

November 2, 2012

GPT/BNSF Custer Spur EIS
c/o CH2MHill
1100 112th Avenue Northeast, Suite 400
Bellevue, Washington 98004

RE: Scoping Comments from Visitors to Western Washington

Sent by Certified Mail, Return Receipt Requested

Dear Sir or Madam:

Please accept the enclosed scoping comments for the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Gateway Pacific Terminal Inc's (GPT) proposed project at Cherry Point, Washington, and the Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF) Railway's Custer Spur Rail Expansion project. The comments are expressed in the enclosed **letters signed by 56 visitors to the Western Washington area from other cities, states, and countries**. As the texts of the letters indicate, these visitors urge that the EIS analyses include study of significant impacts on the natural and human environments on the mainland and in the San Juan Islands, direct and indirect impacts which are attributable to the GPT and BNSF proposals.

I moved to Mount Vernon after vacationing in Washington many, many times. I chose to live here because of air quality, natural beauty, the walking proximity of businesses serving my needs, convenient access to the San Juan Islands, proximity to outdoor recreation assets (like North Cascades national park), and Washington's well-deserved reputation as the Evergreen state. Many of my friends visit this area annually, for many of the same reasons that I visited and eventually moved here. When they learned of GPT's and BNSF's plans for the terminal and spur, they wanted to express their deep concern. The enclosed letters request study of several impacts to Washington, centered on the reality that the hidden costs of the proposal could include harm to Washington's natural and manmade assets presently making it attractive to tourists, and including the question whether the costs include decreases to tourist dollars that flow to Western Washington's economy, and loss of jobs dependent on tourism.

Thank you for your consideration of these scoping comments. If this filing raises any questions, or I may otherwise assist you, please feel free to contact me.



Mary Ruth Holder
109 N. 6th St.
Mount Vernon, WA 98273
360 419-3124

To: Washington State Elected Officials and Government Agencies
From: The Undersigned Visitors to Northwest Washington
Re: Application by Pacific Terminals, Inc. for various permits for the Gateway Pacific Terminal at Cherry Point, Whatcom County, Washington

We are visitors who travel to Northwest Washington because of its natural beauty, unique marine environment, and special places, including the San Juan Islands and North Cascades National Park. On our visits we contribute to the regional economy: we stay in local accommodations, eat in local restaurants, rent vehicles, buy goods at retail businesses and farmers' markets, attend cultural events, visit museums and art galleries, ride Washington State Ferries and Amtrak Cascades, and observe Orca whales and other wildlife. We come to the area for kayaking, boating, fishing, birding, hiking, bicycling, sightseeing, camping, snowboarding, skiing, and other recreation.

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We request that environmental impact studies on the planned coal terminal by federal, state, and local government agencies include detailed analysis of the following:

1. Impacts from fugitive coal dust, oil spills, collisions, derailments, diesel emissions, ballast water releases, noise, and increased coal combustion in Asia on: marine life in the Salish Sea including Cherry Point herring, salmon species, Orca whales, bird species, other marine species including plants; fisheries; shorelines; wetlands; water quality in all rivers and streams in proximity to coal transport; air quality; and climate.
2. Transportation impacts including: at-grade crossing delays and safety hazards to traffic and emergency vehicles in communities along the rail line; delays or impairment of Washington State Ferry service; delays or interruption of passenger rail service; safety hazards to recreational and tour boats from increases in large vessel traffic near the San Juan Islands; impaired access to recreational and cultural events and sites.
3. Direct and indirect impacts on tourism-dependent businesses, including revenue loss.

If massive coal export to Asia despoils the natural resources and quality of life in Northwest Washington, be assured we will no longer be inclined to spend our tourist dollars in your state.

Name / Date, Address:

Susan Stewart 02/17/2012
1804 W. 29th St
Austin, TX 78703

Name / Date, Address:

Mary Kay Maxwell 2/16/12
111 Labree Lane
Austin, TX 78705

1

Letter to Washington State Elected Officials and Government Agencies from the Undersigned
Visitors to Northwest Washington re: Cherry Point coal terminal.

