

April 1, 2021

**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,**

Obsidian Renewables is pleased to offer enthusiastic testimony in favor of HB 3375. Offshore wind sited off Oregon's coast is an incredible opportunity for Oregon's clean energy future and economy.

Obsidian Renewables develops utility scale solar projects in the Pacific Northwest. Our work to conceive and build projects in rural Oregon, gives us a strong understanding of the incredible economic opportunity and benefits of Oregon sited projects. Along with bringing jobs and supporting local businesses in rural Oregon, renewable energy development is bringing much needed tax revenue to underserved rural counties. We hope to see our coastal communities reap similar benefits of homegrown, Oregon-sited clean energy projects.

We also have a keen understanding of the hurdles in siting and regulation which can be mitigated by planning at the state level. HB 3375 establishes a goal for planning for the development of up to 3 GW of floating offshore wind 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.

Proactive state planning for offshore wind now will help the state be better positioned to take advantage of expected federal support. The current federal administration has identified offshore wind permitting and clean energy infrastructure as top priorities for federal funding. By establishing a commitment to investigate the potential for responsible offshore wind (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 recently announced by the Biden administration.

Thank you for your consideration of this legislation and the opportunity it represents for Oregon's renewable energy future. We urge you to support passage of HB 3375.

Sincerely,



Laurie Hutchinson  
VP of Renewable Project Development  
Obsidian Renewables