community Benefit Agreement (CBA) credit, and a 5% Lease Area Use CBA credit; and

WHEREAS, concentrated and coordinated effort will be required to ensure that the offshore wind industry in the Humboldt region is developed sustainably in a way that benefits Tribal Nations and underrepresented and low-income communities, advances racial equity, protects the environment and builds a thriving, equitable, and sustainable local economy, including through the development and negotiation of CBAs and other agreements; and

WHEREAS, in collaboration with the County of Humboldt, the District has engaged with and plans to continue to engage with multiple interested parties and affected communities including Tribal governments, the City of Eureka, CalPoly Humboldt, College of the Redwoods, the Workforce Development Coalition of Humboldt County, Redwood Coast Energy Authority; the State Building and Construction Trades Council, the Humboldt and Del Norte Construction Trades Council, the Redwood Region Climate and Community Resilience Hub (CORE Hub), the

broader North Coast Offshore Wind Community Benefits Network (Network), commercial fisheries, the Peninsula Community Collaborative, private property owners, various non-governmental organizations and environmental groups, and other regional communities and interested parties to work toward a broad vision and roadmap for offshore wind development in our region; and

WHEREAS, the CORE Hub and the broader North Coast Offshore Wind Community Benefits Network (Network) includes a diverse group of Tribal Nations, local government agencies and educational institutions, labor leaders, local community-based organizations, and community residents, and has been facilitating community benefits advocacy and engagement with BOEM, other federal agencies and the State of California; and

WHEREAS, Tribal Nations; Black, Indigenous, and Communities of Color; commercial fisheries, and frontline communities bear the brunt of devastating impacts of climate catastrophe, energy vulnerability, and long-term impacts of extractive over-harvesting of natural resources, and are therefore critical partners and leaders in developing an equitable and sustainable path to offshore wind development; and

WHEREAS, the District recognizes Tribal sovereignty, self-determination, and other rights of Native American Tribes, as well as the specific and intentional historic trauma to Tribal Nations and Peoples by the federal, state, and county/local governments and previous destructive natural resource industries in the North Coast region; and

WHEREAS, the County of Humboldt and the surrounding region have rich fisheries, which are foundational to Tribal Nations, the commercial fishing economy, and marine species, and which will be affected by this new industry; and

WHEREAS, Humboldt Bay was historically one of California's largest fishing port, with North Coast fisheries currently contributing forty million ex-vessel dollars to the local community; and

WHEREAS, the cumulative loss of community fishing grounds and port fishing infrastructure by offshore wind development will impact fishermen, the fishing industry, Tribal fisheries and underserved North Coast fishing communities; and

WHEREAS, the District recognizes that BOEM's recently completed Humboldt and Morro Bay wind lease area auctions were a key step in the path to offshore wind development and is merely the beginning of what will hopefully be a long, productive, and collaborative partnership with wind developers and the region's diverse communities and constituencies; and

WHEREAS, necessary infrastructure investments throughout the greater Humboldt Bay region needs to be planned, prioritized, and sequenced in order to prepare for and maximize economic opportunities for projects related to offshore wind energy in particular, and the blue/green economy more generally; and

WHEREAS, investments in port, peninsula, and bay infrastructure are a critical early step in the District's overall economic development strategy for offshore wind, and are needed to minimize adverse community and environmental impacts; and

WHEREAS, to stimulate job creation, equitable economic development and prosperity for a diverse population, the District and various interested parties and affected communities must collaborate to prioritize early investments in such infrastructure, without which the site development for an array of economic development projects will not be possible; and

WHEREAS, offshore wind development, if pursued thoughtfully and in genuine partnership with the District, the County of Humboldt, Tribal Nations, and the region's other local governments, communities, commercial fisheries, interested parties, and affected communities, can help promote a diverse and thriving economic landscape

NOW, THEREFORE, THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE HUMBOLDT BAY HARBOR, RECREATION, AND CONSERVATION DISTRICT DOES HEREBY RESOLVE AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. The District believes that offshore wind energy development is a key strategy to fight global climate change. Accordingly, the District supports the State's goals of reaching 5 gigawatts of offshore wind energy by the year 2030 and 25 gigawatts by 2045, as well as the national goal of 30 gigawatts of offshore wind energy by 2030. The District also supports the State's efforts to plan for the necessary supplemental steps required to achieve the offshore wind energy goals, including enhancing power transmission infrastructure, preparing a capable workforce, and upgrading port infrastructure. The District is prepared to do its part to ensure the equitable and sustainable economic development of this new industry in the County and region, while helping ensure that any unavoidable impacts are mitigated and minimized. Offshore wind energy development provides a unique opportunity for diversification of the County's economic engines, and should be developed in full collaboration with local interested parties and affected communities, including Tribal Nations, local organizations and industries, fisheries and local government entities.

SECTION 2. The District recognizes that offshore wind development will affect Tribal Nations and their citizens. The District commits to working collaboratively with and supporting the leadership of Tribal Nations in addressing the effects of and advancing Tribal interests in offshore wind development.

SECTION 3. The District recognizes that the County of Humboldt is taking the lead in working with multiple interested parties and affected communities, including several Tribal governments, the City of Eureka, CalPoly Humboldt, the Workforce Development Coalition of Humboldt County, Redwood Coast Energy Authority, the State Building and Construction Trades Council, Humboldt and Del Norte Construction Trades Council, the Redwood Region Climate and Community Resilience Hub (CORE Hub), the broader North Coast Offshore Wind Community Benefits Network (Network), commercial fisheries, the Peninsula Community

Collaborative, private property owners, various non-governmental organizations and environmental groups, and other regional communities and interested parties in advocating for offshore wind workforce development and community benefits, and have raised important issues before BOEM, other federal agencies and the State of California. The District supports these efforts, and will continue to participate as partners with the County in advocacy and negotiation of community benefits related to offshore wind development.

