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CRC submits General Bridge Permit application to U.S. Coast Guard

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The Columbia River Crossing project submitted its General Bridge Permit application to the U.S. Coast Guard Jan. 30, 2013. The application is for a replacement Interstate 5 bridge with 116 feet of navigational clearance.

Within 30 days USCG will finish its completion review and request additional information if needed. Before making a permit decision, there will be an opportunity for public review and comment. The project schedule relies on a permit decision by Sept. 30, 2013.

The application builds from previous studies and analyses, including the project's [Navigation Impact Analysis](#) and [Economic Benefit Analysis](#). The bridge height included in the application was selected because it balances the needs of surface, river and air traffic and the communities on either side of the river. The permit application identifies and outlines measures to avoid, minimize and mitigate for negative impacts.

The application includes findings from vessel and economic analysis of river data:

- Almost 28,000 trips entered or exited the mouth of the Columbia River between 2002 and 2012. Of those, 18 could have been impacted by a 116 foot bridge.
- Between 2002 and 2012, the total Columbia River marine related average annual direct employment was over 14,000 full time jobs. About 80 were associated with shipments that could have been affected by a 116 foot bridge.
- About \$213 billion in total value cargo was shipped on the river between 2002 and 2012. Of that total, the combined value of the potentially height impacted work identified was \$179 million.

Under the protection of non-disclosure agreements, proprietary information from each of the fabricators also was used to understand their past work history and future work predictions.

To honor these disclosure agreements, the publicly-released permit application has redacted any proprietary information related to the business operations and individual mitigation discussions.

The application can be found online:

[Application cover letter](#)

[Application Attachments](#)

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700 Washington Street, Suite 300 | Vancouver, WA | 98660