



January 3, 2013

GPT/BNSF Custer Spur EIS Co-Lead Agencies
c/o CH2M Hill
1100 112th Avenue NE, Suite 400
Bellevue, WA 98004

Dear CH2M Hill, Mr. Perry, Mr. Schroeder and Ms. Kelly,

I have attached a scoping comment sign-on letter from fourteen San Juan County businesses who have specific requests as to what should be studied in the Environmental Impact Statement for the Gateway Pacific Terminal.

Thank you for taking their concerns into consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Katie Fleming", written over a horizontal line.

Katie Fleming
Community Engagement Director

An Open Letter to Elected Officials, Government Agencies, and the Media

January, 2012

We the undersigned business people in the San Juan Islands are deeply concerned by SSA Marine's plans to transform the Cherry Point terminal in northwest Washington into one of the largest coal export facilities in North America, to export 48 million tons of coal from Wyoming/Montana to Asia per year. The plans require significantly increased large marine vessel traffic through the Salish Sea, including as many as 900 Cape and Panamax ship transits annually transporting coal, each releasing millions of gallons of Asian ballast water each time it returns to Cherry Point. And traffic routes connecting the mainland with the islands will be significantly impeded by up to 18 additional coal trains daily, each as long as 1.6 miles.

The San Juan Islands are a place of spectacular natural beauty, sited in a unique marine ecosystem recognized as a biological treasure, drawing multitudes of tourists, researchers, educators, and retirees from around the world. The islands' economy is founded on activities dependent on the health of the marine ecosystem and the efficient transportation of people and materials to and from the islands: whale watching, sea kayaking, boating, diving, fishing, birdwatching, marine environment-related study, home construction, real estate sales, agriculture, and many small business enterprises.

The unique characteristics and economy of the San Juan Islands make it essential that federal, state, and local officials conduct a detailed review of impacts on tourism, revenues, the economy, transportation, the marine environment, culture, health, safety, and quality of life associated with the planned Gateway Pacific Terminal and the shipment of coal to Asia. The review of Impacts must include analysis of:

- delays and/or interruption of Washington State ferry and private marine transportation to, from, and through the islands resulting from increased large vessel traffic and associated tug/tow vessels;
- traffic delays at "at-grade" rail crossings on mainland traffic routes connecting to marine transportation to the islands, and substantial tax revenues required to mitigate these impacts;
- loss of tourism, customers, business revenues, and jobs, and damage to the islands' quality of life reputation due to marine and mainland transportation delays;
- safety hazards to small fishing, commuter, recreational, and tour boats from increased large vessel traffic and associated tug/tow vessels;
- greater risk (in all weather, currents, and tide conditions) of vessel collisions, groundings, foundering, fire, and/or explosion in the Salish Sea from increasing current vessel traffic due

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to SSA's proposal, and cumulative risks considering the vessel traffic increase from the Kinder-Morgan pipeline expansion;

- spillage of coal, oil and/or fuel from vessel mishaps, introduction of invasive species from unpoliced discharge of Cape and Panamax vessel ballast water, and degradation of the San Juan Islands' ecosystem, including endemic herring populations (key to the food chain of wild salmon and resident orca whales).

We understand that review of the Cherry Point Gateway terminal proposal will include preparation of an environmental impact statement (EIS) by state, local, and federal agencies. We urge that the EIS process include a rigorous and detailed analysis of all direct, indirect, and cumulative impacts to the San Juan Islands. While the applicant's public relations campaign promises to add hundreds of jobs at the terminal, it is silent about the net loss of jobs in counties impacted by the project. The potential loss of jobs and revenues in San Juan County deserves the utmost consideration.

The EIS review process should also include rigorous alternative site analyses of all available deep port sites in Washington, with an evaluation of direct, indirect, and cumulative impacts, including other proposals associated with rail lines. The alternatives analysis should compare the effects of each site based upon detailed study of the kind of impacts we have identified in this letter.

We recognize that the San Juan Islands are among many communities impacted by this proposed coal terminal that treasure their quality of life, so we earnestly request a full and complete scope of state and federal review that includes economic, health, and environmental factors, for all affected communities. Only then can the true societal costs of the proposed Cherry Point Gateway Terminal be assessed.

Signature and Printed Name

Peter Kilpatrick
Peter Kilpatrick

Name or description of business, address

Lowenthal Construction Inc
general contractor

689 airport center Road
Friday Harbor Wa 98250

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Signature and Printed Name

Name or description of business, address

Eugenia Zakula
EUGENIA ZAKULA

ISLANDERS INSURANCE
PO BOX 1160, FRIDAY HARBOR WA
98250

Teresa McPadden
Teresa McPadden

Be Chic Boutique
P.O. Box 3390, Friday Harbor, WA
98250

AVON MANGALA
Avon Mangala

140 First Street. Friday Harbor
Golden triangle Rest.

Lee Brooks
Lee Brooks

731 Limestone Point
Arctic Raven Gallery

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Signature and Printed Name

Name or description of business, address


RUTH OFFEN

WATERWORKS GALLERY
CONTEMPORARY ART GALLERY


PAUL AHART

Island Bicycles
380 Argyle Ave. Friday Harbor

AMH - Adams

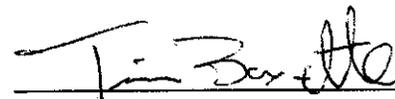
Funk + Junk
107 Gladys Lane
Friday Harbor WA


Pamela Stewart

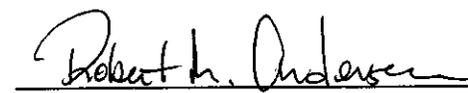
~~159410~~ Cafe Demeter
80 Nichols St.


Lane Paul

The Market Cafe
225 "A" Street


TIM BARRETTE

" "


Robert M. Anderson

Star Surveying, Inc.
102A Mullis St. Friday Harbor, WA

An Open Letter to Elected Officials, Government Agencies, and the Media

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Signature and Printed Name

Dana Bune

Dana Bune

Marilyn A. Gresseth

Marilyn A. Gresseth

Name or description of business, address

Spa d Bune salon & day spa

669 Mullis St. Suite 101
Friday Harbor WA 98250

Garden Path Cafe LLC

135 Second N. PO Box 3147
Friday Harbor, WA 98250
