

Citizens Advisory Committee on Pipeline Safety

P.O. Box 90012
Bellevue, WA 98009-9012



January 24, 2001

The Honorable Maria Cantwell
U.S. Senator
464 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Cantwell:

As Chairman of the newly created Washington State Citizens Advisory Committee on Pipeline Safety, I wish to advise you of a concern we have regarding Olympic Pipeline Company's unwillingness to fully support an effective state pipeline safety program in Washington State.

In response to the tragic pipeline explosion in Bellingham in June, 1999, which took the lives of three young people, the Washington State Legislature enacted legislation and provided funding to strengthen and enhance our pipeline safety efforts. It also created the Citizens Advisory Committee on Pipeline Safety. Governor Gary Locke appointed members to the advisory committee in August, 2000. The new law also directed the Washington State Utilities and Transportation Commission (WUTC) to seek delegated authority from the federal Office of Pipeline Safety to provide safety oversight to interstate pipeline companies, including Olympic Pipeline. The WUTC was granted the authority in July 2000, and hired inspectors to provide safety oversight.

Legislation pending before the 2001 Legislature would collect an ongoing fee to fund the program enacted last year. At this time, Olympic Pipeline Company and other natural gas and hazardous liquids interstate pipeline companies are attempting to reduce the inspection staffing level provided last year and therefore weaken the ability of the WUTC to conduct an adequate safety program. This is unacceptable to the Citizens Committee.

The Committee has unanimously supported a strong state program and the need for adequate state and field-level oversight that has been so obviously missing from the federal Office of Pipeline Safety. Without this oversight, we cannot be sure that pipeline operations are safe for the citizens of Washington State.

Olympic Pipeline Company has requested, from the federal Office of Pipeline Safety, permission to re-open its pipeline operation in Washington State. It is imperative, that before permission is granted, we be assured our new state pipeline safety program will be maintained at the level authorized by the Legislature in 2000. Olympic Pipeline Company is in a position to fully support the legislation and funding before the Legislature. We believe adequate staffing is critical to the state's ability to provide adequate oversight of these companies in Washington State.

Sincerely,

Chuck Mosher
Chairman, Citizens Advisory Committee on Pipeline Safety

Citizens Advisory Committee on Pipeline Safety

P.O. Box 90012
Bellevue, WA 98009-9012



January 24, 2001

The Honorable Patty Murray
U.S. Senator
173 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Murray:

As Chairman of the newly created Washington State Citizens Advisory Committee on Pipeline Safety, I wish to advise you of a concern we have regarding Olympic Pipeline Company's unwillingness to fully support an effective state pipeline safety program in Washington State.

In response to the tragic pipeline explosion in Bellingham in June, 1999, which took the lives of three young people, the Washington State Legislature enacted legislation and provided funding to strengthen and enhance our pipeline safety efforts. It also created the Citizens Advisory Committee on Pipeline Safety. Governor Gary Locke appointed members to the advisory committee in August, 2000. The new law also directed the Washington State Utilities and Transportation Commission (WUTC) to seek delegated authority from the federal Office of Pipeline Safety to provide safety oversight to interstate pipeline companies, including Olympic Pipeline. The WUTC was granted the authority in July 2000, and hired inspectors to provide safety oversight.

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Sincerely,

Chuck Mosher
Chairman, Citizens Advisory Committee on Pipeline Safety

cc: Dale Lerne

Citizens Advisory Committee on Pipeline Safety

P.O. Box 90012
Bellevue, WA 98009-9012



January 24, 2001

The Honorable Jay Inslee
U.S. Representative
303 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Inslee:

As Chairman of the newly created Washington State Citizens Advisory Committee on Pipeline Safety, I wish to advise you of a concern we have regarding Olympic Pipeline Company's unwillingness to fully support an effective state pipeline safety program in Washington State.

In response to the tragic pipeline explosion in Bellingham in June, 1999, which took the lives of three young people, the Washington State Legislature enacted legislation and provided funding to strengthen and enhance our pipeline safety efforts. It also created the Citizens Advisory Committee on Pipeline Safety. Governor Gary Locke appointed members to the advisory committee in August, 2000. The new law also directed the Washington State Utilities and Transportation Commission (WUTC) to seek delegated authority from the federal Office of Pipeline Safety to provide safety oversight to interstate pipeline companies, including Olympic Pipeline. The WUTC was granted the authority in July 2000, and hired inspectors to provide safety oversight.

