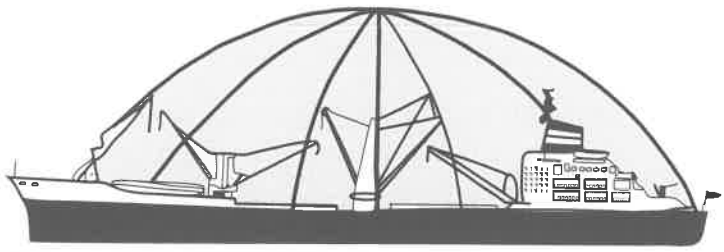
International Longshore and Warehouse Union
LOCAL 23
(253) 383-2468
1306 ALEXANDER AVE. E.
FIFE, WASHINGTON 98424



April 6, 2023

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
U.S. Secretary of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Subject: Support for NWSA Husky Terminal Expansion Part One

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

The International Longshore and Warehouse Union, Local 23 is conditionally supportive for the Fiscal Year 2023 Port Infrastructure Development Program (PIDP) grant application submitted by The Northwest Seaport Alliance (NWSA) for its Husky Terminal Expansion Part One Project. Husky Terminal, located in Tacoma's tideflats, is surrounded by a historically disadvantaged community that will benefit from both lower emissions and new jobs.

This Project will support PIDP goals of improving the safety, efficiency, and reliability of the movement of goods through the Port. As demonstrated in the application, the Project will densify a busy international container terminal, adding capacity and optimizing storage. The Project will also significantly lower carbon emissions by installing power infrastructure needed to support electrification and minimizing the time that vessels are required to stay at berth. Increased reefer capacity will also benefit agricultural exporters, who have weathered several difficult years of supply chain upheaval.

Improving export capacity will not only help our nation's exporting industries, but also help restore balance to the overall supply chain and access to empty containers for U.S. exporters that ship their products across the globe. The Husky Terminal Expansion Part One Project will allow NWSA to better compete in international markets while also meeting its goal of zero carbon emissions by 2050. We strongly endorse this project as a next step in making a key U.S. trade gateway more efficient and improving our region's competitiveness with Canadian seaports and supply chains.

We additionally conditionally support this project based on the Port of Tacoma, the NWSA, and Husky Terminal's continued commitment to local jobs. We know that human operated equipment can go hand with increased productivity, capacity, and the environment, and that funding for this project should not be intended to displace workers.

Sincerely,

Jared Faker, President
ILWU Local 23