



News from the Emergency Management Committee Chair (10/22/21)

‘We Dodged a Bullet’: California Oil Spill Could Have Decimated Huntington Beach

[USA Today reports](#) as sheets of oil washed on shore, the mayor of this surfing hub made a dire forecast: the community could be looking at an environmental disaster that could linger for years.

The reality, fortunately, appears less grim after the U.S. Coast Guard announced last week that the early October spill is estimated to be only about one-fifth of what was initially feared. Officials had reckoned up to 144,000 gallons of oil leaked into the Pacific Ocean; the new estimate is closer to 25,000 gallons.

Multiple investigations are examining everything from the cause of the spill to possible delays in reporting the accident, which may have worsened the spill. For now, officials believe an anchor from a cargo ship may have sliced open the pipeline.

About a week after the oil spilled just miles from the iconic beach, it reopened to the public and its surfing crowds. The beach still remained fairly empty throughout the week, save for hundreds of orange and neon green vests that dotted the coastline: Workers cleaning up oil. But surfers were relieved – and surprised – to see their home on the water open so quickly.

The jarring turnaround, officials and experts say, was the result of aggressive measures by government officials who learned lessons from past spills, a rapid response by environmental groups, lucky timing for some marine life, and weather conditions and currents that prevented the spill from forever changing the coastline of the Southern California beach.

To read more on how timing and weather conditions helped prevent the spill from being even more detrimental, [view USA Today’s full article](#).

California Oil Spill: Investigators Believe 1,200-foot Cargo Ship Dragged Pipeline

[Fox News reports](#) investigators believe a 1,200-foot cargo ship dragging anchor in rough seas caught an underwater pipeline and pulled it across the seafloor, months before a leak from the line fouled the Southern California coastline with crude.

A team of federal investigators trying to chase down the cause of the spill boarded the Panama-registered MSC DANIT just hours after the massive ship arrived this weekend off the Port of Long Beach, the same area where the leak was discovered in early October.

During a prior visit by the ship during a heavy storm in January, investigators believe its anchor dragged for an unknown distance before striking the 16-inch steel pipe, Coast Guard Lt. j.g. Sondra Kay Kneen said Sunday.

The impact would have knocked an inch-thick concrete casing off the pipe and pulled it more than 100 feet, bending but not breaking the line, Kneen said.

Still undetermined is whether the impact caused the October leak, or if the line was hit by something else at a later date or failed due to a preexisting problem, Kneen said.

"We're still looking at multiple vessels and scenarios," she said.

The Coast Guard on Saturday designated the owner and operator as parties of interest in its investigation into the spill, estimated to have released about 25,000 gallons of crude into the water, killing birds, fish and mammals.

The accident just a few miles off Huntington Beach in Orange County fouled beaches and wetlands and led to temporary closures for cleanup work. While not as bad as initially feared, it has reignited the debate over offshore drilling in federal waters in the Pacific, where hundreds of miles of pipelines were installed decades ago.

The DANIT's operator, MSC Mediterranean Shipping Company, is headquartered in Switzerland and has a fleet of 600 vessels and more than 100,000 workers, according to the company.

MSC representatives did not immediately respond to email messages seeking comment. A security guard reached by telephone at the company's headquarters in Geneva said it was closed until Monday.

The vessel's owner, identified by the Coast Guard as Dordellas Finance Corporation, could not be reached for comment.

The DANIT arrived in Long Beach this weekend after voyaging from China, according to marine traffic monitoring websites.

The investigation into what caused the spill could lead to criminal charges or civil penalties, but none have been announced yet, and Kneen said the probe could continue for months.

Attorneys for MSC and Dordellas will have the chance to examine and cross-examine the government's witnesses in the case and also to call their own witnesses, according to the Coast Guard. The investigation also includes the National Transportation Safety Board and other agencies.

Kneen declined to say if any damage was found to an anchor on the DANIT after a team of at least five investigators spent much of Saturday aboard the ship.

At least two other vessels were previously boarded by investigators, who are examining logs kept by the ships' captains, officers and engineers and voyage data recorders — equivalent to the so-called black box on airplanes.

