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## Washington State Citizens Committee on Pipeline Safety

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October 28, 2005

Chris Rose  
Government Liaison  
WA Utilities & Transportation Commission  
PO Box 47250  
Olympia, WA 98504-7250

Dear Mr. Rose:

At your request, the Washington State Citizens Committee on Pipeline Safety reviewed your agency's request legislation to allow federally-certified state inspectors to conduct onsite inspections of rail facilities handling and shipping hazardous materials.

The legislature established the Citizens Committee for Pipeline Safety "to advise the state agencies and other appropriate federal and local government agencies and officials on matters relating to hazardous liquid and gas pipeline safety, routing, construction, operation, and maintenance." While the focus of our committee is on the use of pipelines to carry hazardous materials, our committee members saw common ground in regard to your proposed legislation. To protect the public, it is essential that all forms of transportation for hazardous materials be conducted in a safe manner. Furthermore, our experience with the state and federal pipeline programs illustrate that prompt inspector access to facilities is an essential part of a public safety program.

On October 20, 2005, the committee moved and approved a motion to endorse your agency's request legislation. If you have further questions about the committee's support, feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Katie Hansen  
Chair

cc: Alan E. Rathbun, WUTC Pipeline Safety Director