



Puyallup Tribe of Indians



August 14, 2017

Director Peter Huffman
Planning and Development Services Department
747 Market Street, Room 345
Tacoma, Washington 98402

Dear Director Huffman:

Thank you for your letter, dated July 26, 2017, inviting the Tribe's consultation on the tideflats interim regulations. At this time the Tribe would like to reserve the opportunity for consulting on the interim regulations as they reach a more final form. Currently, the Tribe is supportive of the direction the City of Tacoma staff have in recognizing the need for interim regulations to pause high risk/high impact developments that can threaten our shared natural resources in the tideflats.

The Tribe believes interim regulations are warranted as an immediate threat of fossil fuel oriented developments exist on the Puyallup Reservation today. We believe that in order for the environmental impact statement (EIS) of the Tideflats Subarea Plan to be properly developed, it should have a clear environmental baseline and not compete against the changing development landscape it seeks to evaluate. Thus it is a prudent course of action to momentarily limit certain industrial and non-industrial uses in the tideflats while the subarea plan is being developed. To this end, we support the decision to pause certain high risk/high impact industrial uses and non-industrial uses currently presented, including, but not limited to, a prohibition on coal and other fossil fuels terminals, bulk storage, manufacturing, production, processing, or refining. We believe this is a precautionary step to avoiding unnecessary risks and unintended consequences to public health, safety and the environment.

As you know, the safety of the Tribal Membership, our fishery, and our resources are of utmost importance to us and we have, and will continue to, take the necessary steps to safeguard these interests. Almost three-fourths of the 5,000 Tribal Members live on or near the 1873

Survey Area of the Puyallup Reservation, which includes the tideflats. Thus, the membership bear a disproportionate risk associated with the hazards of siting heavy industrial uses there.

We will be closely monitoring the development of these regulations. We look forward to working with you on this matter and appreciate the timely request for consultation.

Sincerely,



Bill Sterud

Chairman

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