In response to the new focus on the DANIT, the Houston-based owner of the damaged pipeline, Amplify Energy, thanked the Coast Guard for its continued work on the case.

Amplify representatives have not directly responded to questions about an hours-long delay between an alarm indicating a potential problem with the pipeline and the company reporting the leak to federal authorities.

After Spill, Legal Petition Urges Biden Administration to End Oil Drilling

[The Center for Biological Diversity reports](#) in the wake of Orange County's disastrous offshore oil spill, more than 35 organizations sent an [emergency legal petition](#) Wednesday demanding that the Department of the Interior take emergency action to immediately suspend and ultimately cancel all oil and gas leases in federal waters off California.

"This oil spill is a slap in the face for Californians, and it should be a wake-up call for the Biden administration," said Emily Jeffers, a Center for Biological Diversity attorney who authored the petition. "Federal officials have the power and the duty to stop the oil industry from killing our birds, fouling our beaches and polluting our climate. The Biden administration needs to bring the hammer down on offshore drilling in California's federal waters."

Today's petition comes after an undersea pipeline connected to drilling platforms in federal waters off Orange County ruptured on or around Oct. 1, spewing tens of thousands of gallons of oil into the ocean. The spill has fouled sensitive beaches and wetlands, forced the closure of fisheries, and harmed or killed dozens of fish and birds so far. The full damage to wildlife is likely to take months to become apparent.

The Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, an agency within the Department of the Interior, has the authority to suspend and ultimately cancel leases in federal waters if they cause serious harm to marine, coastal and human environments.

As the groups' petition notes, activities under these leases meet these criteria by "exacerbating the climate crisis; causing oil spills that harm fisheries and coastal economies dependent on healthy wildlife and environments; producing dangerous air and water pollution; and furthering negative impacts to already imperiled wildlife and frontline communities."

The Orange County incident follows a long series of spills on the California coast. The 2015 Plains Pipeline spill, for example, poured tens of thousands of gallons of oil into the Pacific and killed hundreds of animals, including dolphins and sea lions.

While today's petition specifically asks for the suspension or cancellation of oil and gas leases in the Pacific, it recognizes that all fossil fuel extraction on federal public lands and waters must end. Ending drilling in federal waters off California "is an important part of accomplishing that larger plan," the petition says.

"This should be the last time oil companies are allowed to spew crude into California's beautiful coastal ecosystems," Jeffers said. "Big Oil spills pretty much anywhere it's allowed to drill, on land or in the ocean. Biden officials need to crack down hard to protect California and the whole country from this polluting, climate-damaging industry."

California Records Driest Year in a Century

[The Los Angeles Times reports](#) in a year of both extreme heat and extreme drought, California has reported its driest water year in terms of precipitation in a century, and experts fear the coming months could be even worse.

The Western Regional Climate Center added average precipitation that had been reported at each of its stations and calculated that a total of 11.87 inches of rain and snow fell in California in the 2021 water year. That's half of what experts deem average during a water year in California: about 23.58 inches.

The climate center tallies rainfall by averaging all of the measured precipitation in the state at the end of a water year, which runs Oct. 1 through Sept. 30.

Based on the diminished levels of both precipitation and runoff, the last water year was the second driest on record, according to the [California Department of Water Resources](#).

The last time the state reported so little rain and snowfall was in 1924.

Climatologists have compared the drought conditions that spanned 2020 and 2021 to the 1976-77 drought, which included California's lowest level of statewide runoff in a single water year.

The average rainfall in 1976-77 was 28.7 inches; in 2020-21, it was 28.2 inches.

A federal report placed the economic losses from the 1976-77 drought at more than \$1 billion, and some feared that drought could cripple the state's water system.

The current multiyear drought has revived the same fears, as reservoirs are depleted, and emergency drought proclamations have been issued in 50 of California's 58 counties. Gov. Gavin Newsom has called on Californians to voluntarily reduce water use by 15%, and state officials say they may impose mandatory water restrictions if dryness continues this winter.