Name / Date, Address:

Lisa O'Donnell 2/16/2012
1202 Kinney Avenue
Austin, TX 78704

Name / Date, Address:

Bridgette Beinecke 2/17/2012
1111 Nueces St.
Austin, TX 78701-2105

Name / Date, Address:

Tim Kerr 2/17/2012
5400 Ave H
Austin TX 78751

Name / Date, Address:

Michael McLullough 2/17/12
9410 Hunters Trace
Austin TX 78758

Name / Date, Address:

Clay Levitt 2/17/12
1713 W. 30th
Austin, TX 78703

Name / Date, Address:

Mackay Cappewen 2/17/12
8865 Howland Ridge Cir
Austin TX 78759

Name / Date, Address:

JEFF MESSER 2/17/2012
2009 ROMANIA
AUSTIN, TX 78757

Name / Date, Address:

Tom Wilmore 18 FEB 2012
1102 Ruth Ave
Austin, TX 78757

Name / Date, Address:

Linda Magee 18 FEB 2012
1102 Ruth Ave
Austin, TX 78757

Name / Date, Address:

Nancy Smith 18 Feb 2012
1701 Madhu
Austin TX 78703

Letter to Washington State Elected Officials and Government Agencies from the Undersigned
Visitors to Northwest Washington re: Cherry Point coal terminal.

Name / Date, Address:

Rose Ann Reese 02/18/2012
303 Westhaven Drive
Austin, TX 78746

Name / Date, Address:

George B Kibby 02/18/2012
106 Wat Spring Dr
Austin, TX 78746

Name / Date, Address:

Nancy N. Lynch 2/18/2012
106 W SPRING DR
AUSTIN, TX 78746

Name / Date, Address:

Renee Hicks 2/18/2012
412 ~~West~~ Ramsey Ave.
Austin, TX 78756-3511

Name / Date, Address:

Jusan Hicks 12/18/12
4112 Ramsey Ave.
Austin, TX 78756

Name / Date, Address:

Gail Rothe 2/19/2012
1705 Margaret St.
Austin, TX 78704

Name / Date, Address:

Myron Hess 12/19/2012
1705 Margaret Street
Austin, TX 78704

Name / Date, Address:

Virginia Henry 12/14/2012
1350 Indian Springs Trac
Dripping Springs, TX 78620

Name / Date, Address:

Shirley 2/19/2012
1350 Indian Springs
Dripping Springs, TX 78620

Name / Date, Address:

Raenell Silcox 12/20/12
8403 Dulcet Drive
Austin, TX 78745

Letter to Washington State Elected Officials and Government Agencies from the Undersigned
Visitors to Northwest Washington re: Cherry Point coal terminal.

Name / Date, Address:

Penny Wilkins / 2-20-12
6402 Colina Lane
Austin, TX 78759

Name / Date, Address:

Diana Tilley / 2/20/12
7901 Bracon Ct.
Austin, TX. 78731

Name / Date, Address:

_____/_____

To: Washington State Elected Officials and Government Agencies
From: The Undersigned Visitors to Northwest Washington
Re: Application by Pacific Terminals, Inc. for various permits for the Gateway Pacific Terminal at Cherry Point, Whatcom County, Washington

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We write to voice alarm about plans to construct the largest coal terminal in North America at Cherry Point, for export of 48 million metric tons of coal for Asian power plants annually. The project applicants plan 29 miles daily of uncovered coal trains from Wyoming/Montana to Cherry Point through the communities and landscape of Northwest Washington. The world's largest cargo ships would make up to 950 annual passages in the San Juan Islands and Strait of Juan de Fuca, carrying coal to Asia and returning with ballast water.

We request that environmental impact studies on the planned coal terminal by federal, state, and local government agencies include detailed analysis of the following:

1. Impacts from fugitive coal dust, oil spills, collisions, derailments, diesel emissions, ballast water releases, noise, and increased coal combustion in Asia on: marine life in the Salish Sea including Cherry Point herring, salmon species, Orca whales, bird species, other marine species including plants; fisheries; shorelines; wetlands; water quality in all rivers and streams in proximity to coal transport; air quality; and climate.
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If massive coal export to Asia despoils the natural resources and quality of life in Northwest Washington, be assured we will no longer be inclined to spend our tourist dollars in your state.

Name / Date, Address:	2-22-2012	Name / Date, Address:	
<u>Juan Pletthman Rankin</u>	<u>3216 Harnish Park</u>	<u>Thomas G. Mason</u>	<u>1/2/20/2012</u>
	<u>Austin, TX 78705</u>	<u>4504 Tortuga Cv.</u>	
		<u>Austin, TX 78731</u>	

Letter to Washington State Elected Officials and Government Agencies from the Undersigned
Visitors to Northwest Washington re: Cherry Point coal terminal.

