

Port Angeles Hardwood LLC

333 Eclipse Industrial Parkway
Port Angeles, WA 98363



March 19, 2024

Michael Fong
Director
Washington State Department of Commerce
1011 Plum Street SE
Olympia, WA 98504

RE: Accelerating Washington State's Climate Commitments: A Bold & Inclusive Path to Net Zero Emissions

Dear Director Fong:

Port Angeles Hardwood strongly supports the Port of Port Angeles (Port) and Washington Department of Commerce on its application to EPA's Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) application.

Port Angeles Hardwood is a hardwood lumber mill that employs 91 people in Clallam County. We mill hardwood logs from Southeast Alaska to Northern California for shipping high quality hardwood lumber around the world for manufacturing furniture, cabinets, doors, molding, and guitars. In 2023 we imported over 35% of our log volume from outside the Olympic Peninsula via marine transportation. The ability to transport hardwood logs from Northwest Washington, California, Oregon, Canada, and Alaska to our facility is key to our operation and survival as a company.

Today, the transportation sector – including freight transportation – is Washington's largest source of emissions. The Port's plan to increase barging traffic in the Puget Sound will provide the cargo transportation options that mills across the region need, all while working to lower associated carbon emissions. Barging is a highly efficient form of transportation that moves goods in bulk, reducing emissions per unit and lowering overall emissions compared to trucking.

If the Port is successful in securing grant funds to purchase barges and offer barging stipends, Port Angeles Hardwood would be ready to increase its use of water-based shipping to move manufactured lumber. We are excited to have the opportunity to participate in an industry shift toward cleaner practices that can create environmental and health benefits for multiple communities in the region.

The Port and Washington State Department of Commerce's CPRG Implementation Grant application presents a path toward transforming the pollutant-heavy transportation industry while empowering local industries to thrive and provide family-wage jobs. For these reasons, Port Angeles Hardwood urges strong consideration of this application to accelerate the state's implementation of its ambitious climate goals. Sincerely,

Randy R. Bartelt

Log Buyer
Port Angeles Hardwood