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September 13, 2011

Subject: Columbia River Crossing Project Final Environmental Impact Statement

Dear Interested Citizen:

The Columbia River Crossing (CRC) project, on behalf of the Federal Highway Administration and the Federal Transit Administration, has completed its Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). This milestone brings the project closer to completing the planning phase required by the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). Enclosed is your copy of the Final EIS Executive Summary. The complete document and technical appendices are provided on a DVD located on the inside back cover.

The CRC Final EIS contains analyses of environmental and community effects and describes how a replacement bridge, light rail and other project elements will improve safety and relieve congestion on Interstate 5 between Portland and Vancouver.

This document is the culmination of years of planning and design discussions with project sponsors, stakeholders and the public. It builds on analyses included in the Draft EIS published in 2008 and public input received at more than 950 community briefings, workshops and public meetings.

September 23, 2011, marks the beginning of a 30-day review period for the Final EIS that concludes October 24, 2011. It is anticipated that the federal oversight agencies, Federal Highway Administration and Federal Transit Administration, will select an alternative and sign a record of decision in late 2011. The record of decision signals the conclusion of the NEPA process. CRC will then continue to develop the design for the project, including additional detail on project phasing, construction staging and construction techniques.

You are invited to learn more about the CRC Final EIS at one of four informational drop-in sessions:

Vancouver

Wednesday, October 12
2 – 4 p.m. or 6 – 8 p.m.
Vancouver Community Library
901 C St., Vancouver, WA 98660

Portland

Thursday, October 13
2 – 4 p.m. or 6 – 8 p.m.
Jantzen Beach SuperCenter Community Room
1405 Jantzen Center Dr., Portland, OR 97217

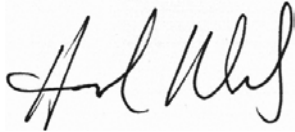
At these information sessions, full copies of the report will be available to read and technical experts will be in attendance to answer questions. Both locations are serviced by public transit; please visit www.trimet.org or www.c-tran.com for more information.

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If you have any questions or would like more information, please feel free to contact the project at 866-396-2726 or feedback@columbiarivercrossing.org. More information can also be found at the project's website: www.columbiarivercrossing.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Heather Wills". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "H" and "W".

Heather Wills

CRC Environmental Manager

Encl: Final Environmental Impact Statement Executive Summary and DVD

Cc: Project Controls

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