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Sincerely,

Chuck Mosher
Chairman, Citizens Advisory Committee on Pipeline Safety

Citizens Advisory Committee on Pipeline Safety

P.O. Box 90012
Bellevue, WA 98009-9012



January 24, 2001

The Honorable Richard Larsen
U.S. Representative
1529 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Larsen:

As Chairman of the newly created Washington State Citizens Advisory Committee on Pipeline Safety, I wish to advise you of a concern we have regarding Olympic Pipeline Company's unwillingness to fully support an effective state pipeline safety program in Washington State.

In response to the tragic pipeline explosion in Bellingham in June, 1999, which took the lives of three young people, the Washington State Legislature enacted legislation and provided funding to strengthen and enhance our pipeline safety efforts. It also created the Citizens Advisory Committee on Pipeline Safety. Governor Gary Locke appointed members to the advisory committee in August, 2000. The new law also directed the Washington State Utilities and Transportation Commission (WUTC) to seek delegated authority from the federal Office of Pipeline Safety to provide safety oversight to interstate pipeline companies, including Olympic Pipeline. The WUTC was granted the authority in July 2000, and hired inspectors to provide safety oversight.

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Sincerely,

Chuck Mosher
Chairman, Citizens Advisory Committee on Pipeline Safety

cc: Christian Gunter

Citizens Advisory Committee on Pipeline Safety

P.O. Box 90012
Bellevue, WA 98009-9012



January 24, 2001

The Honorable Brian Baird
U.S. Representative
1721 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Baird:

As Chairman of the newly created Washington State Citizens Advisory Committee on Pipeline Safety, I wish to advise you of a concern we have regarding Olympic Pipeline Company's unwillingness to fully support an effective state pipeline safety program in Washington State.

In response to the tragic pipeline explosion in Bellingham in June, 1999, which took the lives of three young people, the Washington State Legislature enacted legislation and provided funding to strengthen and enhance our pipeline safety efforts. It also created the Citizens Advisory Committee on Pipeline Safety. Governor Gary Locke appointed members to the advisory committee in August, 2000. The new law also directed the Washington State Utilities and Transportation Commission (WUTC) to seek delegated authority from the federal Office of Pipeline Safety to provide safety oversight to interstate pipeline companies, including Olympic Pipeline. The WUTC was granted the authority in July 2000, and hired inspectors to provide safety oversight.

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Chuck Mosher
Chairman, Citizens Advisory Committee on Pipeline Safety

Citizens Advisory Committee on Pipeline Safety

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January 24, 2001

The Honorable Doc Hastings
U.S. Representative
1323 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Hastings:

As Chairman of the newly created Washington State Citizens Advisory Committee on Pipeline Safety, I wish to advise you of a concern we have regarding Olympic Pipeline Company's unwillingness to fully support an effective state pipeline safety program in Washington State.

In response to the tragic pipeline explosion in Bellingham in June, 1999, which took the lives of three young people, the Washington State Legislature enacted legislation and provided funding to strengthen and enhance our pipeline safety efforts. It also created the Citizens Advisory Committee on Pipeline Safety. Governor Gary Locke appointed members to the advisory committee in August, 2000. The new law also directed the Washington State Utilities and Transportation Commission (WUTC) to seek delegated authority from the federal Office of Pipeline Safety to provide safety oversight to interstate pipeline companies, including Olympic Pipeline. The WUTC was granted the authority in July 2000, and hired inspectors to provide safety oversight.

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Chuck Mosher
Chairman, Citizens Advisory Committee on Pipeline Safety

Citizens Advisory Committee on Pipeline Safety

P.O. Box 90012
Bellevue, WA 98009-9012



January 24, 2001

The Honorable George Nethercutt Jr.
U.S. Representative
223 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Nethercutt:

As Chairman of the newly created Washington State Citizens Advisory Committee on Pipeline Safety, I wish to advise you of a concern we have regarding Olympic Pipeline Company's unwillingness to fully support an effective state pipeline safety program in Washington State.

