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For Immediate Release

NHA Applauds Marine and Hydrokinetic Legislation to Advance Development

Statement of NHA Executive Director Linda Church Ciocci

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Washington, D.C. (April 23, 2015) – The following is a statement from Linda Church Ciocci, Executive Director of the National Hydropower Association (NHA), on the introduction of the Marine and Hydrokinetic Renewable Energy Act of 2015:

"NHA is pleased to support this legislation, as it will help to foster innovation within the marine and hydrokinetic renewable energy sector. Harnessing the power of our waves, tides and currents depends on acceleration of research and development investment in technology advancements. Marine and hydrokinetic projects have the potential to produce cost-effective electricity, while expanding water power's contributions to the electric grid.

"NHA applauds Senator Ron Wyden (D-OR) for his continued commitment to the hydropower and marine energy industries."

The bill is cosponsored by Senators Jeff Merkley (D-OR), Brian Schatz (D-HI) and Angus King (I-ME).

In November, NHA formed the Marine Energy Council, creating a united voice for all water power technologies at NHA. The Council brings together technology developers, academic institutions, and equipment and service providers in the wave, current (tidal, ocean, and river), and ocean thermal sectors. This partnership allows the marine energy interests along with the hydropower and pumped storage sectors to collectively advocate the importance of all water power technologies as solutions to our nation's energy challenges.

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