March 28, 2003

The Honorable Patty Murray
Senator
U.S. Senate
173 Russell Senate Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Re: Office of Pipeline Safety Sponsored Public Forum in Bellevue, Washington

Dear Senator Murray:

I want to recognize the important contribution made to the public dialogue on pipeline safety in Washington State by Ms. Stacey Gerard and her staff at the federal Office of Pipeline Safety (OPS).

On January 29, 2003, Ms. Gerard, the OPS Administrator, and her staff hosted a daylong public forum on pipeline safety in Bellevue, Washington. The forum featured panels on three important pipeline safety questions:

- What information the public, state and local governments need to know about a pipeline’s integrity management program and what information could local officials provide about local risks to pipeline operators?
- What information should be available for the public to judge the effectiveness and safety of a pipeline operator and the pipeline industry as a whole?
- To what extent will various public awareness initiatives improve public understanding and awareness of the pipeline industry and what additional steps would be helpful?

The format of the forum was very effective. Each panel began with an overview of the issues related to each topic. This gave everyone the basic information they needed to understand the panel discussion that followed. In addition, each panel included representatives of local governments, first responders, community groups, and activists.
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Page 2

This made for an interesting and useful discussion and presented a comprehensive view of the information about pipelines that different segments of the public want available to them.

The members of the Washington Citizens Committee believe it is important that we recognize Ms. Gerard and her staff. By sponsoring this forum, they made an important contribution to the public debate about pipeline safety not only in Washington State, but nationwide. In the coming months, we will work with interested groups to continue and build on the dialogue begun at the forum.

Sincerely,

Chuck Mosher
Chair

cc. Stacey Gerard, OPS
March 28, 2003

The Honorable Maria Cantwell
Senator
U.S. Senate
717 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Re: Office of Pipeline Safety Sponsored Public Forum in Bellevue, Washington

Dear Senator Cantwell:

I want to recognize the important contribution made to the public dialogue on pipeline safety in Washington State by Ms. Stacey Gerard and her staff at the federal Office of Pipeline Safety (OPS).

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Sincerely,

Chuck Mosher
Chair

cc. Stacey Gerard, OPS
March 28, 2003

The Honorable Jennifer Dunn
Representative
U.S. House of Representatives
1501 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Re: Office of Pipeline Safety Sponsored Public Forum in Bellevue, Washington

Dear Representative Dunn:

I want to recognize the important contribution made to the public dialogue on pipeline safety in Washington State by Ms. Stacey Gerard and her staff at the federal Office of Pipeline Safety (OPS).

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Sincerely,

Chuck Mosher
Chair

cc. Stacey Gerard, OPS
March 28, 2003

The Honorable Jay Inslee
Representative
U.S. House of Representatives
308 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Re: Office of Pipeline Safety Sponsored Public Forum in Bellevue, Washington

Dear Representative Inslee:

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Sincerely,

Chuck Mosher  
Chair

cc. Stacey Gerard, OPS
March 28, 2003

The Honorable Brian Baird
Representative
U.S. House of Representatives
1421 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Re: Office of Pipeline Safety Sponsored Public Forum in Bellevue, Washington

Dear Representative Baird:

I want to recognize the important contribution made to the public dialogue on pipeline safety in Washington State by Ms. Stacey Gerard and her staff at the federal Office of Pipeline Safety (OPS).

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Sincerely,

Chuck Mosher
Chair

cc. Stacey Gerard, OPS
March 28, 2003

The Honorable Adam Smith
Representative
U.S. House of Representatives
227 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Re: Office of Pipeline Safety Sponsored Public Forum in Bellevue, Washington

Dear Representative Smith:

I want to recognize the important contribution made to the public dialogue on pipeline safety in Washington State by Ms. Stacey Gerard and her staff at the federal Office of Pipeline Safety (OPS).

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