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Governor Gavin Newsom 1021 O Street, Suite 9000 Sacramento, CA 95814

Senate Pro Tem Mike McGuire 1021 O Street, Suite 8518 Sacramento, CA 95814

Assembly Speaker Robert Rivas 1021 O Street, Suite 8330 Sacramento, CA 9581

## **RE: Renewable and Off-Shore Wind Energy**

Dear Governor Newsom, Speaker Rivas, and Pro Tem McGuire:

The undersigned health and medical professionals and organizations serving Californians write to urge your ongoing priority to zero-emission technologies as a pathway to improved health and a healthy climate for all communities. Expansion of existing renewables, battery storage, and the development of Off-Shore Wind resources will provide California with the opportunity to serve clean, healthy, and affordable power for generations to come.

Today, approximately 90 percent of Californians live in a community impacted by ozone and/or particle pollution, with neighborhoods throughout our state facing grave risks due to local, concentrated pollution from power plants and other sources of fossil fuel combustion. We simply must do more, and more quickly, to advance clean, affordable energy to ensure the careful, but urgent, transition away from combustion of fuels that accelerate health risk, disparities and our climate crisis.

The state's strong progress in increasing clean, non-combustion technologies has been a critical factor in bringing relief to regional air pollution burdens. Notably, the state has:

- 100 percent renewable energy on over 200 days in 2024
- Achieved over 50 days' worth of renewable energy
- Increased battery storage capacity by 1900 percent since 2019

These milestones support the transition away from fossil fuels that generate our worst-in-the-nation air pollution burdens and the generational public health risk posed by climate change. Meeting these challenges head-on means we must continue to move ahead with strong strategies today.

California voters supported this transition to clean technologies with the recent passage of the natural resources bond's support for Off-Shore Wind (OSW). Increasing energy supply to serve Californians with OSW resources will reduce dependence on fossil fuels and associated health harms. We view investments today in this stable, clean energy source as a critical investment in health. As our population and energy demand grows, OSW resources will play an important role in achieving clean air standards and the state's climate standards.

We urge you to continue the pathway forward on non-combustion technologies in the energy generation sector as a matter of bolstering the crucial public health benefits of zero-emission transportation, buildings, industry and more.

Sincerely,

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