



April 20, 2015

Representative Jessica Vega Pederson, Chair
Members of the House Committee on Energy and Environment
Oregon State Capitol
Salem, OR 97301

Re: House Bill 2216

Dear Chair Vega Pederson and Members of the Committee,

We write in support of HB 2216-3. Climate Solutions is a regional non-profit working to accelerate practical and profitable solutions to global warming.

A big part of Oregon's formula for success has been our willingness to blaze the trail for clean energy, energy efficiency, and better transportation choices. HB 2216 supports the development of off-shore wind production in Oregon and is an important next step in this history. This cutting edge technology offers enormous opportunities for our state – in terms of jobs, local economic development for coastal communities, and clean, renewable electricity.


Further, \$40 million in federal funds are available to support this off-shore wind pilot project if Oregon implements a policy enabling the project to sell its output to our utilities. HB 2216 ensures that the federal funding is fully realized. The bill also includes a rate cap and empowers Oregon's Public Utility Commission to approve the procurement of the power.

Climate Solutions believes that any form of economic development involves a choice of how to best deploy our scarce resources. Climate Solutions has been a leader in the campaign to oppose coal exports through our region because coal exports drain our most valuable economic resources – our freight capacity, our public finances, our air quality, the health of our communities, and our incredibly valuable *brand* as an economy that thrives on innovation and a high quality of life. **We have said No to fossil fuels so we can say Yes to other opportunities.** Off-shore wind development in Oregon is one of those **Yes** opportunities. It is an opportunity for Oregon to lead in the development of new technology. It is an opportunity to create jobs for Oregonians across the state, from Portland, to Astoria and Coos Bay. It is an opportunity to develop new sources of clean, renewable electricity for our state.

For more than 15 years, Climate Solutions has been working to implement energy efficiency, renewable energy, and carbon reduction policies that demonstrate that clean energy and broadly shared economic prosperity go hand-in-hand. HB 2216 is just the sort of policy we believe in and we ask the Committee to pass this bill.

Thank you for your consideration of these comments.

Sincerely,



Kristen Sheeran, Ph.D.
Oregon Director, Climate Solutions



Ann E Gravatt
Policy Advisor