Emails pertaining to Gateway Pacific Project
For November 24-30, 2012
Are these 2 projects related? -kb

(1823) WHATCOM COUNTY ... Date Listed: November 29, 2012
Newspaper ID #0085191823-01(1823) WHATCOM COUNTY GIVES PUBLIC NOTICE THAT CORRECTS THE LOCATION AND DATE OF ONE OF THE PUBLIC SCOPING MEETINGS LISTED IN THE SEPA THRESHOLD DETERMINATION OF SIGNIFICANCE (DS) AND REQUEST FOR COMMENTS ON SCOPE OF EIS FOR THE GATEWAY PACIFIC TERMINAL/CUSTER SPUR THAT WAS ISSUED SEPTEMBER 24, 2012. File: SEP2011-00047. The venue for the Seattle public scoping meeting previously scheduled for November 13, 2012 has been changed. The Seattle public scoping meeting will be held at the Washington State Convention Center, Ballroom 6F, 800 Convention Place, Seattle, WA 98101 on Thursday, December 13, 2012, from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Written Comments: Provide comments through January 21, 2013 for consideration in the proposed scope of the EIS. Comments may be made via the web at http://www.eisgatewaypacificwa.gov or in writing to Attn: Tyler Schroeder, Designated SEPA Official GPT/BNSF Custer Spur EIS Co-Lead Agencies, c/o CH2MHILL, 1100 112th Avenue NE, Suite 400 Bellevue, WA 98004. THERE IS NO AGENCY APPEAL OF THIS DETERMINATION OF SIGNIFICANCE (WAC 197-11-680(3)(a)(ii)). Read more here: http://www.bellinghamherald.com/classified-ads/ad/2099775#storylink=cpy

(L1352) BP WEST COAST ... Date Listed: November 28, 2012
Newspaper ID #0085191352-01(L1352) BP West Coast Products, LLC, 4519 Grandview Road, Blaine, WA 98230, is seeking coverage under the Washington State Department of Ecology's Construction Stormwater NPDES and State Waste Discharge General Permit. The proposed project, Rail Logistics, is located at the intersection of Blaine and Grandview Road in Blaine, in Whatcom County. This project involves 44 acres of soil disturbance for commercial and industrial construction activities. Stormwater will be discharged to the Blaine and Grandview roadside ditches, which eventually discharge into Terrell Creek. Any persons desiring to present their views to the Washington State Department of Ecology regarding this application, or interested in Ecology's action on this application, may notify Ecology in writing no later than 30 days of the last date of publication of this notice. Ecology reviews public comments and considers whether discharges from this project would cause a measurable change in receiving water quality, and, if so, whether the project is necessary and in the overriding public interest according to Tier II antidegradation requirements under WAC 173-201A-320. Comments can be submitted to: Department of Ecology Attn: Water Quality Program, Construction Stormwater P.O. Box 47696, Olympia, WA 98504-7696 Read more here: http://www.bellinghamherald.com/classified-ads/ad/2098335#storylink=cpy
Cathy,

Yes, these two notices are related (BP's Rail Logistics project). The first is the SEPA determination that Whatcom County made and the second is the Dept. of Ecology's notice for stormwater permit coverage.

Thanks,

Tyler R. Schroeder
Planning Manager
Whatcom County Planning and Development Services
5280 Northwest Dr.
Bellingham, WA 98225
(360) 676-6907 ext. 50202
Fax: (360)738-2525
Tschoedr@co.whatcom.wa.us

>>> PDS 11/30/2012 9:29 AM >>>

>>> "ChairKathy" <chairkathy@birchbayinfo.org> 11/30/2012 7:52 AM >>>
Are these 2 projects related? -kb

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#2.
Under proposal, more Whatcom projects could skip environmental review
Published: November 18, 2012

By Ralph Schwartz — THE BELLINGHAM HERALD

The state is taking public comment on a proposal to exempt more construction projects from environmental review.

The State Environmental Policy Act review includes a checklist of how a project might affect the environment; public comment on the impacts; and a ruling that accepts the project as is, rejects it or requires additional work to reduce environmental harm.

The state already allows local governments to exempt certain small projects from review, including housing developments and commercial and farm buildings. The new rule would increase the size thresholds for exempting a project.

Comments are due by Dec. 11 to separulemaking@ecy.wa.gov or via fax to 360-407-6904.

A public hearing will be held Tuesday, Dec. 4, in Lacey. For more information, go to ecy.wa.gov. Click on “Public Involvement Calendar,” then scroll to “Lacey SEPA Rule Making Hearing.”

Read more here: http://www.bellinghamherald.com/2012/11/18/2770166/under-proposal-more-whatcom-projects.html#storylink=cpy
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Read more here: http://www.bellinghamherald.com/classified-ads/ad/2093042#storylink=cpy
November 20, 2012

Dear County Council:

I write to urge you to support SSA Marine’s proposed Gateway Pacific Terminal at Cherry Point. Our County and this region desperately need this infusion of high quality family wage jobs that this full service bulk commodity export-import terminal will generate.

As you explore the issues regarding SSA Marine’s jobs proposal, I want to respectfully remind you that for decades Whatcom County shoreline and zoning ordinances have designated Cherry Point as the place for more good jobs. We settled this debate as a community more then 10 years ago when Cherry Point was designated for this use.

That is why SSA Marine plans to bring jobs and tax revenues to our area with a private investment of nearly $665 Million. This project, if approved by you, will create between 3,500 and 4,500 new jobs during construction and between 850 and 1,250 jobs through its operations.

This boost for local families and the economy is sorely needed. We simply must not pass up this opportunity to address our county’s need for community and economic development. Yet, now there are those who want to reopen this debate.

I urge you to stay strong and fair during this time of review and consideration of the Gateway Pacific Terminal project. I am confident that the process set forth by the County, the State and the Federal governments will safeguard the community while helping to deliver much needed jobs to the region. Please remember, our community needs strong leaders like you who know that we can protect the environment without sacrificing good jobs and economic development that our community needs today.

Sincerely,

Brenton N Smith
1200 E Axton Road
Bellingham, WA 98226
Thank you Paula. Have a good day, Jeff.

Jeffrey A. Hegedus, MS, REHS
Environmental Health Supervisor
Whatcom County Health Department
509 Girard Street
Bellingham, WA 98227-0935
(360) 676-6724 ext. 50895
jhegedus@co.whatcom.wa.us

Public Health- Always Working for a Safer and Healthier Washington

Hi Jeff,

The photo was taken 4/12/2012 by Jerry Biernes, a Canadian photographer. It and some of Jerry’s other Westshore photos were published in The Delta Optimist. Jerry has given us permission to use all of them. I appreciate your interest.

Thank-you,

Paula Rotondi

Birch Bay
From: "ChairKathy" <chairkathy@birchbayinfo.org>
To: <Undisclosed-Recipient:;>
Date: 11/30/2012 7:53 AM
Subject: Custer Rail Spur for GPT/SSA Terminal & BP Rail

Are these 2 projects related? -kb

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