"The history of California has been written in long droughts," said Bill Patzert, a retired climatologist who worked for decades at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory studying the effects of climate change. "There's a lot of water, but it comes down to how it's used."

The [U.S. Drought Monitor](#), a map updated weekly showing drought-related conditions in the U.S., indicates that over 87% of California is experiencing extreme or exceptional drought, with nearly half the state in the worst category.

To read more on the state's current drought situation, [view the *Time's* full article](#).

Governor Newsom Expands Drought Emergency Statewide, Urges Californians to Redouble Water Conservation Efforts

[The Office of Governor Newsom issued](#) a proclamation Tuesday extending the drought emergency statewide and further urging Californians to step up their water conservation efforts as the western U.S. faces a potential third dry year following the second driest year on record with near record low storage.

Bolstering conservation efforts, the proclamation enables the State Water Resources Control Board to ban wasteful water practices, including the use of potable water for washing sidewalks and driveways. The Governor issued an executive order in July calling on Californians to voluntarily [reduce water use](#) by 15 percent compared to 2020 to protect water reserves and complement local conservation mandates. The Governor's action today comes as the Board reports that in August, California reduced urban water use by 5 percent compared to 2020.

A copy of today's proclamation can be found [here](#).

The proclamation adds the eight counties not [previously](#) included in the drought state of emergency: Imperial, Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego, San Francisco and Ventura. In addition, the proclamation requires local water suppliers to implement water shortage contingency plans that are responsive to local conditions and prepare for the possibility of a third dry year.

Expanding the [Save Our Water](#) initiative, a critical resource during the last drought, California has launched robust water conservation public education campaigns in partnership with stakeholders, including public water agencies. Statewide per capita residential water use declined 21 percent between 2013 and 2016 and as of 2020, the urban sector is using approximately 16 percent less on average statewide than in 2013. The Administration will continue to monitor the evolving drought conditions and evaluate all tools available to respond in real-time.

California is experiencing its worst drought since the late 1800s, as measured by both lack of precipitation and high temperatures. August 2021 was the driest and hottest August on record since reporting began and the water year that ended last month was the second driest on record. Today's proclamation authorizes the Governor's Office of Emergency Services to provide assistance and funding under the California Disaster Assistance Act to support the emergency response and delivery of drinking water and water for public health and safety.

The Governor's California Comeback Plan invests \$5.2 billion over three years to support immediate drought response and long-term water resilience, including \$815 million for emergency drought relief projects to secure and expand water supplies, drought contingency planning and multi-benefit land repurposing projects; support for drinking water and wastewater infrastructure, with a focus on small and disadvantaged communities; Sustainable Groundwater Management Act implementation to improve water supply security and quality; and projects to support wildlife and habitat restoration efforts, among other nature-based solutions.

More information on the state's response to the drought and informational resources available to the public are available [here](#).

Weeks After Foul Odor Began, Carson Residents Now Urged to Avoid Outdoor Exercise

[The Los Angeles Times reports](#) after more than two weeks of breathing noxious fumes that can cause headaches and nausea, Carson-area residents are now being advised to avoid prolonged outdoor exercise at night and in the early morning.

The amount of hydrogen sulfide gas emanating from decaying vegetation and marine life in the Dominguez Channel has exceeded state nuisance thresholds in some locations but is not considered "imminently dangerous," Los Angeles County public health officials said Tuesday.

Still, they recommended that people avoid prolonged outdoor activities between 9 p.m. and 8 a.m. and whenever the smell, which has been likened to rotten eggs, vomit and farts, is particularly strong.

Businesses where the odor is strong should run air conditioners for several hours before workers show up, they said.

"The levels noted can cause notable discomfort, irritation, or certain asymptomatic non-sensory effects," L.A. County public health officials said in a news release. "However, the effects are not

expected to be disabling, but are expected to be transient and reversible as the exposure decreases or stops.”

Previously, officials had recommended that people close their doors and windows — even though many do not have air conditioning — and to temporarily relocate if the smell makes them too sick.

