

DEREK KILMER
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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-4706

June 7th, 2024

OFFICES
1226 LONGWORTH OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC, 20515
(202) 225-5916

950 PACIFIC AVENUE
SUITE 1230
TACOMA, WA 98402
(253) 272-3515

345 6TH STREET
SUITE 500
BREMERTON, WA 98337
(360) 373-9725

www.kilmer.house.gov

Rear Admiral Ann C. Phillips, US Navy, Ret.
Administrator
Maritime Administration
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Administrator Phillips,

I am pleased to write in support of an application submitted by Motive Power Marine (Motive) of Tacoma, WA, to the United States Department of Transportation's Maritime Administration's (MARAD's) Small Shipyards Grant Program for Motive's Shipyard Electrification and Telehandler Project. This funding, if awarded, would support Motive's efforts to perform electrical upgrades at their shipyard, including the acquisition of an air compressor and a telehandler machine, which will increase Motive's efficiency in serving customers.

As one of the first U.S. shipyards to become certified under the Green Marine environmental sustainability program, Motive seeks to continue its leadership in exploring and committing to sustainable solutions for the shipyard industry. The Shipyard Electrification Project will both improve the shipyard's efficiency while also reducing its environmental footprint.

The project will reduce the facility's diesel fuel consumption by nearly 50,000 gallons each year. This transition will be particularly beneficial to the community in Tacoma. Furthermore, the project will increase economic opportunities for current and future shipyard employees and small business subcontractors. These opportunities are critical, as the shipyard facility is in a federally designated Historically Disadvantaged Community and Area of Persistent Poverty.

It is for these reasons that I support Motive's application to MARAD's Small Shipyard Grant Program, and I urge your fair and full consideration of their proposal. Should you have any questions, please contact Emma Abraham in my Tacoma district office at Emma.Abraham@mail.house.gov or 253-272-3515.

Sincerely,



Derek Kilmer
Member of Congress