

CHRISTINE O. GREGOIRE  
Governor



STATE OF WASHINGTON

GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF REGULATORY ASSISTANCE

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July 5, 2011

The Honorable Dan Pike  
Mayor  
City of Bellingham  
City Hall, 210 Lottie Street  
Bellingham, WA 98225

Subject: Multi-Agency Permit Team and Proposed Gateway Pacific Terminal Project

Dear Mayor Pike:

Thank you for your letters of June 14 and 16, 2011 to Governor Chris Gregoire in which you made two requests. First, you asked that the State Department of Ecology assume lead agency or co-lead agency responsibility for environmental review of the proposed Gateway Pacific Terminal project. Your second request was to have the City of Bellingham join the Multi-Agency Permit (MAP) Team reviewing the proposed project. The Governor has asked me to respond to the idea of bringing additional parties onto the Gateway Pacific Terminal MAP Team. The Department of Ecology will respond separately to your request regarding lead agency status.

With regard to MAP Team operation and membership, we have received several inquiries about joining the team or at least observing MAP Team meetings. We have weighed the pros and cons of opening Team membership to interested parties and concluded this would be detrimental to the long term operation of this team and other, future MAP Team projects. The premise of a working MAP Team is, first, to bring together the regulators to ensure effective communication and coordination. The second component brings the applicant to the regulators, again, to ensure clear communication, avoid playing one regulator off another and to find the most efficient pathways for an applicant to respond to the multiple needs of the regulatory agencies.

The MAP Team's operations support the underlying processes of each participating agency or regulator. Those underlying processes are the typical and generally appropriate avenue for public and other stakeholder input. Although we do not have a place for City representation on the MAP Team itself, we are very interested in working with you and with other stakeholder interest groups. We have begun discussions with the MAP Team about additional ways for them to receive information and understand concerns. Ideas so far include specific outreach to nearby

cities and stakeholder organizations, open-house-style events, small group discussions, and adding resources or links to the MAP Team website. We are eager to discuss these ideas and other possibilities with the City and hope you or your staff will contact us to follow up.

Thank you again for your thoughtful approach to the MAP Team process and your willingness to work with us. Please feel free to contact me by telephone at 360-902-9823 or email, [faith.lumsden@gov.wa.gov](mailto:faith.lumsden@gov.wa.gov). You may also reach Jane Dewell, the ORA Regional Assistance Lead and Project Manager for the proposed Gateway Pacific Terminal project at 425-649-7124 or [jane.dewell@ora.wa.gov](mailto:jane.dewell@ora.wa.gov). We look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,



Faith Lumsden  
Director

Cc: Governor Gregoire  
Ted Sturdevant, Director Department of Ecology  
Randall Watts, Chief Civil Deputy Prosecuting Attorney, Whatcom County  
Jane Dewell, ORA Regional Lead