climate solutions
accelerating the transition to our clean energy future

May 20, 2024

The Honorable Michael S. Regan
Administrator
US Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20460

Dear Administrator Regan:

On behalf of Climate Solutions, I am pleased to share our strong support for the joint "Accelerating Zero-Emission Technology Deployment at Puget Sound Ports" application by The Northwest Seaport Alliance, Port of Seattle, and Port of Tacoma to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Clean Ports Program (CPP) Zero-Emission Technology Deployment Competition.

These ports have committed to phasing out all emissions from seaport activities by 2050 or sooner. CPP offers an unprecedented opportunity to intensify this work and to accelerate progress toward a "tipping point" in the effort to fully decarbonize seaport operations in the Puget Sound region. The ports' proposal prioritizes the top three sources of seaport-related pollution in our region – vessels, cargo-handling equipment, and drayage trucks – as well as expanded community engagement programming. The high-impact suite of proposed projects and programs – from cargo to cruise to commercial fishing and more – will:

- Significantly reduce air and climate pollution from maritime activities in the Puget Sound region, especially in disadvantaged communities located near port terminals and freight corridors.
- Deliver healthier air for near-port residents as well as the tens of thousands of people who work on or near port facilities.
- Create, preserve, and improve the quality of thousands of port-related jobs – from dock workers to vessel-operators and truckers, while creating new opportunities in the clean energy economy.
- Strengthen the ports' capacity to meaningfully engage and partner with near-port communities and other stakeholders.
- Bolster the ports' role as catalysts of large-scale maritime decarbonization and sustainability transition – not only at their own facilities but across the broader maritime and freight industries locally, nationally, and globally.

Climate Solutions has been working on the clean energy transition for over 25 years in Washington State. While the state has seen significant policy advancements on clean energy and addressing climate change, such as the passage of the Climate Commitment Act, there remain significant challenges ahead. The maritime sector is vital to the economy and culture of Washington State, while also being one of the more challenging sectors to decarbonize. We have worked closely with the ports and the NWSA to address issues such as drayage truck emissions through the Zero-Emission Truck Collaborative and more recently have begun collaborative work on

Seattle
1402 Third Avenue, Suite 1200
Seattle, WA 98101
tel 206.443.9570

Portland
1300 SE Stark Street, Suite 207
Portland, OR 97214
tel 503.206.4837

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sustainable maritime fuels and offshore wind. At Climate Solutions we see this grant proposal as a vital step in the region's climate friendly transition.

The ports' proposal is transformative for our region and will help drive progress toward emissions reductions in one of the hardest to decarbonize industries. Climate Solutions urges the EPA to support this joint proposal.

Sincerely,



Kurt Ellison
Maritime Policy Manager
Climate Solutions

ClimateSolutions.org

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