



May 14, 2021

To: Senator Lee Beyer, Chair, Senate Committee on Energy and Environment
Members, Senate Committee on Energy and Environment
From: Max Greene, Regulatory & Policy Director, Renewable Northwest
Re: **Support for HB 3375**

Dear Chair Beyer and Members of the Committee,

Renewable Northwest is a regional, non-profit renewable energy advocacy organization based in Oregon, dedicated to decarbonizing the region by accelerating the transition to renewable electricity. Our members are a combination of renewable energy businesses and environmental and consumer groups. **Renewable Northwest supports HB 3375, which would establish a goal of 3 GW of offshore wind development in Oregon by 2030.**

Offshore wind has emerged as a key resource in a study Renewable Northwest has been working on with the Clean Energy Transition Institute, Gridlab, and Evolved Energy to demonstrate the feasibility of transitioning to 100% clean electricity by 2040, and to understand how the electricity system would likely serve customers under a declining emissions cap. While the results are still preliminary and may not be finalized before the end of the legislative session, one consistent trend has been the emergence of floating offshore wind in Oregon as a cornerstone of the region's electricity system – on the order of tens of gigawatts – beginning in the 2030s. This result is unsurprising given recent research from the National Renewable Energy Laboratory and Pacific Northwest National Laboratory showing offshore wind as a strong option to complement terrestrial renewable resources on a deeply decarbonized grid. Planning now will help to identify and overcome barriers to offshore wind development in both the near and medium term and unlock the full potential of this important in-state renewable resource.

Additionally, we appreciate HB 3375's thoughtful process, which includes a broad range of stakeholders – including the fishing industry, tribes, coastal communities, and ports. The bill also identifies some of the key issues we will need to address to bring Oregon offshore wind to fruition, including transmission availability. These elements of the bill will help ensure the successful development of Oregon's offshore wind industry.

For these reasons, we are pleased to reiterate our support for HB 3375.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Max Greene".

Max Greene
Regulatory & Policy Director
Renewable Northwest