



Dr. Rob Hovsopian  
National Renewable Energy Laboratory  
15301 Denver West Parkway  
Golden, Colorado

July 19, 2021

Re: Letter of Support for proposal titled **“H2GRID: Hydrogen-based Green Infrastructure for Decarbonization of Marine Intracoastal Applications”**, a multi-industry R&D proposal led by NREL

Dear Dr. Hovsopian and Team,

Blue Sky Maritime Coalition is pleased to submit this letter in support of the H2GRID proposal for the H2@Scale July 2021 CRADA Call. The proposal is to develop H2Grid, which will effectively design hydrogen based microgrid for intracoastal marine applications optimizing the use of renewable energy by converting green energy into green hydrogen. This R&D is needed to provide a comprehensive understanding of green hydrogen production from renewables. H2Grid will be optimized for hydrogen generation and distribution for marine intracoastal applications which is critical to successfully scaling green hydrogen as a clean energy solution for marine vessels in the United States intracoastal waters.

We, at Blue Sky Maritime Coalition (the Coalition), are excited to collaborate with NREL and your team as a research partner on the H2Grid proposal for the Department of Energy- Hydrogen and Fuel Cell Technologies Office (HFTO) – H2@Scale CRADA Call. There are strong synergistic activities between the H2Grid proposal and the Coalition’s current interest in the hydrogen infrastructure R&D. Specifically, the [Blue Sky Maritime Coalition](#) recently launched as a non-profit, strategic alliance formed to accelerate the transition of waterborne transportation in the United States and Canada toward net-zero greenhouse gas emissions. The Coalition brings together industry, community, government, academia and other stakeholders across the waterborne transportation value chain to pursue projects that remove barriers to accelerating development, encourage innovation, and promote policies in support of zero emissions.

The Coalition was conceived and designed to bring together all parties that directly or indirectly play a part in the North American waterborne value chain, from cradle to grave, and to collaboratively develop a roadmap to net zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050 by identifying barriers to decarbonization and then executing demonstration projects and other initiatives that help to remove those barriers. The Coalition membership welcomes all companies and organizations that are directly or indirectly involved in maritime activities in the U.S. and Canada. The Coalition acts to connect various cluster organizations and maritime industry participants in order to leverage learnings and solutions across all of North America, enabling our vision to think big, start small and scale fast.

Upon award selection and successful negotiation of the CRADA agreement, the Coalition is committed to supporting this research with a combination of monies and in-kind support to cover the required cost share contribution over the three-year period of the project. In-kind contributions in the form of technical support from member companies such as Crowley Maritime Corporation and several other industry leaders will be forthcoming, describing the expertise and knowledge that our industry members can provide in support of the H2GRID (see the attached support letter from Crowley Maritime Corporation as an example).

The proposed collaboration between Blue Sky Maritime Coalition and NREL and its outcomes would be critical to perform future evaluation and help reduce the technological barriers in the adoption of a hydrogen infrastructure for marine intracoastal applications. We look forward to this much needed collaboration.

Sincerely,



**David H. Cummins**

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Attachment: Crowley Maritime Corporation support Letter