



June 2, 2016

Millennium Bulk Terminals EIS
c/o ICF International
710 Second Ave., Suite 550
Seattle, WA 98104

To Whom It May Concern:

On behalf of the Tri-City Regional Chamber of Commerce, I am writing today regarding the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed Millennium Bulk Terminals in Longview, Washington and our concerns about the extensive requirements of the process.

As one of most trade-dependent states in the country, Washington is an economic leader for the Pacific Northwest. The Washington Council for International Trade estimates that 40% of all jobs in the state are related to trade and numerous Tri-Cities companies supply the world with food products and manufactured goods. To meet the demands of a 21st century economy, our state must have economic development and infrastructure projects to ensure rapidly growing communities like the Tri-Cities and Puget Sound Region can compete on a global scale. It is vital that all levels of government and the business community work together to promote a climate that makes Washington an attractive place to do business with review processes that are fair, inclusive, predictable and cost-effective to encourage growth and investment, not create more obstacles.

Over the years, our regulatory process has become longer and more uncertain, with delays often discouraging investment in Washington. In the future, we encourage state government to examine ways to reform the permitting process and make it more efficient – speeding up timelines and providing certainty to those looking to locate and expand in our community. This will drastically improve Washington's competitiveness with other states and countries, ensuring we remain an economic power for generations to come.

The Tri-City Regional Chamber looks forward to partnering with the state and other stakeholders to promote economic growth across our region. Thank you for your consideration and for the opportunity to comment on the Draft EIS process.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lori Mattson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping underline.

Lori Mattson, IOM
President & CEO