

## FINAL SEPA DETERMINATION OF NON-SIGNIFICANCE (DNS) OF PROPOSED ACTION

### *Terminal 18 – Fender System Repair & Maintenance*

The Port of Seattle has completed an environmental analysis, including review of pertinent and available environmental information and preparation of a State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) Checklist for the Terminal 18 – Fender System Repair & Maintenance.

**Description of the Proposed Action:** The project includes repair and maintenance of the fender system at Terminal 18 (T-18). The project description formerly included riparian improvements proposed at Terminal 25; this component of the project has been eliminated. The purpose of the work at T-18 is to permit the ongoing operation of cargo facilities at T-18, which are dependant on the proper functioning of the fender systems. Work will include the repair and maintenance of approximately 1200 l.f. of existing creosote timber fender along the south portion of the T-18 cargo pier. Existing fender components include +/-122, 14-inch to 18-inch creosote-treated piles, horizontal compression components, steel hardware and the fender “eyebrow”. The fender “eyebrow” is a continuous horizontal component covering the space between the top of the fender piles and the bullrail. This project proposes to replace fender components in the project area, using up to 65, 18-inch diameter steel piles fitted with plastic friction sleeves and rubber or plastic compression components. The fender eyebrow will be removed but not replaced in order to permit better light transmission through the structure to the water surface. It should be noted that the replacement fender system was originally proposed to be 12”-14” inches wider than the existing fender. The design has now been refined such that it will only be expanded overwater by 1.75”. However, by leaving off the fender eyebrow and reducing the number of piles in the system, the total overwater cover of the replacement fender system will be significantly less than the existing fender system.

The Port also proposes to replace two (2) timber fender piles at sta. 43+40 and 44+30 which were damaged during a maintenance dredging event undertaken in 2008/09. These piles will be ACZA timber piles, 14- to 18-inch diameter, fitted with UHMW wear strips.

**Location of Proposed Action:** T-18, located on Harbor Island in south Elliott Bay, consists of approximately 196 acres of marine industrial area built and committed for use in transshipment of container cargo, receiving and shipping of other bulk and liquid bulk commodities, and providing other marine, water-dependent marine industrial services.

**Lead Agency:** Port of Seattle (SEPA No. 09-04)

**Determination:** The Port of Seattle completed an environmental evaluation including review of pertinent environmental information, following the provisions of the Washington State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) under Chapter 43.21C, Revised Code of Washington (RCW), Chapter 197-11, Washington Administrative Code (WAC), and Port Commission Resolutions 3028, 3211, and 3539, Port of Seattle SEPA Policies and Procedures. On July 17, 2009, as lead agency, the Port determined the proposal would not have a probable significant adverse impact on the environment. The Port subsequently received comments from the Suquamish Indian Tribe related to dimensional properties of the replacement structure and related to the presence of sampling stations associated with an ongoing study of sediments in the East Waterway. The Port has subsequently addressed the comments and the Tribe is in concurrence with the issuance of this Final DNS, while reserving the right to exercise their treaty-reserved rights through other regulatory avenues. At this time, the Port has finalized its determination that an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is not required under RCW 43.21C.030(2)(c).

**Supporting Information:** Information used to reach this determination, and applicable State laws and Port of Seattle policies, regulations, and procedures are available for public review at the Port of Seattle office, at the Engineering Services Dept., Second Floor Bid Counter, Pier 69, 2711 Alaskan Way, Seattle. The document is also available for review online at <http://www.portseattle.org/community/environment/>.

**Public and Agency Comment:** The DNS and Environmental Checklist for this project circulated on July 17, 2009. The Port's Final DNS is now being issued based on the final determination of no significant environmental impacts. Please refer questions and comments about this determination or the proposal to Jon Sloan at the address or telephone number above.

**Appeals:** The Port's decision on the proposal described above and the Port's issuance of a Final DNS on this proposal constitute the Port's Final SEPA decision. This SEPA DNS determination may be appealed by filing a writ of review in King County Superior Court within twenty-one (21) days of the date of issuance pursuant to Port of Seattle Resolution No. 3028, 3211 and 3539.

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Signature on File

Charles Sheldon  
Managing Director Seaport  
November 2, 2009