



PORT OF KLICKITAT

For Immediate Release

January 26, 2011

SAO Completes Port Audit

Bingen, Washington – The Washington State Auditor's Office (SAO) has released the results of its most recent audit of the Port of Klickitat. The SAO's stated mission is to promote accountability, fiscal integrity, and openness in state and local government as well as the efficient and effective use of public resources. The Port is currently audited on a three-year cycle with the last audit having been completed in 2007.

The report, covering the years 2007 through 2009, states that in the areas examined by the SAO, the Port's internal controls were adequate to safeguard public assets and that the Port complied with state laws and regulations and its own policies and procedures. It goes on to state that the Port's financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Port of Klickitat.

“We are very pleased with the results,” said Port Commissioner Bill Schmitt. “This audit should show our constituents that when it comes to transparency in our process, responsibility with our funds, and accountability to those we represent, the Port takes its obligations seriously.”

Though these audits serve to protect the public interest, they are not without cost. “Our bill for this latest audit was just over \$10,000,” said Marc Thornsby, the Port's Executive Director. “However, that figure does not include the hours of staff time needed to provide documentation and other information requested by SAO personnel.”

The Port has been free of findings for the past four audits. The full audit report can be found on the Washington State Auditor's Office web site at www.sao.wa.gov.

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.

At A Glance...

Who:.....Port of Klickitat

What:.....State Audit

When:.....January 26, 2011

Where:.....Bingen, Wash.

Quick Facts:.....The State Auditor's Office has completed its triennial audit of the Port and found it in compliance with state laws and regulations.

For more information, please contact:

Marc Thornsby, Executive Director ■ 509-493-1655 ■ mthornsby@portofklickitat.com