



Combined NEPA/SEPA

Environmental Impact Statement Proposed Gateway Pacific Terminal/Custer Spur

Guide to participating in NEPA and SEPA scoping and upcoming scoping meetings

The Co-Lead Agencies for the Gateway Pacific Terminal and Custer Spur modifications environmental impact statement (EIS) are holding a 120-day scoping process to hear from you. Read on to learn more about how you can participate in this important step in the state and federal EIS process.

Scoping process: September 24, 2012 –January 21, 2013

Scoping differs from public hearings in that there are many different ways to participate. During the scoping process, from September 24, 2012-January 21, 2013, you can learn about the proposals, the EIS process, and provide scoping comments. In addition to meetings in communities around the state, the Co-Lead Agencies are hosting an online meeting that is available to you anytime. Scoping comments provided through the web site will be available for review by others within one week of submittal.

Scoping comments will be accepted by:

Mail:

GPT/Custer Spur EIS
c/o CH2M HILL
1100 112th Avenue NE, Suite 400
Bellevue, WA 98004

Online Comment Form:

www.eisgatewaypacificcwa.gov/get-involved/comment

Web:

www.eisgatewaypacificcwa.gov

In-person:

at a scoping meeting

Scoping comments

As you're considering your scoping comments, remember that scoping is designed to gather input on four topics:

- Reasonable range of alternatives
- Potentially affected resources and extent of analysis of those resources
- Significant unavoidable adverse impacts
- Measures to avoid, minimize and mitigate effects of the proposals

The most useful scoping comments focus on these topics and provide agencies with your ideas about how these should be addressed in the EIS. Comments about the merits (pro or con) of the proposal or whether an EIS should be prepared at all will not be considered in determining the scope of the EIS. By initiating scoping, the Co-Lead Agencies have determined that an EIS is required before further decision making on the proposals can occur.

All comments will be compiled into a scoping report and considered by the Co-Lead Agencies. Similar comments will be grouped and considered together. All comments— whether received once or numerous times or received by email, letter or in person— will receive the same consideration. Decisions about what to include in the EIS will be made jointly by the Co-Lead Agencies and will be reported in a scoping report.

Scoping meetings

In addition to the online scoping meeting, the Co-Lead Agencies will host seven scoping meetings (*locations, dates & times below*). All scoping meetings are drop-in events where you can come at any time and stay as long as you like. All meetings will include an opportunity to provide comments verbally in a large group setting.

Bellingham

11 am–3 pm Sat., Oct. 27
Squalicum High School
3773 E McLeod Road
Bellingham, WA

Friday Harbor

12–3 pm Sat., Nov. 3
Friday Harbor High School
45 Blair Avenue
Friday Harbor, WA

Mount Vernon

4–7 pm Mon., Nov. 5
McIntyre Hall
2501 E College Way
Mount Vernon, WA

Ferndale

3–7 pm Thurs., Nov. 29
Ferndale Events Center
5715 Barrett Road
Ferndale, WA

Spokane

4–7 pm Tues., Dec. 4
Spokane Co. Fairgrounds
Plaza
404 N Havana Street
Spokane Valley, WA

Vancouver

4–7 pm Wed., Dec. 12
Clark College
Gaiser Student Center
1933 Fort Vancouver Way
Vancouver, WA

Seattle

4–7 pm Thurs., Dec. 13
Washington State Conv. Ctr.
Ballroom 6F
800 Convention Place
Seattle, WA

Each scoping meeting will include:

- A welcome area where you can learn about the meeting format and sign up to provide verbal comments
- An open house area where you can review information, talk to staff, and write scoping comments
- A quiet area where you can provide individual verbal comments to a staff person ready to record comments
- A public comment area where you can provide verbal comments in front of other community members

Ground rules for verbal comment area

While all comments will be considered equally, we know that many people want to provide verbal comments. To ensure an orderly and respectful process, the Co-Lead Agencies have adopted the following ground rules for the verbal comment area:

- Due to time constraints, a limited number of verbal comments can be accommodated at each meeting. Speakers will be selected through a random drawing. Speaker numbers will be drawn on the hour.
- Comments will be limited to **two minutes per person**. If two minutes is not long enough, you can summarize comments verbally and provide more detailed comments in writing. Each individual will only be allowed to speak for two minutes regardless of how many people that individual represents.
- People will be called up in **groups of three** to provide comments. When your group is called, please proceed to the front of the room and stay seated at the comment table until everyone in your group has spoken.
- All observers will be expected to **listen quietly and respectfully**. If you would like to show support for a speaker or an idea being expressed, please do so by raising your hand.
- Please **silence all phones** and other noisemaking devices.
- All comments will be **recorded in writing** and become part of the comment record.
- Representatives of Co-Lead Agencies will listen to comments but **will not respond** to comments or questions in the verbal comment area.

A facilitator will be responsible for enforcing these ground rules to ensure that the verbal comment area is a **safe place for everyone to share scoping comments**. Please help us to maintain a civil atmosphere by showing respect to others.

Equal access

To ensure equal access, the Co-Lead Agencies will provide auxiliary aids/services to persons with disabilities. Please call the project hotline at 360-398-5087 with any requests. Persons with hearing loss can call 711 for Washington Relay Service. Persons with a speech disability can call 877-833-6341. All meeting-related requests must be received 72 hours in advance.

Si usted requiere este documento en un formato alternativo, favor de comunicarse a la siguiente línea directa: 360-398-5087 o TTY 711 o 1-877-833-6341 (Sólo servicios en inglés).



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