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To: Ms Heather Gundersen
Environmental Manager

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Columbia River Crossing

RE. Interstate -5 Columbia River Crossing Project Draft Impact
Statement (DEIS)

In reviewing the above DEIS I have the following comments:


It has been established that there is a need for a new or improved river crossing over the Columbia River. The 5 alternative solutions are:

No build, Replacement existing I-5 bridges downstream with bus, rapid transit or with light rail, and retain both existing I-5 bridges with a new bridge downstream with bus rapid transit or light rail are presented in the above DEIS .

Further the DEIS includes a sketch of stacked transit/highway bridge by carrying bus or light rail and pedestrian -bike path under the decks of roadways. This proposed solution is not structurally or alignmentwise feasible and should be deleted .

The costs will be the most important factor in selecting the alternative for construction. It is recommended to select a bridge's life time of 75 or 100 years and bring the costs of construction, maintenance and operation to present time , thus showing the total costs for each alternative. Further advantages and disadvantages for each alternative as navigation, time loss for lifts are to be considered .

The capital costs in exhibit 26 of the DEIS errata and clarification sheets are therefore subject for revision. They will not be the same. Also the hours of congestion shown as 10.75 in the above Exhibit for alternatives 4 and 5 seem to be excessive compared with NO BUILD alternative.


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