

Enhanced Onshore Industrial Facilities Ordinance Related to Offshore Drilling and Other Commercial Exploitation of the Ocean:

Sonoma County voters in 1986 wisely adopted a ballot measure intended to help protect the Sonoma Coast from offshore oil and gas leasing by making our coastal lands inhospitable to the petroleum industry as it pursues the construction of onshore petroleum processing facilities and staging areas to support offshore drilling. The resulting *Sonoma County Ordinance Number 3592R* remains, as it should, appropriately embodied in the current “Update” of the LCP.

Strengthening language to reinforce and improve this ordinance is now necessary, given the recent advent of leasing of federal waters for offshore floating wind electrical generating turbine arrays and potential offshore wave energy devices and the States recent legislation to provide over 45 million in funding to support these offshore facilities.

These emerging industries can be expected to lead to commercial proposals for massive undersea electrical cable clusters connecting to other types of infrastructure and onshore facilities here on the Sonoma Coast that would also be equally incompatible with the non-industrial character of our communities. Bodega Bay represents the only fully-sheltering maritime port on this stretch of coastline, and therefore it could again become a target for offshore oil developers who are opportunistically transitioning to pursuing floating offshore wind energy, including BP, Shell, and Statoil, now known as the wind energy company Equinor.

For this reason, a broader interpretation of Sonoma County’s *onshore facilities ordinance* language should be undertaken in the “LCP Update” to protect lands along our coast that would otherwise be vulnerable to subsea cable landfalls, new onshore electrical switchyards and distribution substations, and onshore staging areas for the offshore floating wind industry now being planned in federal waters lying off of counties to our north.

For the Humboldt County “Call for Nominations Area” for offshore wind leasing, discussions are now underway within the offshore wind industry to determine the need and the routing for potential subsea power cables leading either northward to Coos Bay, Oregon, or southward to markets in the Greater San Francisco Bay Area.

These very same companies have previously built hundreds of miles of cables and subsea pipelines all throughout the Gulf of Mexico and Southern California so to say that this is not a possibility for the Northern California Coast reflects a lack of understanding of the situation or the push both Federally and by the State to develop these pipelines and cables.

Please keep **Policy C-LU-1a** in place as it allows the citizens of Sonoma County a voice in the process and was based on an existing ordinance brought about by a ballot initiative.

Please expand **Policy C-LU-1b** to read:

“Prohibit onshore wind, oil and gas support facilities and development within the Commercial Fishing land use area category.” to ensure that Bodega Bay commercial fishing industry is prioritized and protected from onshore support facilities.