

Dear Seattle City Councilmembers,

On behalf of the thousands of men and women from the region that work aboard our ships; towing vessels; passenger ferries; fishing fleets; and on or around our working waterfronts that help drive our economy, we urge you to not oppose the proposed LNG facility at the Port of Tacoma. This new facility will provide local transportation companies, including TOTE Maritime Alaska vessels, with a cleaner fuel alternative. While LNG is not a perfect solution, it's a proven step in the right direction.

As you may already know, most cargo ships today run on diesel or bunker fuel (Heavy Fuel Oils). The proposed facility would provide a critical opportunity to improve air quality for so many of our workers by using a fuel source that reduces over 90 percent of pollutants and reduces greenhouse gasses by 15 to 25 percent as opposed to vessels using HFO's. As technology continues to evolve and improve, we support efforts to seek options that will further protect human health and reduce climate change, but those choices are not available yet. LNG is here now. We believe that the Port of Tacoma's proposed LNG facility provides a cleaner, safer alternative for our workers that are out on and around these ships every day.

Currently a TOTE ship servicing Alaska and calling in Tacoma uses 156 workers a voyage including 80 ILWU; 37 mechanics (ILWU& IAM); 12 Tug crew members; 25 Officers and crew; and 2 Pilots. These vessels (2) make 50 voyages a year and that is 156 union employees per vessel call x 2 x 50. This does not include the several hundred truckers driving on and off the docks while the vessels are loading and unloading. It should be mentioned that TOTE is the "bread and medicine" carrier for all of Alaska's residents.

Thank you for your attention on this important issue. We hope you will do the right thing to support this significant step towards an improved, healthier climate.

Sincerely,

Vince O'Halloran

Vince O'Halloran, Secretary/Treasurer

Puget Sound Ports Council

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