

**THURSTON COUNTY**  
WASHINGTON  
SINCE 1852

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Cathy Wolfe  
District One  
Sandra Romero  
District Two  
Vacant  
District Three

**DEVELOPMENT SERVICES DEPARTMENT**

*Creating Solutions for Our Future*

Michael Welter  
Director

January 8, 2009

Vicki Morris  
Vicki Morris Consulting Services  
7732 18th Avenue NE  
Seattle, WA 98115-4426

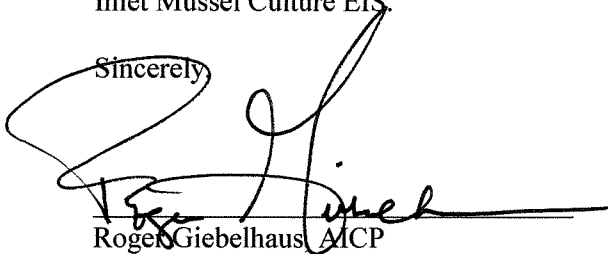
Re: **North Totten Inlet Mussel Culture EIS**

Dear Ms. Morris:

This letter is a follow-up to our meeting of December 11, 2008, during which you summarized the process of the Independent Technical Review Committee (ITRC) conducted between 2000 and 2008. ITRC members reviewed, commented, and provided direction to the scope of work, protocols, and draft reports prepared by consultants to Taylor Shellfish for analysis of the potential impacts of the North Totten Inlet Mussel Culture proposal. These technical reports are to be used to prepare the County's Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed action.

Thurston County accepts the very thorough process that has been conducted by the ITRC, and authorize you to proceed with preparation of the SEPA EIS for the project. It is our understanding that consultants to Taylor Shellfish will respond to the 12/31/08 final ITRC comments on their reports before these documents are considered final for acceptance by Thurston County. It is also our understanding that the documents are sufficiently complete, and that the corrections and clarifications to be made are sufficiently clear, that you and your co-author can begin work on the EIS while final report revisions are being made. This letter constitutes the County's authorization for you to proceed with preparation of the North Totten Inlet Mussel Culture EIS.

Sincerely,



Roger Giebelhaus, AICP  
Environmental Planner

01/08/09  
Date

cc: Diane Cooper, Taylor Shellfish  
Jeff Fancher, Deputy Prosecuting Attorney

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