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November 15, 2016

Seth Sherry
Community & Economic Development Planner
Oregon Cascades West Council of Governments
1400 Queen Ave. SE, Suite 205A
Albany, OR 97322

RE: Letter of Support for FY2017 EPA Brownfields Assessment Grant Application

Dear Mr. Mitchell:

The Port of Newport supports the grant application to the U.S. EPA for brownfields assessment in Lincoln County. We believe it is important to gain knowledge about sites in our county that may need revitalization and cleanup. This assessment is in line with the Port of Newport's goal to promote and support projects and programs in cooperation with other community organizations and businesses that will create new jobs and increase community economic development.

We understand that the grant activities include inventory of sites, identifying priority sites, assessment activities, and cleanup and reuse planning. We expect this to lead to further funding for cleanup work and to restore sites to a community wide benefit, rather than blight. We are concerned about blight in neighborhoods. We are also deeply concerned about our watersheds and waterways that experience impacts from old industrial uses.

The Port of Newport encourages the U.S. EPA to fund this enhancing opportunity for the greater Newport area. If awarded, one or more members of the Port of Newport will participate in a Brownfield Advisory Committee. It is our understanding that the OCWCOG intends to host Brownfields Advisory Committee meetings at a minimum of two times per year over the three-year grant period, for a total of six or more meetings. We also understand that there will be a number of community meetings to engage with, and educate the community regarding the project.

Our in-kind contributions are conservatively estimated at 25 hours of staff time per year, at an estimate of \$70 per hour. Over the three year grant period, our estimated contribution amounts to a value of (25 hours x \$70 x 3 years = \$5,250.

If you need further information please contact me at 541-265-7758 or kgreenwood@portofnewport.com. We look forward to partnering with OCWGOG and its coalition partners, and the Economic Development Alliance of Lincoln County on this endeavor to revitalize and transform our communities and our economy.

Sincerely,

Kevin M. Greenwood General Manager