

CHRISTINE O. GREGOIRE
Governor



STATE OF WASHINGTON
GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF REGULATORY ASSISTANCE

P.O. Box 40002 • Olympia, Washington 98504-0002 • (360) 902-9823

June 30, 2011

WhatcomDocs
P.O. Box 444
Bellingham, WA 98227

Subject: Response to Letter of Concern Regarding Cherry Point Terminal

Dear Doctors:

Thank you for your letter dated June 18, 2011, regarding the Cherry Point Terminal, which is also known as Gateway Pacific Terminal (GPT) project. You expressed concerns about a number of possible health impacts related to this project, and requested that we ask the Department of Ecology to take a lead in the State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) process.

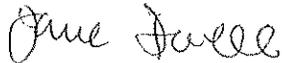
We appreciate the time you took to communicate about diesel emissions, coal dust, train traffic, delays to emergency vehicles, and the health effects and impacts that could result from changes related to the GPT project. Health and community safety issues are extremely important, and along with other environmental and community concerns that have been raised by a variety of groups and individuals in Whatcom County will be given serious and thorough consideration under the environmental review and permit processes that are governed by state and federal laws.

Regarding the Governor's Office of Regulatory Assistance (ORA) role for the GPT project, we coordinate the Multi-agency Permit (MAP) Team, which consists of ORA, the project proponent, and federal, state, and local government agencies that have regulatory jurisdiction for environmental reviews and permits related to the GPT project. ORA facilitates meetings and supports the MAP Team work, which spans early project review through final environmental review and permitting. Information on the MAP Team and regulatory processes can be obtained from a secure website at: <http://iprmt.ora.wa.gov/> (click on 'new user').

We will forward your letter to the Department of Ecology for their information, and to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and Whatcom County for consideration under federal and state environmental reviews. It is these agencies that are responsible for public input under the National Environmental Policy Act and SEPA.

Thank you again for sharing your concerns with us. Please feel free to contact me by telephone at 425-649-7124 or jane.dewell@ora.wa.gov. You may also reach Faith Lumsden, ORA Director, at 360-902-9823 or email, faith.lumsden@gov.wa.gov.

Sincerely,



Jane Dewell
ORA Regional Assistance Lead

cc. Jeannie Summerhays, Regional Director, Department of Ecology
Tyler Schroeder, Planning Supervisor, Whatcom County Planning and Development
Services
Randel Perry, Project Manager, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers