

July 16, 2024

Pacific Gas & Electric Company 300 Lakeside Drive Oakland, CA 94612

Attention: Trinity Burruss
Supervisor, EGI Operations - WDT
Wholesale Generation

Subject: Letter of support for the CADEMO offshore wind project

Dear Ms. Burruss,

It has been brought to our attention that Pacific Gas & Electric (PG&E) is working with the CADEMO offshore wind project, and PG&E is administrating the interconnection process. We also understand and appreciate that PG&E has been collaborative in the interconnection process of this important project.

The Lompoc Electric Utility (Lompoc) also has a vested interest in the CADEMO project for the following reasons:

- The CADEMO project is a source of renewable energy and contributes to the energy security of the region, while other renewable energy sources of substantial capacity have not yet been realized in the region or the benefits have been exported out of the Lompoc Valley.
- Lompoc is interested in procuring power from the CADEMO project for the benefit of the Lompoc's electric utility customers.
- Lompoc has been working with the CADEMO project in community benefit capacities.
   The CADEMO project enables Lompoc to continue to support Vandenberg Space Force
   Base's (VSFB) efforts to become more resilient. VSFB is the largest employer in the
   Lompoc Valley benefitting Lompoc, its residents, and businesses.
- To better support VSFB in delivering their National Security mission, Lompoc must also be more resilient. Lompoc is largest single concentration of VSFB service member's residences, Lompoc is uniquely situated to enhance VSFB's ability to meet its National Security mission by ensuring VSFB service member's families are taken care of in Lompoc whether or not the wider energy infrastructure is able to supply power to the region.

The Lompoc Valley energy infrastructure is highly sensitive, and the CADEMO project is a unique opportunity to enhance the energy security and resiliency of this region. Furthermore, the CADEMO project is vital to the long-term viability of the US West Coast offshore wind industry, as it is the only project that can de-risk the US West Coast commercial scale wind farms coming roughly 5 years after CADEMO begins operation. Lompoc believes CADEMO is a critical project to develop environmental understanding of species interaction, boost readiness and confidence in the local labor resources and supply chain to deliver commercial scale offshore wind farms.

Therefore, Lompoc hereby encourage PG&E to continue supporting the CADEMO project with its collaborative approach, as Lompoc views the CADEMO project as a unique and needed opportunity for the Lompoc Valley for the previously stated reasons in this critical project. To do so, Lompoc supports extending the interconnection review deadline for the CADEMO project. If there are any questions, please don't hesitate to contact us by contacting Brad Wilkie, Utility Director, at <u>b\_wilkie@ci.lompoc.ca.us</u> or (805) 875-8299.

Sincerely yours,

Brad Wilkie Utility Director

cc. Mikael Jakobsson
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