

3/31/21

**Chair Marsh, Co-Chairs Helm and Brock Smith
Oregon House of Representatives
Committee on Energy and Environment**

RE: Support for HB 3375

Chair Marsh and Co-Chairs Helm and Brock Smith,

I write to you today on behalf of Aker Offshore Wind in support of HB 3375 which establishes a goal for planning of the development of up to 3 GW of floating offshore wind (“OSW”) energy projects along our Oregon coast by 2030 in a manner that will maximize benefits to this state while minimizing conflicts between floating offshore wind energy, the ocean ecosystem and ocean users.

Thank you for prioritizing time for this bill to have a hearing at your committee meeting on 3/31/21.

Proactive state planning now will help the state better understand the energy opportunities, implications and barriers to integrating of up to 3 GW by 2030 onto the Oregon grid. Once the benefits and challenges of OSW are understood, better decisions can be made to ensure OSW is developed appropriately by maximizing benefits for Oregon, its citizens, and its environment.

The [United States’ Executive Branch, Department of Energy](#), and [Chair of the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, Oregon Rep. Defazio](#), have identified offshore wind permitting and clean energy infrastructure as top priorities for federal funding. By establishing a commitment to investigate the potential for responsible OSW development, Oregon will hold open an opportunity for rate payer savings of 30% through the [OSW Federal Investment Tax Credit \(ITC\)](#). Passage of HB 3375 can also attract immediate federal and private investments through the Build Back Better federal funding package, and the 3/29/21 Fact Sheet of the Biden Administration’s Jumpstarts to Offshore Wind Energy Projects to Create Jobs.

Clean energy planning targets are effective tools for adding certainty to our state’s clean energy trajectory and market. This increased certainty drives investment from the federal and private sectors, as well as competition from the development community, signals energy planning agencies and organizations for incorporation of planned development, and provides a timeline for Oregonians to ramp up labor and supply chain capacity for maximum economic benefit.

Thank you for your consideration of this timely legislation, we urge you to support passage of HB 3375.

Respectfully,

Jonah Margulis
President – Aker Offshore Wind USA