



**Skagit Co. Dike Dist. #17**

P.O. Box 2926

Mt. Vernon WA 98273

September 5, 2008

Washington State Department of Transportation  
State Rail & Marine Office  
310 Maple Park Ave. SE, Rm. SA17  
Olympia, WA 98501-2361

Dear Sir or Madam,

The City of Mount Vernon (Dike District 12, Dike District 17) supports Burlington's Freight Rail Assistance application to obtain funding for preliminary engineering work to replace the BNSF Skagit River Bridge. This bridge has been identified in several flood control studies as a significant concern during Skagit River flooding. Replacement of this bridge will be a necessary measure in any regional flood control project; therefore, we believe forming a partnership now to replace the bridge will be beneficial to BNSF, our local community, the region, and the state.

Sincerely,

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D Hamburg", is written over the typed name and title.

Daryl Hamburg  
Director of Operations  
Skagit County Dike District 17