

From: [Michael Retherford](#)
To: [JCT Exhibits](#)
Subject: Port of Newport
Date: Monday, April 22, 2019 8:45:11 AM

To whom it may concern;

My name is Mike Retherford and I am a commercial fisherman and boat owner in Newport Oregon. The port of Newport is a very important aspect of the fishing community not only locally but up and down the west coast. Newport is a hub in the fishing world here on the west coast and the port provides many different fishers and businesses with the services needed to keep our businesses viable and operational. From switching gear types to execute other fisheries, moving millions pounds of fresh seafood across the dock to be sold globally and domestically, and storage and maintenance when needed. We have vessels that participate in fisheries from Alaska down to California, that use the facilities offered by the Port of Newport. Loss of local control of the port could impact the west coast fleet dramatically. It could also be detrimental to the execution of our fisheries and business plans. Local vendors who use the port and also buyers who come and go that move the millions of pounds of seafood could be lost. I know that this is a ever changing world, but securing the port is vital to the daily operations of hundreds of businesses, men, women, and families that rely on the port Newport to sustain the fishing industry.

Thank you,

Mike Retherford