Name / Date, Address:

K. Charles Cross, 2-20-12
6810 Jester Blvd
Austin, TX 78750

Name / Date, Address:

Richard W. Lowery
725 Patterson
Austin TX 78703

Name / Date, Address:

Dave Freister 2-20-12
3913 Glengarry Dr.
Austin TX 78731

Name / Date, Address:

Cham O'Neil 2-21-12
11304 Bellows Falls Ave
Austin TX 78748

Name / Date, Address:

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Name / Date, Address:

Dave O'Brien 12/5/12
P.O. Box 190
Keene CA 93531

Name / Date, Address:

Pat Japenga 1 3/5/12
PO Box 234
James town CO 80455

Letter to Washington State Elected Officials and Government Agencies from the Undersigned
Visitors to Northwest Washington re: Cherry Point coal terminal.

Name / Date, Address:

Sam Broyles, 3/6/12
PO Box 239
Jamesstown, CO 80455

Name / Date, Address:

Daniel Schoenfeld, 3-6-12
PO Box 189
Chandler, CA 95421

Name / Date, Address:

Tim Cornell, 13/6/2012
2985 NW Telshire Terr
Beaverton, OR 97006

Name / Date, Address:

Cheryl Blevins, 3-6-12
P.O. Box 443
Mesilla, NM 88046

Name / Date, Address:

Patrick Blevins, 13/6/12
P.O. Box 443
Mesilla NM, 88046

Name / Date, Address:

Nancy Grossert, 3-6-12
1-829 Wollaston St
Victoria BC V9A 5A9

Name / Date, Address:

George Heitzman, 3/6/12
P.O. Box 1118
Nevada City, CA 95959

Name / Date, Address:

Andrea Cooper, Mar 7, 2012
3 Perry Ave
Mattapoisett, MA 02739

Name / Date, Address:

Mark D. Roberts, 13/6/12
3 Perry Ave
Mattapoisett, MA 02739

Name / Date, Address:

Dore Marshall, Mar 8, 2012
2412 Stephens St.
Vancouver BC
V6K 3W9

Letter to Washington State Elected Officials and Government Agencies from the Undersigned
Visitors to Northwest Washington re: Cherry Point coal terminal.

Name / Date, Address:

BARBARA PRICE, 3/8/2012
237 QUARTZ ST
GRASS VALLEY, CA
95945

Name / Date, Address:

M. HEIDI McCLURE 1/3/10/2012
17220 SHILOH PINES DR
MONUMENT, CO 80132

Name / Date, Address:

Ruth Christensen 1/3/12/2012
4508 W Palo Verde Ave.
Glendale, AZ 85302

Name / Date, Address:

Mary Dennis 1/3/19/2012
549 Monroe Ct
Bowling Green, OH 43402

Name / Date, Address:

MARK SWARTZ 1/3/9/12
1062 SE WEBBER ST.
PORTLAND, OR 97202

Name / Date, Address:

Jennifer Jones 1/3-9-12
1062 SE Webber St.
Portland Or. 97202

Name / Date, Address:

Emma Swartz 1/3-9-12
1062 SE Webber St.
Portland, OR, 97202

Name / Date, Address:

Bob Midden 1/3/9/2012
549 Monroe Ct.
Bowling Green OH 43402

Name / Date, Address:

Nico Swartz 1/3/9/12
1062 SE Webber st.
Portland, OR 97202

Name / Date, Address:

DAVE LEWICKI 1/3/19/12
10771 MANCHESTER CT
NEVADA CITY, CA 95959

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Name / Date, Address:

Karen A. Coon / June 13, 2012

324 Viewmont Dr.

Greenville, SC 29609

Name / Date, Address:

Norma Fowler / 11 Aug 2012

8801 Westbluff Circle

Austin TX 78759

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We request that the scope of the EIS studies on the GPT terminal by federal, state, and local government agencies include detailed analysis of the following direct, indirect and cumulative impacts:

1. Impacts from fugitive coal dust, oil spills, collisions, derailments, diesel emissions, ballast water releases, noise, and increased coal combustion in Asia on: marine life in the Salish Sea including Cherry Point herring, salmon species, Orca whales, oyster populations, bird species, other marine species including plants; fisheries; shorelines; wetlands; water quality in all rivers and streams in proximity to coal transport; air quality; and climate.
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Name / Date, Address:

Walter C Brod 18/13/12
15 McCoy Rd.
San Rafael, CA 94901

Name / Date, Address:

1