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COLUMBIA RIVER CROSSING DRAFT EIS  
PUBLIC HEARING

WEDNESDAY, MAY 28, 2008

RED LION HOTEL  
VANCOUVER, WASHINGTON

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1 I also am a member of Minority  
2 Contractors and I am a national  
3 representative for that organization. And  
4 I have been asking them continuously for  
5 opportunities and they said that because  
6 Washington is taking the lead on it and  
7 not Oregon -- the other thing is that they  
8 say they are giving moneys, but it's not  
9 to be the technical piece, but the local  
10 public involvement.

11 So it's just sad for me as a minority  
12 woman that there is no representation in  
13 this especially when I -- most of my  
14 employees are 50 percent African-Americans  
15 and Hispanics.

16 Thank you.

17 HAL DINGERINK: Thank you. At  
18 this time, we are ready to change out.  
19 John Waller, Daniel Swink and Anne  
20 McEnerny-Ogle. And we are ready to move  
21 on to Bob Wachter.

22 BOB WACHTER: Good evening. My  
23 name is Bob Wachter. I reside at 2813  
24 Northeast 153rd Circle. I am a retired  
25 engineer, having first seen the light of



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1 day here in the Portland Vancouver area.

2 While the Columbia River Crossing  
3 Draft Development Statement seems to  
4 demonstrate that a terrific amount of  
5 effort has been employed in studying a  
6 two-mile wide segment between the I-5 Main  
7 Street interchange and the Columbia River,  
8 I feel that the scope of this study has  
9 been limited by political considerations.

10 Had the scope been extended to look  
11 at all reasonable Columbia River Crossing  
12 points, the public would have had a much  
13 better opportunity to evaluate the  
14 long-range advantages or disadvantages of  
15 each of these costly CRC Bridge proposals.

16 In short, I believe other Columbia  
17 River Crossing schemes should have been  
18 considered before presenting this limited  
19 offering to the public.

20 In my opinion, the proposal that is  
21 now being reviewed, it primarily focussed  
22 on connecting the Delta Park light rail  
23 system to Clark County rather than  
24 addressing the long-range congestion  
25 problems facing I-5 traffic.

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1           If the public was too accept any one  
2 of these present CRC Bridge proposals,  
3 those who follow us will be cussing us out  
4 because of our shortsightedness. Just  
5 pushing the traffic bottleneck further  
6 south into Portland is asinine.

7           When it comes to making roadway  
8 investments in the four billion dollar  
9 range, we need to be thinking in terms of  
10 usefulness in time periods of at least 40  
11 or 50 years.

12          Take it from one who remembers  
13 crossing the original interstate bridge on  
14 a street car and then witnessing the  
15 regions terrific population growth  
16 followed by the evolution of all the  
17 additional Columbia River bridges.

18          Some of us think there is a better  
19 location for the new Columbia River Bridge  
20 which will offer greater long-range  
21 advantages for handling both roadway and  
22 light rail traffic in this rapidly growing  
23 Portland Vancouver area.

24          Unfortunately, the CRC Task Force has  
25 not been receptive to these ideas. What

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1 is needed now are three discretely  
2 separated Columbia River Crossings into  
3 Oregon. Let the CRC start thinking  
4 outside the box.

5 Thank you.

6 HAL DENERINK: Thank you, Bob.

7 Okay.

8 SPEAKER: I did participate  
9 early in this process and early in this  
10 process I did urge the consideration of a  
11 heavy rail or a rail alternative that  
12 would be truly between communities and not  
13 a street car as we are being left with.

14 The prospect of a 45-minute-plus  
15 commute just getting -- once you get over  
16 the bridge on the existing street car is  
17 not very -- it is not a positive thing.  
18 We really needed another alternative with  
19 this type of light rail. It's not very  
20 attractive.

21 But from the same point of view, if  
22 we were to look at our overall commitment  
23 as a community to transportation and if we  
24 were to look at it in the bigger picture  
25 of things, I really believe that the

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## CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER

STATE OF WASHINGTON )  
County of Clark)

I, Cathy S. Taylor, a notary public  
for the State of Washington do hereby  
certify that I transcribed to the best of  
my ability said proceedings written by me  
in machine shorthand and thereafter  
reduced to typewriting; and that the  
foregoing transcript constitutes a full,  
true and accurate record of said  
proceedings and of the whole thereof.

Witness my hand and notarial seal  
this 16th day of June, 2008.

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Cathy S. Taylor, RPR, CSR  
Notary Public for the State of Washington  
My Commission expires April 15, 2009