Last week, county officials announced that [residents can be reimbursed for air purifiers and hotels](#). But it could take weeks to get the reimbursements. Carson City officials have also instituted a reimbursement program

Air quality monitoring stations have been set up in various locations near the channel, with monitoring efforts focused on schools and senior centers, county public health officials said Tuesday.

Levels of hydrogen sulfide were particularly high in the late evenings and early mornings in the areas next to the channel, prompting the exercise warnings for those hours.

After the stench was first reported to the South Coast Air Quality Management District on Oct. 3, it took 12 days for county crews to begin treating the flood control channel to mitigate the odor.

On Friday, workers began spraying the flood control channel with a biodegradable odor neutralizer called Epoleon that will convert the hydrogen sulfide to a salt.

The odor was expected to dissipate within five days of treatments — or the middle of this week, officials said.

On Tuesday, workers were installing equipment that will pump millions of tiny oxygen bubbles into the water in an effort to prevent additional hydrogen sulfide buildup.

The Carson City Council declared the odor a public nuisance last week.

But Rep. Nanette Barragán (D-San Pedro) has criticized the efforts of city and county officials as too slow and inadequate to address the needs of low-income residents, who cannot afford to wait for reimbursement. On Monday, she asked Gov. Gavin Newsom to declare a state of emergency.

“These residents need direct aid, which is why I am asking you to declare a State of Emergency so that residents can receive direct relief and not be indebted by this event,” [she wrote in a letter to Newsom](#).

In a normal year, storm water would have washed away more of the underwater vegetation that is now decomposing. This year, the drought caused additional buildup, officials said.

Beneath the surface, the vegetation was decaying — and the process may have been sped up by pallets and cardboard dumped upstream, which provided food for the bacteria, according to the county Public Works Department. County agencies are investigating whether a fire at a pallet yard led to the dumping.

Here’s What You Need to Know About the White House Plan to Vaccinate Children

[The Los Angeles Times reports](#) the Biden administration on Wednesday announced plans to get young children vaccinated against COVID-19, a move that health officials say will help curb the pandemic, save lives and stabilize the U.S. economy.

“We’re completing the operational planning to ensure vaccinations for kids ages 5 through 11 are available, easy and convenient,” Jeff Zients, a White House COVID-19 coordinator, said during a Wednesday news conference.

Federal regulators are expected to determine the benefits of vaccinating young children late this month, and within weeks grant emergency-use authorization for child vaccines. Doses, which will be about a third of the size given to people age 12 and older, would then be shipped to pharmacies and healthcare providers. White House officials said many children could be fully vaccinated by Christmas.

Pfizer said it studied COVID-19 inoculation in over 2,000 young children and found they developed antibody levels similar to teens and young adults. They also suffered similar or fewer temporary side effects that included fever, achiness and sore arms near injection sites.

Children will be able to get their shots at many of the same places as adults, including retail pharmacies. They can also get vaccinated by their pediatrician: More than 25,000 pediatricians and primary care providers have agreed to vaccinate children, according to the White House. The Federal Emergency Management Agency will also sponsor hundreds of local inoculation clinics to support operations and outreach.

It is still unclear when children under age 5 can get the vaccination. Pfizer expects to finish collecting data on younger children in clinical trials in coming months, the company said.

“Pending the safety and immunogenicity data and discussions with regulators, we would submit for Emergency Use Authorization as soon as possible,” Kit Longley, a Pfizer spokesperson, told The Times.

Health experts say the vaccine will protect children from getting sick with COVID-19, developing serious side effects and spreading the virus.

The emergence of the more contagious Delta variant earlier this year caused a spike in cases among kids. Health experts have said this contributed to an uptick in unnecessary hospitalizations and deaths among unvaccinated Americans. Currently, about 77% of the U.S. population over age 12 is at least partially vaccinated and nearly 67% is fully vaccinated, according to federal statistics.

Severe illness from COVID among young children is uncommon, though serious side effects can occur. More than 6 million children have tested positive for COVID-19 since spring 2020, according to the American Academy of Pediatrics. Fewer than 400 children aged 0-11 have died from COVID-19, according to federal statistics.

