



October 20, 2016

The Honorable Jasmine Dickhoff  
609 8<sup>th</sup> Street  
Hoquiam, WA 98550

RE: Westway Crude Oil Terminal Proposal

Dear Mayor Dickhoff:

We are members of the **Safe Energy Leadership Alliance**, a coalition of more than 165 elected leaders from five states and British Columbia who are advocating for full assessment of costs and risks for oil terminal and coal export proposals that will bring significant rail traffic, health, and environmental risks to communities across our region.

As elected local, tribal, and state officials, we share concerns for the public health, safety, environment, and economies of our communities. We know that the City of Hoquiam will evaluate similar concerns for its local residents while making a decision about issuing local permits for the proposed Westway and later the Imperium (now REG) crude oil terminals. We appreciate the leadership that you and your city council have shown in updating your zoning code to prohibit crude oil shipping terminals.

As the city makes its decisions on these proposals, we hope that you will consider the impacts and risks that extend beyond the City of Hoquiam to communities along the rail lines and barge routes that would carry significantly larger volumes of hazardous crude oil if these terminals are approved.

More than 30 SELA members submitted joint comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Westway and Imperium Oil Terminal Expansions in November of 2015. In those comments, we requested:

- a broader geographic scope for analysis recognizing that risks and impacts are carried along rail and barge lines;
- more detailed analysis of traffic impacts including increased gate-down times and how this will impact safety, movement of emergency vehicles, and traffic delays at rail crossings;
- full assessment of the risk and impacts of leaks and spills along the rail and vessel routes serving the proposed terminal expansions, including worst-case scenarios for derailment, spill, and explosion of an oil train along a major water body and in a densely populated urban area;
- assessment of impacts on the ability of Tribal Nation members to pursue treaty-protected harvest and gathering; and

The Honorable Jasmine Dickhoff  
October 20, 2016

- a Health Impact Assessment that considers that assesses disproportionate impacts to health and safety of people living and working along rail corridors.

If the proposed Westway and REG terminal proposals are approved, nearly 127,000 barrels of crude oil could come into Grays Harbor every day on oil trains through eastern Washington and the Columbia Gorge, along the Columbia River, and then out via barge past communities along the Pacific Coast.

The recent derailment of an oil train in Mosier, Oregon along the Columbia River showed us the significant impact that a spill and subsequent fire can have on a local community, even with the railroad, city, and first responders applying all resources and working together after the accident. Last year, a federal study predicted that trains hauling crude oil or ethanol will derail an average of ten times each year over the next two decades, causing more than \$4 billion in damage and endangering the lives of people in densely populated areas. We know from first-hand testimony of SELA members that many local governments do not have the equipment, trained staff, or capacity to respond to an oil train derailment, spill, and fire.

While communities along oil-by-rail and barge routes face the impacts and risks, our local authority to regulate or condition oil transport is limited. Your upcoming shoreline permit decision will have impacts far beyond the City of Hoquiam. As fellow elected leaders, we respectfully request that you consider the health, safety, environmental, and economic impacts of these proposals not only on Hoquiam, but also on communities along the rail and barge routes.

Sincerely,



Lisa Batey  
Councilmember, City of Milwaukie, OR



Jack Burkman  
Councilmember, City of Vancouver, WA



Arlene Burns  
Mayor, City of Mosier, OR



Joan Cathey  
Councilmember, City of Tumwater, WA



Bob Champion



Maralyn Chase

The Honorable Jasmine Dickhoff  
October 20, 2016

Council President, City of Mukilteo, WA



Dow Constantine  
King County Executive (WA)  
Chair of SELA

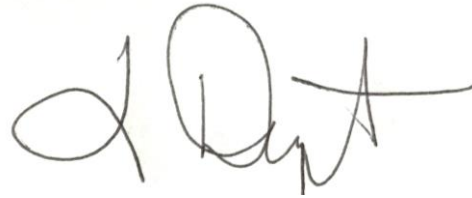
Washington State Senator (32<sup>nd</sup> LD)



Peter Cornelison  
Councilmember, City of Hood River, OR



Christine Cook  
Councilmember, City of Mukilteo, WA



Laura Dupont  
Councillor, City of Port Coquitlan, BC



Fred Felleman  
Commissioner, Port of Seattle, WA



Mark Gamba  
Mayor, City of Milwaukee, OR



Jennifer Gregerson  
Mayor, City of Mukilteo, WA



Will Hall  
Councilmember, City of Shoreline, WA



Bart Hansen  
Councilmember, City of Vancouver, WA



Nigel Herbig  
Councilmember, City of Kenmore, WA

The Honorable Jasmine Dickhoff  
October 20, 2016



Liz Lovelett  
Councilmember, City of Anacortes, WA



Doris McConnell  
Councilmember, City of Shoreline, WA



Anne McEnerny-Ogle  
Councilmember, City of Vancouver, WA

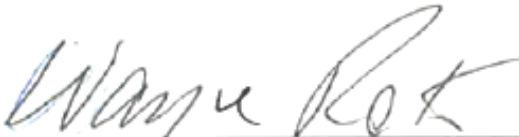


Tina Orwall  
Washington State Representative (33<sup>rd</sup> LD)



John Pellegrini  
Councilmember, City of Hoquiam, WA

Strom Peterson  
Washington State Representative (21<sup>st</sup> LD)



Wayne Roth  
Councilmember, City of Bainbridge Island, WA

Kitty Piercy  
Mayor, City of Eugene, OR




Jesse Salomon  
Councilmember, City of Shoreline, WA



Ben Stuckart  
Councilmember, City of Spokane, WA

The Honorable Jasmine Dickhoff  
October 20, 2016



Shannon Williamson  
Council President, City of Sand Point, WA

Nicole Hill  
Councilmember, City of Tumwater, WA

Cynthia Pratt  
Deputy Mayor, City of Lacey, WA

Clark Gilman  
Councilmember, City of Olympia, WA

Jessica Bateman  
Councilmember, City of Olympia, WA



Mike O'Brien  
Councilmember, City of Seattle, WA

Sandra Romero  
Commissioner, Thurston County, WA

Shelby Rognstad  
Mayor, City of Sandpoint, ID

cc: Brian Shay, City Administrator, City of Hoquiam