SECTION 4. The District acknowledges that offshore wind development will have unavoidable impacts on regional fisheries, including Tribal fisheries. The District intends to work collaboratively with representatives of affected local fishermen, businesses, industries and Tribal Nations to ensure that any impacts are mitigated, and to ensure compensation and support regarding unavoidable impacts, and to inform the region's transition process.

SECTION 5. The District recognizes that many other local interested parties, affected communities, and residents will be directly and indirectly affected by offshore wind development in our region. The District intends to engage in sustained and proactive outreach to receive input from these communities regarding offshore wind development, and to help ensure that this new industry is a net benefit for the District and the region, with broadly-beneficial community benefits, and avoidance of concentrated negative impacts.

SECTION 6. Offshore wind development offers tremendous opportunities for employment, training, career development, and other workforce systems. The District will work collaboratively with resource partners and future employers, Tribal Nations, and labor and industry representatives, to help establish and support sustainable workforce development pathways for onshore and offshore construction, operations, and associated activities.

SECTION 7. For these reasons, the District Board of Commissioners strongly supports continued and enhanced engagement in all processes described above, including partnering to create: a regional vision and roadmap for offshore wind development, advancing funding opportunities to support regional agency and regional capacity, a community benefit plan, local outreach and engagement, and taking other steps appropriate to facilitating the offshore wind industry's long-term and sustainable development, for the benefit of our community.

SECTION 8. The District staff are therefore directed to continue or undertake the following activities related to offshore wind development:

- a) work collaboratively with local interested parties and affected communities in creating a regional vision and roadmap for offshore wind development to prepare our community for sustainable and equitable development of the offshore wind industry;
- b) collaborate and engage with Tribal Nations regarding offshore wind development and its effect on and opportunities for Tribal Nations and their citizens;
- c) collaborate with the commercial fishing communities, Tribes, recreational users of the Bay, and other directly impacted interested parties and affected communities, as well as the County, the CORE Hub, the Offshore Wind Community Benefit Network, and others

in pursuing community benefits agreements with offshore wind development leaseholders and other developers;

- d) support and/or participate in negotiations of community benefits agreements or similar agreements related to community benefits, workforce development, procurement, and mitigation of impacts, with offshore wind development leaseholders and other project developers, participants, interested parties, and affected communities which advances the District's goals for Humboldt Bay and the regional vision and roadmap for offshore wind development which will be developed;
- e) engage in outreach and receive input from interested parties and affected communities to ensure that all affected and interested members of the Humboldt County community and region are aware of offshore wind development activities and can participate in public processes regarding such activities;
- f) work with the County of Humboldt to draft a Memorandum of Understanding regarding community benefits opportunities, including bay-wide master planning, project labor agreements, workforce development, and other County activities related to offshore wind;
- g) coordinate with other state, federal, Tribal and local government entities to shape offshore wind development to maximize environmental and economic benefits, and minimize adverse impacts;
- h) assist in planning and advancing onshore infrastructure upgrades that are essential for development of the industry, and are needed to minimize adverse impacts;
- i) on behalf of the District Board, submit letters of support and requests for funding and regulatory or legislative frameworks related to regional agency and growing regional capacity to facilitate sustainable development of the offshore wind industry in the region;
- j) take all reasonable additional steps to support offshore wind development in a manner that maximizes the benefits to the region, while minimizing and mitigating any unavoidable impacts, as described herein; and
- k) report to the District Board of Commissioners as needed regarding negotiations, initiatives, and efforts as described herein.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Humboldt Bay Harbor, Recreation and Conservation District Board of Commissioners at a duly called meeting held on the **9th day of March 2023** by the following polled vote:

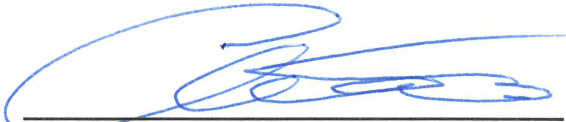
AYES: Dale, Benson, Higgins, Kullmann, Newman

NOES: 

ABSENT: 

ABSTAIN: 

ATTEST:



**Aaron Newman, Secretary
Board of Commissioners**



**Greg Dale, President
Board of Commissioners**

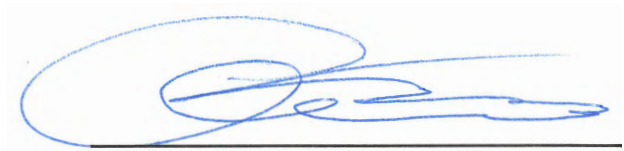
CERTIFICATE OF SECRETARY

The undersigned, duly qualified and acting Secretary of the HUMBOLDT BAY HARBOR, RECREATION AND CONSERVATION DISTRICT, does hereby certify that the attached Resolution is a true and correct copy of RESOLUTION NO. **2023-05** entitled,

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS CONCERNING OFFSHORE WIND DEVELOPMENT OFF THE WEST COAST OF THE UNITED STATES AND AROUND HUMBOLDT BAY

as regularly adopted at a legally convened meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the HUMBOLDT BAY HARBOR, RECREATION AND CONSERVATION DISTRICT, duly held on the **9th day of March 2023**; and further, that such Resolution has been fully recorded in the Journal of Proceedings in my office, and is in full force and effect.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this **9th day of March 2023**.



**Aaron Newman, Secretary
Board of Commissioners**