



TINA KOTEK
GOVERNOR

December 30, 2025

Colonel Dale Caswell, Jr.
Commander and District Engineer
Portland District
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
333 SW 1st Avenue
Portland, OR 97204

RE: Support for NXTClean Fuels Project at Port Westward, Oregon

Dear Colonel Caswell,

I am writing to express my support for the proposed NXTClean Fuels facility at Port Westward in Columbia County, Oregon. This \$3 billion private investment represents a significant opportunity for rural Oregon, both economically and environmentally, and has undergone rigorous review and permitting at the state and county levels.

NXTClean Fuels has worked closely with state agencies and local communities to ensure the project meets, and in many cases exceeds, Oregon's environmental protection standards. The facility has received a Removal-Fill Permit from the Oregon Department of State Lands and a 401 Water Quality Certification from the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality. It also underwent a comprehensive Cleaner Air Oregon review, which confirmed that local communities will not be adversely impacted by construction or operation. Public engagement has been robust, and the company has demonstrated a strong commitment to transparency and responsiveness.

The project is expected to generate over 3,000 union construction jobs and 240 permanent positions, with thousands more indirect jobs across the region. It will also contribute more than \$45 million annually in tax revenue to the State of Oregon and Columbia County, and over \$5.5 million in fees to the Port of Columbia County. These are meaningful impacts for our rural communities.

From an environmental standpoint, NXTClean Fuels will produce Renewable Diesel and Sustainable Aviation Fuel, displacing up to 750 million gallons of fossil fuels annually and reducing over 7 million tons of carbon dioxide emissions. The facility's ultra-low carbon intensity fuels, derived from recycled organic feedstocks, align with Oregon's climate goals and offer immediate air quality benefits.

Colonel Dale Caswell, Jr.
December 30, 2025
Page 2

Additionally, the company has committed to restoring over 470 acres of adjacent land into vibrant wetlands. This will be one of the largest private restoration efforts along the Columbia River. The initiative will enhance habitat, improve water quality, and provide flood mitigation benefits.

Given the extensive state-level vetting and the broad coalition of support from labor organizations, environmental leaders, local governments, and business groups, I respectfully urge the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to give full and timely consideration to this project. Oregon stands ready to support the federal review process and collaborate to ensure that this project moves forward responsibly and efficiently.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tina Kotek", with a stylized, cursive script.

Governor Tina Kotek

TK:ta

cc: Leah Feldon, Director, Oregon Department of Environmental Quality
Kaitlin Lovell, Director, Oregon Department of State Lands
Brenda Bateman, Director, Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development
State Senator Suzanne Weber
State Representative Cyrus Javadi