

# INDUSTRIAL HARBOR, USA, LLC

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House Committee on Water

Oregon State Capitol

900 Court Street NE

Salem, Oregon 97301

<https://olis.oregonlegislature.gov/liz/2021R1/Testimony/HWTR>

**Re: Support for HB 3103**

Thank you, Chair Helm, Vice Chairs Owens and Reardon and Members of the Committee for the opportunity to testify in support for HB 3103.

When International Paper in Douglas County closed nearly 1,000 jobs were lost on-site and hundreds of jobs and businesses impacted in the surrounding community. It was the major employer in the area.

We purchased the property with the intent to revitalize the property and generate jobs.

The good news is the 420-acre property still has substantial assets that are available for reuse including an enormous amount of water rights.

The property's water rights are stored in reservoirs and are needed for prospective tenants for the property. It is very important for us and the community that House Bill 3103 is passed to correct the lack of statutory authority and allow projects such as ours and many others move forward.

We have interest from two prospective users who cannot move forward unless there is an ability to change water use to accommodate their operations.

The current state of the law holds back flexibility in investment that would otherwise allow economic development.

We urge the committee to support House Bill 3103.

Sincerely,



George Heidgerken