



Opening Remarks to the Pacific Offshore Wind Summit

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Welcome to the Executive Briefing of the *Pacific Offshore Wind Summit* in San Francisco. After six months of planning, it's great to finally see you here! Many of us are meeting in person for the first time.

I want to start by thanking the board and staff of *Offshore Wind California*, the sponsors of this conference, and the terrific team at *Infocast*. When we launched our coalition in 2019, we had just six offshore wind developers and one nonprofit. Now we have 45 member companies, including developers, offshore wind technology and service firms, environmental consultants, legal experts, global energy companies, and supply chain participants. And our push for offshore wind is supported by labor unions, environmental and environmental justice advocates, many who are in this room today.

Before we get started with our program, I want to acknowledge that while we are here in a comfortable hotel in San Francisco, halfway across the world, the brave people of Ukraine are fighting for their nation and their lives. We stand with them. It will take years to fully understand the human catastrophe that has unfolded in 2022. But one already-clear lesson of the crisis is that we must accelerate the global transition to clean energy. And offshore wind can be one of the most powerful solutions in this transition.

Among my hopes for our time together over the next 2 ½ days is that we make the most of this moment. The window to avoid the worst impacts of climate change is closing. Unless we act to dramatically reduce greenhouse gas emissions, we will be locking in a grim future for our planet and all those who inhabit it.

But fortunately, with offshore wind, we have a remarkable technology that turns the wind into clean electricity. We have the engineering know-how to build floating platforms, large towers and turbines, tug them out to sea, and then bring the power into the grid through advanced transmission lines. We can start an entirely new industry that creates thousands of family wage jobs. We can do this in way that benefits communities that historically have faced unfair environmental burdens. And we can do this while protecting our coastal, marine, and cultural resources.

The key to success is to take advantage of the political opportunity we have with an administration in Washington that wants to get this done, and state agencies with world renowned experience leading the way on clean energy and the environment.

In this room, we have the people capable of making this happen. Let's use our time here wisely. It's time for California to "go big" on offshore wind, and to move forward now. Thank you.