

NEWS RELEASE

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OREC Thanks FERC Chairman Joseph T. Kelliher for his Dedicated Service to the Advancement of the Marine Renewables Industry

The Ocean Renewable Energy Coalition today recognized Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) Chairman Joseph T. Kelliher for his role as a champion for the emerging marine renewables industry. Chairman Kelliher was an early supporter of the great potential of the nation's ocean waves, tides, currents, and rivers to help meet our national energy needs and provide high-paying jobs across the emerging industry.

“On behalf of the Ocean Renewable Energy Coalition and its members, I want to thank Chairman Kelliher for his service to our nation and the significant role he and his colleagues played in advancing the use of our vast ocean-based renewable resources,” stated Sean O'Neill, OREC's President. “The implementation of a sound regulatory process under Chairman Kelliher's leadership set the nation on a path towards the successful development, testing, and deployment of our members' emerging technologies.”

In recent years the marine renewable energy industry has seen tremendous growth with greater opportunity for and increased recognition of the possibilities that marine renewables hold for the future of energy. The strides that the industry has made were possible by the support of a number of federal agencies and officials, including the Departments of Energy, Interior, Defense, and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. “OREC looks forward to working with the incoming Administration, agency appointees, and the new Congress to continue to advance the development and deployment of marine renewable technologies,” said Mr. O'Neill.

About the Ocean Renewable Energy Coalition

The Ocean Renewable Energy Coalition is the only national trade association exclusively dedicated to promoting marine and hydrokinetic renewable energy dedicated to promoting energy technologies from clean, renewable ocean resources. Founded in April of 2005, the Coalition has grown to over 40 members including technology developers, consultants, law firms, investor-owned utilities, publicly owned utilities, universities, and scientific and engineering firms. The coalition is working with industry leaders, academic scholars, and other interested NGO's to encourage ocean renewable technologies and raise awareness of their vast potential to help secure an affordable, reliable, environmentally friendly energy future.

We seek a legislative and regulatory regime in the United States that fosters the development of ocean renewable technologies, their commercial development, and support in the race to capture the rich energy potential of our oceans. While other countries have already deployed viable, operating, power generating projects using the emission-free power of ocean waves, currents, and tidal forces, the U.S. is only beginning to acknowledge the importance these technologies.