



March 29, 2023

Chair Pam Marsh  
Committee On Climate, Energy, and Environment  
Oregon House of Representatives  
900 Court St. NE  
Salem, OR 97301

Re: House Bill 3579

Dear Chair Marsh and members of the Committee,

Vigor is a diversified industrial company specializing in ship repair, marine and heavy complex fabrication. We are based on Swan Island in Portland and engage in fabrication at all three of our Portland-area facilities. For more than a decade, Vigor has been involved in clean technology development, including an early wave energy project here in Oregon.

We strongly believe that Oregon currently has the advantage of an existing industrial manufacturing base, with a specific focus on steel fabrication, which presents an opportunity for the region to lead this important growing sector. However, as you are aware, major hurdles exist for industrial companies in our region, including an increasing cost of doing business, workforce challenges, and a misplaced negative public perception of heavy industry.

A thriving clean energy technology sector in Oregon will involve a combination of new ideas and companies together with more traditional industrial manufacturers with expertise and decades of experience delivering complex projects. By incentivizing clean energy technology development and helping manage these costs, HB 3579 is an important step in making Oregon a leader in this emerging industry. And importantly, success would mean growing the types of family wage trades jobs which support a more equitable, robust local economy.

We encourage your support of HB 3579.

Sincerely,

Benton Strong  
Senior Manager, Public Affairs  
Vigor