



STATE OF WASHINGTON

PugetSoundPartnership

LEADING PUGET SOUND RECOVERY



HARBOR SAFETY COMMITTEE

April 10, 2014

Ms. Sheida Sahandy
Executive Director
Puget Sound Partnership
326 East D Street
Tacoma, WA

Transmittal Letter Re: Vessel Traffic Risk Assessment (VTRA) 2010 Report

Dear Director Sahandy:

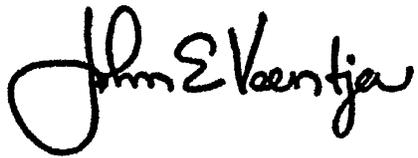
On behalf of the members of the VTRA 2010 Steering Committee*—we are pleased to submit this letter declaring the successful completion of the VTRA 2010 report by scientists from The George Washington University and Virginia Commonwealth University. Since December 2012, we have met almost monthly in order to provide expert judgment on how to best apply this foundational tool to quantitatively characterize, manage and mitigate potential vessel traffic risks in our waterways today, and into the future.

The research findings presented in the final report to the Puget Sound Partnership and the prior, coordinated report for the Makah Tribe (both found at http://www.seas.gwu.edu/~dorpir/tab4/publications_VTRA_Update_Reports.html) are an accurate reflection of our collective guidance and decisions over the course of the study's development. Additionally, the "What if" simulations, potential Risk Mitigation Measures and related variables were incorporated into the model in a way that suitably represents our current knowledge of maritime traffic, taking into account the limitations of time, funding and the agreed to assumptions that were necessary to produce this iteration of the risk assessment.

Our work has revealed that proposed expansion of the Trans Mountain Pipeline (TMEP) poses the greatest potential increase in oil spill risk, but the combined projects at the Port Metro Vancouver and Cherry Point collectively represent a significant shift in the geographic distribution of risk— particularly through Haro Strait and Boundary Pass. In the coming months, we plan to convene a similarly representative group to work with our counterparts in Canada to

share insights from the VTRA 2010 and learn from the separate—but likely complementary—Canadian risk assessment for the proposed expansion of the Kinder Morgan Trans Mountain Pipeline by Det Norske Veritas.

Sincerely,



CAPT John Veentjer
Co-Chair of VTRA Steering Committee
Chair, Puget Sound Harbor Safety Committee
Executive Director, Marine Exchange of Puget Sound



Dr. Todd Hass
Co-Chair of VTRA SC
Puget Sound Partnership

*Final VTRA 2010 Steering Committee Members:

CAPT Scott Ferguson, CDR Matt Edwards and Bob McFarland (USCG)
Jon Neel (Ecology)
Chad Bowe chop and Keith Ledford (Makah Tribe)
CAPT Del Mackenzie (Puget Sound Pilots)
Fred Felleman (Friends of the Earth)
Bruce Wishart (Washington Environmental Council)
CAPT Mike Moore (Pacific Merchant Shipping Association)
Jeff Shaw and Bill Rich (Polar Tankers)
George Clark (American Waterways Operators)
Frank Holmes (Western States Petroleum Association)
Commissioner Mike Doherty (Clallam County)
Lori Province (Washington State Labor Council)

Cc: Rear Admiral Richard T. Gromlich – US Coast Guard District 13
Director Maia Bellon – Washington Department of Ecology
Chair Timothy Green – Makah Tribal Council
Chair Martha Kongsgaard – Puget Sound Partnership Leadership Council
Professor Tom Leschine – UW, Chair of PSP Oil Spill Work Group