

July 14, 2015

To: Climate Leadership Team Members and Advisors

Dear All:

**RE: Marine renewable energy – an economic and climate action opportunity**

As Canada's national sectoral leadership association for marine renewable energy, we are encouraging the Climate Leadership Team to look at the unique economic opportunity that British Columbia has in matching its resource and industrial strengths with climate action. In light of this activity, Marine Renewables Canada would like to offer some suggestions on action items that are aligned with the Climate Leadership Team's mandate.

The Climate Leadership Team's mandate, to be fulfilled by Nov. 30, 2015, is to provide advice and recommendations on:

- How to maintain B.C.'s climate leadership:
  - Create a short-term focus on off-grid diesel displacement using marine and other resources and small to medium size commercial marine renewable energy facilities in the long term;
  - Develop the clean energy cluster vision developed by BC Hydro/KWL in 2009, supporting a transition to a more robust and distributed electricity system – e.g. Vancouver Island currently only generates about 30% of its own power;
  - Role model for the world: Focus on selling BC clean energy technology and services to a global market demanding future energy solutions
  
- Updates to the current Climate Action Plan as well as new programs and policies required to meet B.C.'s greenhouse gas reduction targets while maintaining strong economic growth and successfully implementing the BC Jobs Plan, including the liquefied natural gas strategy:
  - Considering the significant GHG impact of natural gas emissions and burning natural gas to generate power for the first generation LNG plants (built before Site C), there should be investment (through the Innovative Clean Energy Fund, the carbon tax or a Clean Energy Fund) for a diversified clean energy project portfolio to offset this over time;
  - Marketing marine renewable energy technology and services into the emerging global market represents a significant opportunity for the BC Ocean Industry sector



- Actions to achieve GHG reductions required across the industrial sector, transportation sector and built environment:
  - Marine renewables can have an immediate impact on GHG reduction through an off-grid diesel displacement initiative for coastal and river communities and industries.
- how to further the Province's government-to-government relationships with First Nations while constructively finding climate solutions; and
  - Clean power for off-grid communities, especially First Nations will support economic activity in those communities, but may offer opportunity for ownership or partnership in which they gain economic sustainability through providing a clean energy service.
- How to further the Province's collaboration with local governments within the context of mutually-beneficial climate actions:
  - Coastal communities are interested in sustainable development of local resource opportunities. The communities of Campbell River and Ucluelet have both been keen to see development of local tidal and wave resources.

I have attached a short opportunity discussion document. As the Ocean Renewable Energy Group, and more recently as Marine Renewables Canada, we have been happy to contribute to past discussions on BC's climate action, energy and economic futures. We would be happy to respond to any questions or to brief members of the Team.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Elisa Obermann".

Elisa Obermann  
Executive Director, Marine Renewables Canada