

Seattle Port Commission
2711 Alaskan Way
Seattle, WA 98121

Exhibit	C
Port Commission	Regular
Meeting of	February 14, 2012

Dear Department of Ecology, Port of Seattle and Northwest & Canada Cruise Ship Association:

I am writing today to urge you to support the amendment to the Cruise Memorandum of Understanding proposed by Friends of the Earth, Puget Soundkeeper Alliance and People for Puget Sound. Cruise ship wastewater dumping should be banned in all of Puget Sound and waters covered by the MOU.

The U.S. EPA has found that even with treatment systems, cruise ships can discharge wastewater in excess of federal water quality standards. Harmful pollutants, including fecal matter, bacteria and other hazardous wastes, are contained in sewage and gray water dumped from the increasing numbers of cruise ships. This pollution damages the aquatic life of Puget Sound and can also contaminate the shellfish and other seafood I consume.

The Puget Sound Partnership's Action Agenda calls for establishing a No Discharge Zone for all vessels in Puget Sound. If we are going to achieve Puget Sound recovery by 2020, you should act now to halt all cruise ship wastewater discharges.

Please adopt the proposed amendment to provide the strongest protection possible for the waters of Puget Sound and for the health of residents and visitors.