



April 21, 2015

Re: Support for HB 2216

Dear Chair Vega Pederson and Members of the House Committee on Energy:

Thank you for the opportunity to voice our support for legislation to create jobs. Vigor is a leading provider of shipbuilding, ship repair and complex fabrication in the Pacific Northwest and Alaska. Employing 2,500 workers across nine locations, our dynamic operations are rooted in a 100-year old history of pride and craftsmanship.

We are committed to industrial jobs across Oregon: the pilot project will invest millions of dollars in our economy and create hundreds of jobs for Oregonians. HB 2216 would enable Windfloat Pacific to provide its energy output to electric utilities in Oregon.

Developers of the Windfloat project have demonstrated their commitment to keeping these family wage jobs local. Fabrication of the windfloats will occur in Clackamas and Portland, with final assembly and ongoing care in Oregon coastal ports. Hundreds of new jobs will be created during development, construction, and operations, including jobs for engineers, environmental scientists, technicians, and skilled trades. Project Labor Agreements (PLAs) will be in place for the project helping Oregon continue on its path to economic recovery by supporting middle-income jobs.

Vigor will be proud to be part of this process. The project for Principal Power would be built at Swan Island in order to utilize a dry dock for launching into the water. Some sub assemblies may also be built at OIW Vancouver and transported over to Vigor via barge.

The Windfloat project would establish Oregon as a global leader in the multi-billion dollar clean energy industry by expanding our access to renewable energy, creating a new clean energy market, and raising the profile of our region as a cutting-edge green technology provider. Furthermore, it will spur local job training, assembly facilities, and research right here in Oregon, laying the very foundation our state needs to become a leader in the clean energy sector.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Caitlin Sause'.

Caitlin Sause

Director of Government and Public Affairs