

Commission-Public-Records

From: Jordan Van Voast <jordanvvv@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 24, 2020 9:18 AM
To: Commission-Public-Records
Cc: Jordan Van Voast via t46 list
Subject: [EXTERNAL] PUBLIC COMMENT for March 24, 2020

Categories: Public Comment

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Honorable Commissioner Peter Steinbrueck
Honorable Commissioner Stephanie Bowman
Honorable Commissioner Ryan Calkins
Honorable Commissioner Fred Felleman
Honorable Commissioner Sam Cho

Good afternoon Commissioners and Staff,

I send prayers for your health and safety. The COVID-19 crisis has brought unprecedented changes to our world, including much fear and uncertainty. However, every crisis presents an opportunity to re-examine how we as a society got here, where we are now, and where we want to go in the future. The opportunity is there if we are willing to slow down and question our habits and beliefs.

Our dominant economic system is built upon the false premise of satisfying materialistic desires, including travel, while neglecting the development of inner peace. Even in the midst of the present crisis and social distancing, people are realizing that we can still safely connect in community and find contentment, and the Earth has started to heal from the burning of fossil fuels. Please think about that in relation to the T46 project.

We now know without any shadow of doubt, that that packing thousands of people onto a cruise ship for weeks at a time offer ideal conditions for a virus to multiply and spread globally once all those people return home.

Yesterday, the CDC reported that the Diamond Princess cruise ship harbored traces of the live virus for 17 days after passengers had left. This ship alone had 700 confirmed cases. I urge you for the safety of the citizens of greater Seattle, coastal communities in Alaska, and the world, please follow Canada's example and immediately cancel the cruise ship season through July 1. Your website and official statements still do not make clear that cruises out of Seattle are closed beyond April 5.

Please do not cater to the greed and disregard for life that the Trump administration displays in seeking an exception to the Passenger Vessel Act. Please do not play games with this deadly virus.

Sincerely,

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