

Mr. Tyler Schroeder, Planning Manager
Whatcom County Planning and Development Services
5280 Northwest Drive
Bellingham, Washington 98226-9097

November 24, 2012

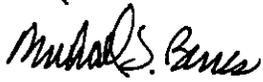
Dear Mr. Schroeder:

This letter is to request that four health questions be fully studied as a part of the environmental impact process for the Gateway Pacific Terminal proposal. This letter is written for the November 29 "scoping" meeting held in Ferndale. The trains will transport Wyoming coal approximately 900 miles and end their journey within the Ferndale School District boundaries. This letter does not take a "pro" or a "con" position on the actual Gateway proposal. Rather, it asks that those agencies charged in making a determination fully study four possible health impacts on Ferndale School District students and staff

- 1) What would be the impact of coal dust that is lost en route on the students and staff of the school district? There were 574 students in our district last June with diagnosed asthma problems.
- 2) What would be the impact of increased diesel particulates on the students and staff of the school district?
- 3) What would be the impact of increased noise pollution on those students and staff of the school district who have noise sensitivities?
- 4) What would be the impact of delayed response times from emergency medical responders on the students and staff of the school district? There were 125 students in the district last June with life-threatening medical conditions. This same question is now being addressed by the City of Seattle (November 6 "Seattle Daily Journal of Commerce").

Thank you, in advance, for having these questions included in the full environmental impact study process.

Sincerely,



Michael S. Berres, Ph.D

Director, Special Services
Ferndale School District
P.O. Box 698
Ferndale, Washington 98248
(360) 383-9221
michael.berres@fsd.k12.wa.us

- c. Dr. Linda Quinn, Superintendent
Ms. Lee Anne Riddle, President of the Ferndale School Board