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File # D 06-210

August 11, 2006

The Hon. David Emerson, P.C., M.P.
Minister for the Pacific Gateway
& the Vancouver - Whistler Olympics
Ottawa, ON
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Dear Minister:

I am writing on behalf of many Delta residents who have written (copies enclosed) and phoned my office regarding the effect of the proposed expansion to Deltaport on the community of Delta. The concerns expressed by those who have contacted me are varied and valid.

Many are concerned about permanent damage to the marine and land environment and the loss of wildlife caused by the destruction of their habitat, including that of eagles, blue herons, salmon and killer whales. Some have even stated that their confidence in the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency (CEAA) has been eroded by their approach to studying the impacts of permitting further development at Deltaport.

Some residents expressed concern about the potential transfer of viable farmland to the Tsawwassen Indian Band so that it can be pulled out of the Agricultural Land Reserve and used for container storage.

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Still others expressed concerns about the increase in container truck traffic on our already overburdened roads resulting in more carbon dioxide pollution and more traffic accidents and some were concerned about the increase in the amount of toxic particulate matter in the air and in the homes of local residents from the trains and tankers.

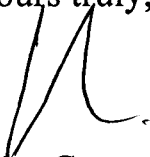
The South Fraser Perimeter Road (SFPR), which has been proposed to deal with the increase in container truck traffic caused by the expansion at Deltaport is a major concern for many Delta residents who have written me with their concerns about the negative effect of the proposed SFPR on Delta and Burns Bog.

Most of the citizens who wrote in with their concerns about the expansion at Deltaport requested that this matter go to a public hearing. It is not in our best interest to be seen to be rubber-stamping the approval of any developments. With the potential for so much irreversible damage to the marine and land environments of Delta, we should be seen to err on the side of caution.

I am requesting that you respond to the many concerns expressed by Delta residents regarding the proposed expansion of Deltaport and the resulting SFPR and am requesting that the matter be put to a public hearing with a generous time allowed for the public to make submissions.

Thank you for your consideration of this extremely important matter.

Yours truly,



John Cummins, M.P.
Delta - Richmond East

cc: The Hon. Lawrence Cannon, Minister of Transport
The Hon. Rona Ambrose, Minister of the Environment
The Hon. Gary Lunn, Minister of Natural Resources
Concerned Constituents

JMC/kss