

Hi, my name is Jordan Beaudin and I am a resident of Deming, Washington, in Whatcom County. I have lived in Whatcom County for seven years, and I am currently raising one child here. I am concerned that some impacts of the proposed Gateway Pacific Terminal are going to harm my family and community's quality of life.

I would like to request that you measure the increased risk of a shipping accident due to increased ship traffic that would occur if this terminal is built, and the effect that it would have on the economy. If this project is built, there will be several hundred additional vessel trips, mostly by large coal tankers, in waters already used by oil tankers, cruise ships, container ships, and others. There are recent examples of shipping accidents and the economic damage that they have done to the surrounding communities. A specific example is the grounding of the Exxon Valdez in 1989 off the Coast of Alaska. This accident cost several hundred million dollars to cleanup, has caused long lasting harm to the environment along the coast of Alaska [1], and caused significant losses to Alaska's economy [2].

I would like to see an analysis of a similar accident occurring in the waters of the Salish Sea be completed. A large portion of this area's economy is directly tied to the waters off our coasts. Two economic segments that rely on a healthy marine ecosystem are fishing and tourism. Negative impacts to these segments would obviously harm our local economy as a whole. This is significant to me for the obvious reason that if our local economy is harmed, my and my friend's and family's ability to support ourselves would be jeopardized.

If the potential negative impacts of the increased ship traffic are sufficiently large, there are not any mitigation efforts that will be able to make up for the potential damage that could be done to our economy.

Thank you.



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#### References:

[1] Graham, Sarah (December 19, 2003). "Environmental Effects of Exxon Valdez Spill Still Being Felt". *Scientific American*.

[2] Carson, Richard; Hanemann, W. Michael (December 18, 1992). "A Preliminary Economic Analysis of Recreational Fishing Losses Related to the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill" (PDF). Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council.

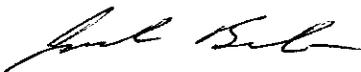
Hi, my name is Jordan Beaudin and I am a resident of Deming, Washington, in Whatcom County. I have lived in Whatcom County for seven years, and I am currently raising one child here. I am concerned that some impacts of the proposed Gateway Pacific Terminal are going to harm my family and community's quality of life.

I would like to request that you study the reasons for the current decline of the Cherry Point herring population and research the potential impact on this population from the construction of the Gateway Pacific Terminal and the increased ship traffic to and from the terminal. The Cherry Point Herring is an immensely important species in this region, making up significant portions of several marine species diets. These species that depend on the herring include halibut, Chinook salmon, and harbor seals [1]. The importance of this species to our marine ecosystem cannot be understated, and is crucial to our fishing industry and tourism.

In the last 30 years the population of the Cherry Point herring has declined drastically, with the spawning biomass decreasing by 94 percent. This decline coincides with the industrialization of Cherry Point. This currently includes the operation of 2 oil refineries and an aluminum smelter. Negative impacts from these operations include dock construction and operation, outfall discharge, vessel traffic, accidental spills of oil and other poisons, and foreign disease and species from ballast water discharge. [1]

The addition of a fourth major industrial operation in this region is likely to lead to a further decline for the herring population. We need to study the causes of the current decline and predict the damage that may be done by the construction of the Gateway Pacific Terminal.

Thank you.



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References:

[1] *Petition to list the Cherry Point population of Pacific herring, Clupea pallasii, as "threatened" or "endangered" under the Endangered Species Act, January 21, 2004*

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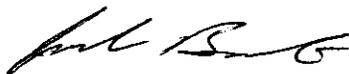
I would like to request that you measure the contribution to climate change from the coal that is planned to be shipped, and subsequently burned in power plants and factories outside of the United States, and the impact that this may have on the economy. This is significant because there is increasing evidence that emissions from the burning of coal in power plants and factories is contributing to climate change, and that climate change is causing rising sea levels and more severe weather [1]. This has been seen in recent droughts and heat waves throughout the world, and also in events like Hurricane Sandy which devastated large parts of the Northeast United States.

Dealing with rising sea levels and more severe weather might have significant costs. This is important to me because these costs may translate to higher taxes for my family, reduced government spending on programs that we rely on, or general harm to the economy due to other associated costs of dealing with climate change.

We need to know what the effect of burning this coal in power plants outside of the United States will have on the environment, and find ways to mitigate the negative impacts.

Possible mitigation options may include restricting the products to be exported from the Gateway Pacific Terminal to materials other than coal or verifying that coal only be shipped to locations that have stringent environmental controls in place.

Thank you.



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References:

[1] *Climate Change 2007: Synthesis Report*, Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, November 2007.

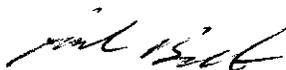
Hi, my name is Jordan Beaudin and I am a resident of Deming, Washington, in Whatcom County. I have lived in Whatcom County for seven years, and I am currently raising one child in a home near the rail line in the South Fork Valley. I am concerned that some impacts of the proposed Gateway Pacific Terminal are going to harm my family and community's quality of life.

I would like to request that you measure the impact of increased rail traffic on all rail lines in Whatcom County, and specifically the line through eastern Whatcom County. Although the project permit does not specify that there will be impacts to rail areas outside of the immediate vicinity of the shipping terminal, it is likely that all rail lines in the county will see increased traffic due to the additional number of trains going to and returning from the terminal. Also, although there currently is no direct rail connection between the rail line that heads through the South Fork Valley and the coastal rail line adjacent to the terminal, there is a proposed line from Lynden to the coastal rail line in Whatcom County's comprehensive plan that originated in the permitting process from the initial terminal that was permitted in 1997. As it is possible that this spur line would be constructed in order to handle the increased rail traffic, and this traffic would then spread throughout the existing rail lines in the county, it is appropriate to include all rail lines in the county in the study of the impacts from this project.

I would like to request that you consider the impact on human health, the impact on the agricultural economy, the cost of improving rail crossings, the economic costs to businesses located along the rail lines, and the impact on emergency responders due to increased rail traffic. This is important to my family and my community for the following reasons:

- Increased emissions from diesel trains may harm our health.
- Environmental disturbances from heavy train traffic may economically harm some agricultural segments.
- Our resource strapped government may have to cut spending on other programs to pay for rail improvements.
- Some businesses may be negatively impacted due to longer travel times to these businesses due to increased wait times at rail crossings and noise and vibration disturbance from nearby rail traffic.
- Our main roadways in the area cross the rail lines in multiple locations, and emergency responders may be delayed by increased rail traffic at these crossings.

We need to know how this project may affect us, and find ways to reduce these impacts. Thank you.



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