In some jurisdictions, they might not have a choice in getting inoculated. California earlier this month became the first state to mandate a COVID-19 vaccine for all students attending in-person learning in public and private schools.

Pupils in seventh through 12th grades will be required to get their shots not long after the Food and Drug Administration’s grants full approval of vaccinations of those ages 12-16. The FDA has already given full approval to the Pfizer vaccine for people older than 16.

Gov. Gavin Newsom’s office said it would not enforce the vaccine requirement for students 16 and older until full approval was granted to all students ages 12 and older.

When the federal regulators grant full approval for children ages 5-15, students in kindergarten through sixth grade will also be required to get fully vaccinated.

Moderna and J&J COVID-19 Boosters, Mixing and Matching Authorized by the FDA

[*The Wall Street Journal reports*](#) U.S. health regulators significantly widened the nation's Covid-19 booster campaign, clearing use of extra doses of Moderna Inc. and Johnson & Johnson vaccines and also saying people can get a shot that is different from what they had previously received.

The moves, announced by the Food and Drug Administration on Wednesday, will make boosters available to the majority of adults who have been fully vaccinated and have passed the recommended waiting period.

Now every Covid-19 vaccine authorized in the U.S. also has a booster. And people who took one company's shot to get vaccinated could choose to get a booster dose made by a different company.

Who can get a booster—and when—depends on the original vaccine the person took.

Any adult who got a J&J vaccine may get a booster from Pfizer Inc. and partner BioNTech SE, Moderna or J&J at least two months after the single-dose shot.

People who were initially vaccinated with a Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna vaccine can get any booster at least six months after their second dose so long as they are seniors or at high risk because of underlying medical conditions or their workplace.

The FDA has already begun reviewing whether to expand the booster authorizations to more people, senior FDA officials said. The expansion would make the extra dose available to anyone 40 years and older who got a Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna vaccine, according to a person familiar with the matter. A decision could come in weeks, followed by further authorizations for younger ages, the person said.

The nation's vaccine campaign will also expand in the coming weeks if the FDA greenlights Pfizer-BioNTech vaccines for children ages 5 to 11.

The permission to mix and match vaccines and boosters would help ensure doses are available to anyone who wants one, while also increasing options for fully vaccinated people, according to health authorities.

Some research indicates people who mix and match, especially if they got the J&J vaccine first, might get more protection. Health officials say the option might also ease the minds of people who worry they could develop side effects if they got another dose of the same vaccine.

“There are people who do not want to get the same vaccine they got before because they had some sort of reaction,” Dr. Woodcock said.

The shots could become available in the coming days, once the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention offers guidance to doctors, pharmacies and vaccination sites on how to use them and who should get them.

To read more on booster shots and what the coming steps will look like, [view the full article](#).

J&J Vaccine Should Have Been Two Shots All Along, Fauci Says

[The San Francisco Chronicle reports](#) Anthony Fauci, the top U.S. infectious disease doctor, says the single-dose Johnson & Johnson COVID-19 vaccine recommended by a Food and Drug Administration panel for a booster shot last week should have been a two-shot regimen from the start.

[Speaking Sunday on ABC's "This Week,"](#) Fauci said people who got the J&J shot should have no worries about its efficacy now that boosters have been recommended for all recipients 18 and older. "I think that they should feel good about it because what the advisers to the FDA felt is that given the data that they saw, very likely this should have been a two-dose vaccine to begin with," he said.

Get Vaccinated, and You Could Win a Full Scholarship to San Francisco State

[The San Francisco Chronicle reports](#) alongside the free race car rides, surfing lessons and round-trip tropical vacations offered around the country as incentives for getting a COVID-19 vaccination, San Francisco State University dangles this tempting carrot for city residents: four years of free tuition for 10 prospective students ages 12 to 17.

That's worth nearly \$30,000 at current prices, or \$7,444 a year, for students who would otherwise pay out of pocket. Applicants who qualify for federal Pell Grants and state Cal Grants will also go for free and won't have to pay the difference if they win. Winners whose tuition and fees are fully covered by grants will get an additional \$2,000 a year.

