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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515-0509

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August 24, 2021

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Port of Oakland's Port Infrastructure Development Project (PIDP) Proposal

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

I write in support of the Port of Oakland's (Port) application regarding the U.S. Maritime Administration's Port Infrastructure Development Program (PIDP). PIDP creates an enhanced sustainable utility infrastructure network that could support a growing base of zero emissions freight equipment users throughout the seaport. The total cost of this infrastructure project is approximately \$20 million. The Port is seeking 11 million dollars in funding.

The Port of Oakland has adopted an ambitious *Seaport 2020 and Beyond Air Quality Plan*, which seeks to reduce the emissions impact from its activities and transition to zero and near-zero emissions cargo operations. As part of that plan, this project improves the resiliency of the Port's utility operations and supports the continued development and integration of zero emissions vehicles and equipment throughout the Port of Oakland's maritime operations.

The project consists of a multi-functional modern 12-megawatt (MW) substation integrating renewable power generation to support expansion of the electric heavy duty truck fleet and electrically powered cargo-handling equipment, as well as ship power availability at the Port of Oakland. A new substation will provide demand management and resiliency by integrating renewable energy sources including a 2 MW fuel cell, 4 MW of solar generation and storage, and a wastewater treatment plant biomass-powered generator.

During power supply emergencies due to events such as wildfires or extreme heat, the substation could also provide power to the local community, enhancing local grid resiliency in the face of climate change. As a major freight and shipping hub for Northern California and for the nation, the Port of Oakland is well situated to contribute to the development and deployment of sustainable shipping infrastructure, thus ensuring a lower carbon footprint.

Therefore, I ask that full and fair consideration be given to the Port of Oakland's application. I look forward to transitioning to zero-emission freight and cargo operations in our community. Thank you in advance for your consideration of this project. Should you have any questions please feel free to contact my staff member, Oscar Arbulu, at 510-763-0370 or Oscar.Arbulu@mail.house.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Barbara Lee".

Barbara Lee
Member of Congress