

January 8, 2010

Craig and Jeanne Wallin
219 U Avenue
Anacortes, WA 98221

Re: Proposed Pier 2 Prilled Sulfur Shipment Operations – Notice of Non-Significance

The Determination of Non-significance for the Prilled Sulfur Shipment does not adequately address the significant, cumulative impacts over time due to the shipment of hazardous industrial products, prilled sulfur, through the City of Anacortes from Pier 2.

The proposed utilization of Pier 2, Port of Anacortes for the export of hazardous industrial products is significantly detrimental to the quality of life in Anacortes and to Anacortes's future economic health.

Hazardous industrial products cause environmental degradation and present health hazards to the community at large. A potential spillage of prilled sulfur from a truck traffic accident as the material is transported through the downtown business district presents serious environmental and health risks that cannot be easily mitigated. The reality is "accidents happen" – far too often.

The cumulative effects from the shipping and transporting of this hazardous industrial material present an obvious threat to the quality of life in North Anacortes – the downtown core area. Airborne hazardous particulates and very likely a "rotten egg" odor will permeate the area due to frequent high winds. This will present a health risks to residents, workers and customers in the downtown business district, DCI workers, recreational boaters and other visitors to the area and significantly reduce the quality of life here.

As the quality of life deteriorates from the cumulative detrimental impacts of shipping hazardous industrial products and the increase in truck traffic, the desirability of Anacortes as an attractive place to live, work and play will decline. A decline in the quality of life will result in a decline in the economic health of the area. The Cities of Tacoma and Bremerton are good examples of the impact of heavy industrial activity near a downtown core that has resulted in the deterioration of the downtown core.

The significant, detrimental, cumulative impacts to the quality of life in Anacortes and associated anticipated decline in the economic vitality of the other businesses in town cannot be mitigated.

The deep water shipping facility is one of the Port of Anacortes's best assets. With the growing demand for shipping in the Puget Sound, the Port of Anacortes can find products to ship that enhance the quality of life in Anacortes and will not have such

significant adverse impacts. The Port should seek other shipping opportunities that will bring economic benefits to the community as a whole – the residents, business and visitors who make up our community.

Prilled sulfur could easily enter the waters of Puget Sound from an accidental spill or inadequate storm water practices and impact the federally listed species in the Guemes Channel.

Pier 2 is a very windy site and often experiences high winds. Airborne hazardous industrial materials particulates while the ships are loading could be transported into the adjacent shipyard, nearby downtown commercial area and nearby residential areas presenting a health risk. No mitigation measures are proposed for this significant adverse impact.

The idling freighters at the dock during the loading process will deteriorate the air quality in the surrounding area including the downtown commercial district, shipyard and residential areas. No mitigation measures are proposed for this significant adverse impact.

Eagles that frequent the Guemes Channel area and nest nearby will be adversely impacted. No mitigation measures are proposed for this significant adverse impact.

At night after normal working hours noise levels will significantly increase and glare from bright lights on board freighters will significantly impact adjacent residential areas. No mitigation measures are proposed for this significant adverse impact.

I doubt that the recreational boaters, downtown shopkeepers and their customers at the Cape Sante Marina, customers dining at the new Anthony's restaurant and will appreciate the increased truck traffic and the smell of diesel exhaust and sulfur ("rotten egg") nor breathing hazardous airborne particulates that present a health risk for those with asthma and other conditions when the ships are loading.

There are many other coastal towns in the Puget Sound area that know that a high quality of life helps to ensure a healthy, thriving, local economy. We believe most people will chose to live work and play in towns that value the quality of life. Deterioration in the quality of life in Anacortes from the shipping of hazardous industrial products would be too pervasive to be mitigated by any specific measures.