The hitch is that only San Franciscans, including those who are undocumented, can qualify to enter the high-stakes drawing. Although nearly all of the city's 12- to 17-year-olds — more than 90% — are already vaccinated, they won't be left out.

Teens, including 18-year-olds who were 17 when they got their first shot, can enter the sweepstakes on six dates at certain vaccination sites the city is operating in schools and community centers.

Each site will accept entries on only one day each, between Oct. 25 and Nov. 13, and at specific times. San Francisco State University employees will verify eligibility, which excludes those who work for the university, their families and people previously enrolled in any college.

San Francisco State President Lynn Mahoney, who thought up the contest, said it was as much about encouraging kids to enroll as it was about protecting public health.

"First and foremost, young San Franciscans should be thinking about college," said Mahoney. "I thought, wouldn't it be great if we could incentivize college-going?"

The lottery — a cooperation among the university, the San Francisco Unified School District and the city health department — may be the only such reward program in the country aimed specifically at the youngest people currently eligible for the vaccine.

Mayor London Breed called the scholarships "an incredible reward" for city teens who are "ending this pandemic by getting the COVID-19 vaccination."

“We encourage all eligible SFUSD students to get vaccinated,” said schools chief Vincent Matthews, a San Francisco State alum, adding that it would be nice if his students also picked up skills for college along the way.

Winners will be randomly chosen from all eligible entries, with one or two winners from each vaccination site. The lucky 10 will be notified privately before a public announcement the week of Nov. 22. Additional details are available [here](#).

ICYMI: Funding Opportunities Ending Soon

- **CalHome Program Disaster Assistance;** *housing, community, and economic development*
 - Funded by: Department of Housing and Community Development
 - Deadline: **Thursday, October 28, 2021**
 - Total estimated funding: \$41 million
 - **Full grant guidelines:** [linked here](#)
- **Investment in Mental Health Wellness Grant Program for Children and Youth (3rd Round);** *health & human services*
 - Funded by: State Treasurer’s Office
 - Deadline: **Friday, October 29, 2021**
 - Total estimated funding: \$23,723,189
 - **Full grant guidelines:** [linked here](#)
- **Allied Healthcare Loan Repayment Program;** *employment, labor, & training; health & human services*
 - Funded by: Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development
 - Deadline: **Friday, October 29, 2021**
 - Total estimated funding: \$600k
 - **Full grant guidelines:** [linked here](#)
 - **Online application:** [linked here](#)
- **GFO-21-502 – Advancing Cost and Efficiency Improvements for Low Carbon Hydrogen Production;** *energy*
 - Funded by: CA Energy Commission
 - Deadline: **Friday, October 29, 2021**
 - Total estimated funding: \$3.5 million
 - **Full grant guidelines:** [linked here](#)
 - **Online application:** [linked here](#)

DPR Research Grants Program

[The Department of Pesticide Regulation’s](#) Research Grants Program provides funding to develop integrated pest management (IPM) practices that reduce the risks from pesticides which are high-risk, of regulatory concern, or are of human health or environmental concern in California.

DPR's Research Grants Program funds research projects that seek to further IPM in agricultural, wildland, or urban settings. Developed practices should aim to reduce the use of high-risk pesticides or pesticides that are of regulatory concern and seek to mitigate the impacts of pesticides on public health and the environment. DPR’s Research Grants Program funds diverse projects in varied settings; a list of current and past projects can be found [here](#).

The application process consists of a Proposal Application followed by concurrent review of submitted proposal materials by DPR staff and the Pest Management Advisory Committee (PMAC). Both groups evaluate the Proposal Application according to scoring criteria that can be found [here](#). PMAC reviewers are from diverse affiliations, including academic and public foundations, agricultural production, environmental and public interest organizations, and registrants and trade associations; a list of PMAC members can be found [here](#). PMAC's role, as specified in law and regulation, is to review the grant proposals for adoptability and merit and provide recommendations to DPR's Director who makes the final funding decision.

This year, DPR has \$3.75 million available for projects with budgets ranging from \$50,000 to \$3.75 million. Eligible grantees include nonprofits agencies, tribal governments, individuals, businesses, and public agencies, including those from outside of California; however, project work must primarily benefit the people of California.

