



NORTH WEST  
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ASSOCIATION

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Exhibit "A"  
Port Commission Special  
Meeting of April 6, 2010

February 8<sup>th</sup>, 2010

Carol Bernthal, Superintendent  
Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary  
115 East Railroad Avenue, Suite 301  
Port Angeles, WA  
98362-2925

Dear Carol

We appreciate your participation in the meeting on the Washington State Memorandum of Understanding in Seattle on Jan 20. We were impressed with your presentation and your passion for protection of the OCNMS.

However, as discussed at the meeting, we do not believe that it is appropriate to expand the MOU outside the waters agreed upon with the State of Washington. In addition there exists a due process for development of regulations for National Marine Sanctuaries, and we do not believe that it would be appropriate for the MOU to be used to by-pass the due public process.

Having said that we do agree with the objectives for protection of the National Marine Sanctuary; in fact the present operating practices of the NWCA member line ships reflect their commitment to protection of the marine environment of the sanctuary. The ships do not sail in the "Area to be Avoided", which includes most of the Sanctuary. And while we have not conducted a full inventory of practices, it would appear that few, if any of the NWCA ships discharge any water (with the exception of engine cooling water) within any part of the Sanctuary.

We would be happy to review these practices with you, and to explore ways to provide information, reassurance of operating practices, and means of communication. We would be pleased to meet with you in Seattle or Port Angeles to discuss.

Sincerely,



John Hansen  
President

Cc: Amy Jankowiak  
Mike McLaughlan