Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20510

May 24th, 2024

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

Dear Administrator Regan:

We are pleased to write in support of 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. The EPA's CPP offers an unprecedented opportunity to accelerate progress toward a "tipping point" and fully decarbonize seaport operations in the Puget Sound region. The ports' proposal prioritizes significantly reducing emissions from the top three sources of seaport-related pollution in our region – vessels, cargo-handling equipment, and drayage trucks. This proposal also aims to emphasize4 expanded community engagement, ensuring that neighborhoods impacted by localized pollution are included in these efforts.

This high-impact suite of proposed projects and programs – from cargo to cruise to commercial fishing and more – will:

- Significantly reduce air pollution and greenhouse emissions from maritime activities in the Puget Sound region, especially within and surrounding disadvantaged communities and tribes 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; and
- Bolster the ports' role as catalysts of large-scale maritime decarbonization and sustainability efforts – not only at their own facilities but across the broader maritime and freight industries locally, nationally, and globally.

This proposal is transformative for our region and will help drive significant progress toward emissions reductions in ~~a~~ sector that historically has been difficult to decarbonize. This proposal is unique in the nation, based on the applicants' demonstrated past success and leadership in decarbonization of the maritime sector which demonstrates their unique ability to develop, implement, and grow from these transformational CPP funds. Further, these projects not only support the regional economy by providing family wage jobs, but also keeps the commitment to address historical pollution and progress toward a

more equitable future to the benefit of the entire region, especially the disadvantaged communities and tribes that are located within and adjacent to the project areas. It is for these reasons that we support the application by the Northwest Seaport Alliance, Port of Seattle, and Port of Tacoma to the EPA's CPP Zero-Emission Technology Deployment Competition, and we urge your fair and full consideration of their proposal.

Sincerely,



Derek Kilmer
Member of Congress



Maria Cantwell
United States Senator



Patty Murray
United States Senator



Pramila Jayapal
Member of Congress



Marilyn Strickland
Member of Congress



Suzan DelBene
Member of Congress



Adam Smith
Member of Congress



Dr. Kim Schrier
Member of Congress



Rick Larsen
Member of Congress