There is no limit on the number of applications that can be submitted, including multiple applications from the same person or entity. PMAC members may apply, but they must follow the rules regarding conflict of interest in the [PMAC Charter](#). All applicants and associated project personnel must meet DPR's eligibility requirements (including having no standing fines or penalties from DPR or any local County Agricultural Commissioner).

Keywords: Agriculture, Agricultural Commodity, Agricultural Crops, Agronomy, Air Quality, Automation, Bacteria, Bactericide, Climate Change, Community Health, Cover Crops, Cropping System, Crops, Ecology, Ecosystem, Emissions, Fauna, Fertility, Field Sanitation, Flora, Fruits, Fumigant, Fungi, Fungicide, Herbicide, Horticulture, Housing, Insect Pests, Insecticide, Integrated Pest Management, Irrigation, Lakes, Land Management, Laws and Regulations, Machinery, Mating Disruption, Miticide, Natural Enemies, Nuts, Oceans, Pathogens, Personal Protective Equipment, Pest, Pest Management, Pesticide, Plant Disease, Plant Protection, Pollinator, Pollution, Reduced-Risk, Rivers, Rodenticide, Soil Health, Streams, Sustainable, Training, Urban Pest Management, Vegetables, Vertebrate Pests, Virus, Volatile Organic Compounds, Water, Water Quality, Watershed, Weeds, Wildlands, Worker Health and Safety

Eligible applicants include businesses, individuals, nonprofits, public agencies, and tribal governments.

Principal Investigators must not have outstanding fines or penalties with DPR. PMAC member applicants must follow the conflict-of-interest rules in the PMAC Charter.

Projects must primarily benefit the people of California. Work may be conducted outside of California, but justification must be provided.

The deadline to apply for this funding is **Thursday, December 9, 2021**. Total estimated funding available is \$3.75 million. To view the full grant guidelines, [click here](#).

GFO-21-401 – Propelling Offshore Wind Energy Research (POWER)

[The CA Energy Commission](#) has created this solicitation to fund research and development projects to demonstrate, test, and validate innovative floating offshore wind (FOSW) components and tools.

The solicitation will fund two focus areas:

Group 1: Manufacturing, Testing, and Pilot Demonstration of Floating Offshore Wind Technology (Total funding available: \$12 million); or
Group 2: Inspection and Monitoring Systems for Floating Offshore Wind Applications (Total funding available: \$2 million).

Selected projects will advance the readiness, performance, reliability, and cost-competitiveness of FOSW, while increasing the knowledge of environmental and wildlife impacts in California.

This solicitation is open to all public and private entities with the exception of local publicly owned electric utilities. In accordance with CPUC Decision 12-05-037, funds administered by the CEC may not be used for any purposes associated with local publicly owned electric utility activities.

At least 25% of available Electric Program Investment Charge (EPIC) technology demonstration and deployment funding must be allocated to project sites located in, and benefiting, disadvantaged communities; and an additional minimum 10% of funds must be allocated to projects sites located in and benefiting low-income communities.

Match funding is required in the amount of at least 10% minimum of the requested project funds.

The deadline to apply for this funding is **Wednesday, December 15, 2021**. Total estimated funding available is \$14 million. To view the full grant guidelines, [click here](#). To view the online application, [click here](#).

CASF Infrastructure Grant Account

[The Public Utilities Commission](#) has created the CASF program to provide broadband access to 98 percent of households in each consortia region by December 31, 2022.

The California Advanced Services Fund (CASF) provides grants to “telephone corporations” as defined under P.U. Code § 234 to bridge the “digital divide” by building and expanding broadband facilities in unserved and underserved areas of the state. The CASF supports projects that a) provide broadband services to areas currently without broadband access and b) build out facilities in underserved areas.

Eligible applicants include businesses, individuals, nonprofits, public agencies, and tribal governments.

See CASF eligibility [here](#).

The deadline to apply for this funding is **Monday, January 31, 2022**. Total estimated funding available is \$300 million. To view the full grant guidelines, [click here](#).