



May 24, 2016

Hello, my name is Rob Rich and I represent Shaver Transportation Company. We are a 5<sup>th</sup> generation family owned tug and barge company that has been safely assisting ships for 136 years on our river system. Many of our crew members live here in Longview.

We fully support the approval of this facility on many fronts. Beyond the jobs, the security, the benefits to the city and county, this is a great opportunity for not only our vital maritime industry, but for

This brand new facility, being built to the highest standards of safety and construction, will have undergone one of the most rigorous planning and siting processes in the nation. The permitting and regulatory bodies in place to review and guide this process ensure the safest facility possible. Longview will have the safest and most environmentally responsible terminal of its type in the U.S.

The Columbia River system already has the capacity in place today for this terminal and its vessels. The peak of ship calls on the Columbia River Port system was 2200 vessels in the late 90's. Currently about 1400 vessels annually call our system. These vessels are served by more Pilots, Tugs, Response Equipment and Providers than we had then. Our system and its safeguards are ready today.

There will always be an opportunity to say no. It is frankly the easiest thing to say in some instances. As we educate ourselves on the operation, regulation, and value to our community, its families, the maritime community and its families, we see and support this great opportunity.

We at Shaver Transportation fully support this project and its value to our region.

Sincerely,

Robert D. Rich, V.P. Marine Services, Shaver Transportation Company.

