



UCUT
UPPER COLUMBIA
UNITED TRIBES

Upper Columbia United Tribes
25 W. Main, Suite 434
Spokane, WA 99201

Phone: 509.838.1057
Fax: 509.209.2421
www.ucut.org

Coeur d'Alene Colville Kalispel Kootenai Spokane

Governor Jay Inslee
PO Box 40002
Olympia, WA 98504-0002

Stephen Posner
Interim EFSEC Manager
Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council
PO Box 43172
1300 S Evergreen Park Dr. SW
Olympia, WA 98504-3172

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DEC 24 2013

**ENERGY FACILITY SITE
EVALUATION COUNCIL**

December 16, 2013

RE: Proposed Tesoro Savage crude-by-rail uploading and marine loading facility at the Port of Vancouver, Washington

Dear Governor Inslee, Mr. Posner and Washington EFSEC,

As a consortium of sovereign nations who fully understands and expects the fulfillment of the federal trust responsibility, the Upper Columbia United Tribes (UCUT) cannot support this proposal until a comprehensive EIS is completed. All potential impacts from the entirety of transportation to terminus should be considered for the Tesoro Savage crude-by-rail uploading and marine loading facility at the Port of Vancouver, Washington.

The UCUT provides a common voice for our region through the collaboration of five major area tribes, the Coeur d'Alene Tribe, the Kalispel Tribe of Indians, the Kootenai Tribe of Idaho, the Spokane Tribe of Indians and the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation. The UCUT was formed to ensure a healthy future for the traditional territorial lands of our ancestors and takes a proactive and collaborative approach to promoting Indian culture, fish, water, wildlife and habitat.

The UCUT urges you to assess the full impact of Tesoro Savage's proposal to ship close to 400,000 barrels of oil each day through Northwestern communities, specifically through Spokane, Washington. Due to the nature of the material proposed to be transported and shipped (crude oil) as well as the proximity of the facility to area wildlife preserves and Vancouver Lake, The UCUT requests a

comprehensive Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) that will assess the impacts shipping crude oil will have on public health and safety as well as on the greater environment.

Within a comprehensive EIS, the UCUT would like you to analyze, examine alternatives and propose mitigation for the projects' potential negative impacts on the following;

- The potential impacts of large train-related oil spill(s) along the entire rail route from extraction site to port.
- The transportation, emergency response capability, and public health impacts of additional train traffic through communities along the proposed oil by rail route.
- Impacts to area Tribal cultural resources, air, waters, wildlife and fisheries from a train-related oil spill.

The UCUT believes that you, Jay Inslee, and the Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council (EFSEC) have a fundamental responsibility to consider *all* of the impacts with the utmost attention the proposed rail transport would have on the Pacific Northwest as the Northwest is interconnected through the families, tribes, resources and waterways that these oil shipping routes would traverse.

Sincerely,



Matt Wynne, Chairman