



Senator Chuck Thomsen  
900 Court St. NE S-316  
Salem, OR 97301

April 10, 2015

OneGorge Coalition  
c/o Port of Hood River  
1000 E. Port Marina Drive  
Hood River, OR 97031

**RE: Bi-state Recognition of EMS Certification within the National Scenic Area**

Dear Senator Thomsen:

The OneGorge Coalition is a network of private businesses and public agencies in the Columbia River Gorge region working together to advocate for regional priorities. The following participants of the OneGorge Coalition support your efforts to enable full recognition of Washington state EMS certifications in Oregon, within the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area.

This bi-state recognition of EMS certifications would benefit Oregon communities along the Columbia River in significant ways. First, it would alleviate an unnecessary financial burden placed on EMS personnel in our neighboring Washington communities to perform their life-saving duties in Oregon. Secondly, it would lower costs for operating primarily volunteer EMS services in both States. Lastly, this action would provide for more uniform safety and emergency response coverage for communities and Gorge activities.

Since the Gorge is a bi-state region, our communities are often confronted with situations where the river becomes a dividing line, and policy disconnects are created in neighboring communities that just do not make sense. This is one of those instances, and we sincerely appreciate your help in correcting this discordant policy issue.

Thank you,  
The Undersigned, facilitated by OneGorge

*GORDON ZIMMERMAN*



*Paul Koch*  
Paul Koch, Interim General Manager  
Port of Cascade Locks



Gordon Zimmerman, City Administrator  
City of Cascade Locks



*Michael S. McElwee*  
Michael S. McElwee, Executive Director  
Port of Hood River



*Maria Foley*  
Maria Foley, Executive Director  
Mt. Adams Chamber of Commerce

*Cheryl L Park*



Cheryl Park  
Ascendente Winery

*Pat Albaugh*



Pat Albaugh, Executive Director  
Skamania County Economic Development Council

*Joyce Brake*



Joyce Brake, Attorney at Law  
Columbia Counsel PLLC

*Tamara Kaufman*

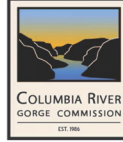
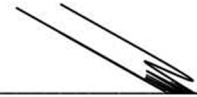
Tamara Kaufman  
Board Member, Mt. Adams Chamber of Commerce



*Mike Foley*



Mike Foley, Vice President Operations & Sales  
Innovative Composite Engineering, Inc.



Krystyna Wolniakowski  
Interim Executive Director, Columbia River Gorge  
Commission

Suzanne McNamara

Digitally signed by Suzanne McNamara  
DN: dc=net, dc=insitu, ou=Insitu,  
ou=Departments, ou=Corporate Executive Office - 900,  
cn=Suzanne McNamara, email=Suzanne.McNamara@insitu.com  
Date: 2015.04.10 13:56:07 -0700



Suzanne R. McNamara  
Vice President, Business Development  
Insitu, A Boeing Company

*David M. Roth*

David M. Roth  
KCFD #3, Volunteer Fire Fighter  
Mt. Adams Chamber of Commerce, Board Member  
Financial Advisor, Edward Jones

*Tammara Tippel*

Tammara Tippel, Director of Human Resources  
Custom Interface, Inc.

