

Canopy Offshore Wind Farm Announces Early Partnership with State Building Trades, Underscoring Commitment to Create Career Opportunities for Local Communities & Tribal Nations

- Memorandum of understanding will jump-start career pathways for the skilled, diverse workforce needed to support offshore wind development on the North Coast
- Includes a first-of-its-kind commitment to ensure Tribal Nations have direct, formal involvement in developing plans that will prioritize their employment as part of a future Project Labor Agreement
- Partnership represents another step forward for California's offshore wind industry and development of a project critical to the state's climate targets

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Canopy Offshore Wind Farm (Canopy), a project of RWE Offshore Wind Holdings, LLC., today announced that it has formalized the early stages of partnership with the State Building and Construction Trades Council of California (SBCTC), signing a memorandum of understanding (MOU) that signals its dedication to creating career opportunities for local communities and Tribal Nations.

The MOU represents a commitment to finalize a future Project Labor Agreement and other labor agreements to support the construction of the project — which would be one of the first commercial-scale floating offshore wind farms and have the potential to power 600,000 homes. The Canopy Offshore Wind Farm off the North Coast of California is in the early stages of development, with a projected operational date in the mid-2030s.

“Offshore wind in California and projects like Canopy Offshore Wind present a generational opportunity for good-paying, sustainable careers on the North Coast,” **said Sam Eaton, CEO of RWE US Offshore Holdings.** “California’s offshore wind industry will create thousands of jobs across development, construction and operations in the coming years and our early engagement with the SBCTC is a crucial step toward developing Canopy Offshore Wind in a way that creates long-term careers and pathways to upward mobility for area residents and tribal members. Utilizing a union workforce will ensure our project is built by the best-trained, most-skilled and safest workers in California.”

Understanding the key role Tribal Nations play in the development of offshore wind, Canopy worked closely with the SBCTC to outline a first-of-its-kind commitment to ensure Tribal Nations have direct, formal involvement in developing the plans that will prioritize their employment as part of a future Project Labor Agreement. This industry-leading approach reflects Canopy and the SBCTC’s recognition that decisions about tribal employment and workforce development can only be made after thoughtful dialogue with Tribal Nations.



“As a team, Canopy believes our project benefits from substantive early engagement. We know that to create a meaningful path toward workforce development programs for tribal members, we will need direct tribal insights and input,” **said Rob Mastria, Project Director for Canopy.**

Signing an MOU early will help area residents and tribal members prepare for apprenticeship opportunities, journey person roles and supervisory positions and means Canopy would be built by skilled and trained workers in the safest and most efficient way.

“This MOU and Project Labor Agreement will be a catalyst for workforce investments and training programs that support meaningful careers for North Coast residents and tribal members,” **said Chris Hannan, President of the State Building and Construction Trades Council of California.** “We look forward to a long-term partnership with Canopy that benefits working families and the environment.”

The MOU is the first of several separate formal agreements to come for the Canopy project. Canopy can create union career opportunities throughout the lifecycle of the project, including through:

- A Project Labor Agreement and Maintenance Agreement, to be finalized closer to the start of construction and once a general contractor has been announced.
- A separate Outside Line Agreement with utility unions, creating another level of career opportunities for skilled local workers.

“Good careers and a cleaner environment can and should go hand in hand,” said **Assemblymember Jim Wood (D-Healdsburg).** “I am so pleased that Canopy Offshore Wind intends to build long-lasting career paths with tribal communities and North Coast residents that ultimately will benefit the whole state by bringing more clean energy to California’s grid.”

About Canopy Offshore Wind Farm and RWE

In a 2022 federal offshore lease auction, RWE secured the right to develop an estimated 1.6 GW project 28 miles off the coast of Humboldt County, one of the first commercial-scale floating offshore wind farms that will deliver sustainable power and help firmly position the North Coast as a hub for the floating offshore wind industry on the West Coast. Learn more about Canopy at: <https://canopyoffshorewind.com/Home>.

A pioneer of floating technology and one of the world’s most prominent offshore wind companies, RWE is active across the entire value chain, from project conception to development, construction, operation and maintenance. Working collaboratively with industry partners and local institutions, RWE’s experience will help Humboldt develop into an offshore wind energy hub while protecting the area’s coastline and ocean ecosystem. Through ongoing, extensive conversations with regional governments, constituents, Tribal Nations and fishermen, the Canopy team is committed to developing this critical project in the most responsible, equitable manner.

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RWE is leading the way to a green energy world. With its investment and growth strategy Growing Green, RWE is contributing significantly to the success of the energy transition and the decarbonisation of the energy system. Around 20,000 employees work for the company in almost 30 countries worldwide. RWE is already one of the leading companies in the field of renewable energy. Between 2024 and 2030, RWE will invest 55 billion euros worldwide in offshore and onshore wind, solar energy, batteries, flexible generation, and hydrogen projects. By the end of the decade, the company's green portfolio will grow to more than 65 gigawatts of generation capacity, which will be perfectly complemented by global energy trading. RWE is decarbonising its business in line with the 1.5-degree reduction pathway and will phase out coal by 2030. RWE will be net-zero by 2040. Fully in line with the company's purpose - Our energy for a sustainable life.