

International Brotherhood of

BOILERMAKERS • IRON SHIP BUILDERS



BLACKSMITHS • FORGERS & HELPERS

**LOCAL LODGE NO. 502
TRACEY EIXENBERGER
BUSINESS MANAGER
SECRETARY/TREASURER**

**16621 110TH AVE. E.
PUYALLUP, WA 98374-9503
BUS: (253) 435-0330
FAX: (253) 435-0329**

November 15, 2016

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Seattle District
RE: Final DEIS

Boilermakers Local #502 is proud to offer support for Millennium Bulk Terminals (Millennium). Boilermakers Local #502 is a member of the Longview/Kelso Building and Construction Trades Council (LKBCTC) that led the effort to obtain a historic Project Labor Agreement with Millennium to ensure that many of the 1350 direct construction jobs, and a large portion of the \$70 million construction payroll, will stay in the Southwest WA communities.

Our communities continue to struggle with high unemployment. While the average unemployment rate for the country is 5% and the state is near this number at 5.6%, many areas of Southwest WA are plagued by rates that are almost 50% higher than the national average. Many in our community feel left out of the economic boom that has taken place in areas like Seattle. We are eager to build these same types of long-term opportunities for working families in our own communities.

Boilermakers Local #502 appreciates the careful and detailed Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) completed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for the Millennium project. The thousands of pages of information that make up this document provide comprehensive and complete evaluation of the Millennium proposal. The DEIS shows that Millennium can be built and operated in a manner that will bring jobs to our community, but also preserve our quality of life by protecting our water and air.

Boilermakers Local #502 urges the Corps to move quickly to complete its work on both the Final Environmental Impact Statement and the permits necessary for this project. After almost five years of review, it is time to begin construction. The men and women working in the construction trades are eager to share in the same types of opportunities that have been created in other parts of the state. We stand ready for the jobs that will be created by building the Millennium project, and our communities stand with us.

Sincerely,

Tracey Eixenberger
Local 502 Business Manager/Secretary Treasurer