In response to the tragic pipeline explosion in Bellingham in June, 1999, which took the lives of three young people, the Washington State Legislature enacted legislation and provided funding to strengthen and enhance our pipeline safety efforts. It also created the Citizens Advisory Committee on Pipeline Safety. Governor Gary Locke appointed members to the advisory committee in August, 2000. The new law also directed the Washington State Utilities and Transportation Commission (WUTC) to seek delegated authority from the federal Office of Pipeline Safety to provide safety oversight to interstate pipeline companies, including Olympic Pipeline. The WUTC was granted the authority in July 2000, and hired inspectors to provide safety oversight.

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Chuck Mosher
Chairman, Citizens Advisory Committee on Pipeline Safety

Citizens Advisory Committee on Pipeline Safety

P.O. Box 90012
Bellevue, WA 98009-9012



January 24, 2001

The Honorable Norman Dicks
U.S. Representative
2467 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Dicks:

As Chairman of the newly created Washington State Citizens Advisory Committee on Pipeline Safety, I wish to advise you of a concern we have regarding Olympic Pipeline Company's unwillingness to fully support an effective state pipeline safety program in Washington State.

In response to the tragic pipeline explosion in Bellingham in June, 1999, which took the lives of three young people, the Washington State Legislature enacted legislation and provided funding to strengthen and enhance our pipeline safety efforts. It also created the Citizens Advisory Committee on Pipeline Safety. Governor Gary Locke appointed members to the advisory committee in August, 2000. The new law also directed the Washington State Utilities and Transportation Commission (WUTC) to seek delegated authority from the federal Office of Pipeline Safety to provide safety oversight to interstate pipeline companies, including Olympic Pipeline. The WUTC was granted the authority in July 2000, and hired inspectors to provide safety oversight.

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Chuck Mosher
Chairman, Citizens Advisory Committee on Pipeline Safety

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P.O. Box 90012
Bellevue, WA 98009-9012



January 24, 2001

The Honorable Jim McDermott
U.S. Representative
1035 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative McDermott:

As Chairman of the newly created Washington State Citizens Advisory Committee on Pipeline Safety, I wish to advise you of a concern we have regarding Olympic Pipeline Company's unwillingness to fully support an effective state pipeline safety program in Washington State.

In response to the tragic pipeline explosion in Bellingham in June, 1999, which took the lives of three young people, the Washington State Legislature enacted legislation and provided funding to strengthen and enhance our pipeline safety efforts. It also created the Citizens Advisory Committee on Pipeline Safety. Governor Gary Locke appointed members to the advisory committee in August, 2000. The new law also directed the Washington State Utilities and Transportation Commission (WUTC) to seek delegated authority from the federal Office of Pipeline Safety to provide safety oversight to interstate pipeline companies, including Olympic Pipeline. The WUTC was granted the authority in July 2000, and hired inspectors to provide safety oversight.

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Chuck Mosher
Chairman, Citizens Advisory Committee on Pipeline Safety

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January 24, 2001

The Honorable Jennifer Dunn
U.S. Representative
1501 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Dunn:

As Chairman of the newly created Washington State Citizens Advisory Committee on Pipeline Safety, I wish to advise you of a concern we have regarding Olympic Pipeline Company's unwillingness to fully support an effective state pipeline safety program in Washington State.

In response to the tragic pipeline explosion in Bellingham in June, 1999, which took the lives of three young people, the Washington State Legislature enacted legislation and provided funding to strengthen and enhance our pipeline safety efforts. It also created the Citizens Advisory Committee on Pipeline Safety. Governor Gary Locke appointed members to the advisory committee in August, 2000. The new law also directed the Washington State Utilities and Transportation Commission (WUTC) to seek delegated authority from the federal Office of Pipeline Safety to provide safety oversight to interstate pipeline companies, including Olympic Pipeline. The WUTC was granted the authority in July 2000, and hired inspectors to provide safety oversight.

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Chuck Mosher
Chairman, Citizens Advisory Committee on Pipeline Safety

cc: Pierce Scranton

Citizens Advisory Committee on Pipeline Safety

P.O. Box 90012
Bellevue, WA 98009-9012



January 24, 2001

The Honorable Adam Smith
U.S. Representative
116 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Smith:

As Chairman of the newly created Washington State Citizens Advisory Committee on Pipeline Safety, I wish to advise you of a concern we have regarding Olympic Pipeline Company's unwillingness to fully support an effective state pipeline safety program in Washington State.

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