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## **Columbia Pacific Building and Construction Trades Council**

May 28, 2008

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Columbia River Crossing

Doug Ficco John Osborn Columbia River Crossing 700 Washington Street Vancouver, Washington 98660

RE: Public Comments

Dear Mr. Ficco and Mr. Osborn:

The Columbia Pacific Building Trades, representing 20,000 members in Oregon and Southwest Washington supports a new river crossing. The alternative we favor is the replacement bridge with light rail.

Our real concern is for the men and women in this region whose lives are affected daily by this obsolete bridge. The way it is now, the current bridge causes pollution, traffic delays, has no decent transit alternative, harms the environment with no storm water mitigation and simply is not safe. Today, the bridge is on wood pilings in sand. There are no seismic standards and as we see today in China, seismic standards matter.

This is our centennial year. We expect to be around for another hundred years and believe it is our responsibility to support infrastructure for the next generations as the people who decided over a hundred years ago to build the current bridge.

Sincerely,

John Mohlis

**Executive Secretary** 

JM:cmc Opeiu #11 afl-cio