

U.S. Department of  
Homeland Security

United States  
Coast Guard



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5730  
May 31, 2018

The Honorable Steve Daines  
320 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Daines:

This is in response to your letter dated May 14, 2018 regarding the Sandpoint Junction Connector Project, which includes BNSF's proposed construction of a second railroad bridge across Lake Pend Oreille at Sandpoint, Idaho.

Thank you for your interest in this project and raising our awareness of its importance to the State of Montana and the Pacific Northwest region. We are working closely with BNSF on this project and coordinating our efforts with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, which has permitting authority for a portion of the project as well. Given the high level of collaboration thus far, we are confident that we can obtain and analyze all relevant information required for the Coast Guard to make a timely permit decision.

Should you or your staff have any further questions, please contact Lieutenant Commander James Morrow, Coast Guard Office of Congressional and Governmental Affairs, at (202) 224-2913.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Michael D. Emerson".

Michael D. Emerson  
U.S. Coast Guard  
Director, Marine Transportation Systems