



April 25, 2023

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

Rear Admiral Ann C. Phillips
Maritime Administrator
Maritime Administration
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

RE: Duluth Seaway Port Authority Grant Application - MARAD Port Infrastructure Development

Dear Secretary Buttigieg and Rear Admiral Phillips:

On behalf of ALLETE, Inc., please accept this letter of support for the Duluth Seaway Port Authority's (DSPA) application for \$30M in funding through the Port Infrastructure Development Program to help fund the 2023 Duluth Port Intermodal Terminal Expansion project.

The DSPA owns and operates Clure Public Marine Terminal, which is located within the Port of Duluth-Superior. Improvements to port infrastructure and capabilities made by DSPA have been critical to the success of their operations. The 2023 Duluth Port Intermodal Terminal Expansion project includes the construction of 100,000 square feet of on-dock, rail-served warehouse space, the demolition of dilapidated former grain elevators to allow for more than seven acres of outdoor material laydown area, and the purchase of a new hybrid-electric mobile harbor crane to enhance port operations.

ALLETE Inc. is an energy company headquartered in Duluth, Minnesota. In addition to our electric utilities, Minnesota Power and Superior Water, Light and Power of Wisconsin, ALLETE owns ALLETE Clean Energy, based in Duluth, New Energy Equity, based in Annapolis, MD and BNI Energy in Bismarck, North Dakota. The Clure Public Marine Terminal provides the critical infrastructure and capacity to manage complex handling, storage and transportation logistics that delivered hundreds of megawatts of wind turbine components for our company over the last decade. The initiatives within this grant application support our goals of continuing to evolve our company's generation mix to include more renewable resources heading towards Minnesota's recently passed legislation calling for 100% carbon free energy by 2040 and to help answer the nation's call to transform our energy landscape. The improvements are needed to meet current demand and anticipated growth within the renewable energy sector.

We appreciate your consideration of this application.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Allan S. Rudeck Jr.", written in a cursive style.

Allan S. Rudeck Jr.
ALLETE Safety and External Affairs Officer