

PORT OF SEATTLE
MEMORANDUM

COMMISSION AGENDA – POLICY & STAFF BRIEFING

Item No.	<u>6a</u>
Date of Meeting	<u>February 24, 2009</u>

DATE: December 22, 2008

TO: Mr. Tay Yoshitani, Chief Executive Officer

FROM: Elizabeth Leavitt, Director, Aviation Environmental Programs
Russ Simonson, Senior Environmental Program Supervisor
Michael Lufkin, Senior Environmental Strategy Manager

SUBJECT: A report to the Commission regarding progress made to fulfill the actions requested in motion of the March 25, 2008 Regular Commission Meeting addressing Support of Federal and Local Initiatives to Address Aviation Greenhouse Gas Emissions.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this presentation is to provide the Port of Seattle Commission with an update on progress related to the three motions made at the March 25, 2008 Commission meeting in regard to the release of Seattle-Tacoma International Airport's greenhouse gas emissions inventory.

BACKGROUND

At the March 25, 2008 Port of Seattle Commission meeting, the results of Seattle-Tacoma International Airport's greenhouse gas inventory were presented. Following the briefing, the Commission passed a motion which supports federal efforts to reduce aircraft emissions and directs staff to establish targets for emission reduction at the airport.

The Commission's action calls for increased federal action in the areas of airspace protocols that help reduce fuel consumption and increased funding for research into aircraft propulsion. In addition, one of the motions supports California's call for the EPA to develop global warming regulations for aircraft.

Several initiatives are directed specifically toward reducing local airport-related emissions. Additionally, Port staff members were directed to work in collaboration with aviation partners to set measurable targets for emission reductions by the end of 2008; if no targets were developed, the Commission will consider carbon offsets or fees. Finally, staff was directed to conduct greenhouse gas inventories at Sea-Tac Airport every five years to measure the effectiveness of emissions-reduction efforts.

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PROGRAM STATUS

This presentation updates the Commission on progress made on the motion, recommended greenhouse gas reduction goals, programs and projects to reduce greenhouse gas emissions at the airport.

ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS

Early actions to track, manage, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions at Sea-Tac through programs, operations, and services as they pertain to, and impact, the global climate change aspects of operating an airport support our organization's and community's collective environmental sensibilities. The greenhouse gas inventory report, and our efforts to fulfill the Commission's greenhouse gas motions, collectively supports our strategy to exhibit environmental stewardship through our actions.