



**PORT OF KLICKITAT**

**For Immediate Release**

January 23, 2009

## **Port Partners Support Local Economy**

**Bingen, Washington** – Port of Klickitat partners James Dean Construction Inc. of Glenwood, Washington, and Insitu Inc. of Bingen, Washington, are supporting our local economy by keeping jobs right here in Klickitat County. While always important, these efforts are even more critical given the current financial downturn.

James Dean Construction (operator of the Port's mine in Dallesport) has been awarded a contract by Northwest Aluminum to deliver 140,000 tons of rock to, and crush 100,000 tons of concrete at, its site in The Dalles over the next four to five months. “This project will employ twenty Klickitat County residents and deliver nearly \$300,000 in local wages,” said Jeff Dean, spokesperson for the company. “We hope this illustrates the benefits provided to local residents through our partnership with the Port in utilizing its rock resources at Dallesport.”

James Dean has also been given approval by the Washington Department of Ecology to begin work on what is expected to be the final phase of cleanup at the R. A. Barnes disposal site near the eastern edge of the Port's Dallesport Industrial Park. The \$425,000 in funding to complete the cleanup was provided through the Governor's *Washington Jobs Now* plan, an economic stimulus package aimed largely at existing construction and cleanup projects managed by state agencies.

For its part, Insitu recently renewed its lease of Building 1D at the Port's Bingen Point Business Park for an additional five years. “Since its acquisition by Boeing Inc., questions have swirled around whether the company will stay in this area,” said Marc Thornsbury, the Port's Executive Director. “Their statements have always been that they intend to stay and this renewal lends substance and credibility to those statements. The Port is pleased to be able to continue supporting both of these local companies as well as our other tenants.”

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### **About the Port of Klickitat**

Economic development, transportation, and marine-based recreation are key functions of the Port of Klickitat. These are achieved through leasing industrial-zoned property, developing and renting industrial and commercial facilities, developing and maintaining rail spurs and dock facilities, assisting companies with an interest in locating in Klickitat County, creating and managing marine-based recreational facilities, and working closely with various partner organizations and agencies.

The Port of Klickitat is located in Klickitat County, Washington and was created in 1944. It is one of several port authorities located in the mid-Columbia region. It owns two industrial parks and several buildings, leases industrial property and space, operates a barge dock, and holds property set aside for a park and marina. Transportation access is provided via rail, river barge, highways 14, 35, and 197, and Interstate 84.

*For more information, please contact:*

**Marc Thornsbury, Executive Director ■ 509-493-1655 ■ [mthornsbury@portofklickitat.com](mailto:mthornsbury@portofklickitat.com)**