



February 7, 2022

To: Chair Lieber and Members of the Senate Committee on Energy and Environment

From: Ivo Trummer, State Affairs Manager, Port of Portland  
Alex Howard, Program Development Manager, Port of Portland

Re: **Port of Portland supports SB 1567; technical considerations and rule making**

Chair Lieber and Members of the Senate Committee on Energy and Environment,

The Port of Portland would like to offer up the following for your consideration as you hear Senate Bill 1567, which would require owners and operators of certain bulk oil and liquid fuel terminals in Oregon to complete seismic vulnerability assessments, structural reviews and implement seismic risk mitigation plans to protect public health, life safety and environmental safety.

The Port of Portland was founded by the Oregon Legislature in 1891. Today, the Port of Portland is the largest holder of industrial land in Oregon, manages four marine terminals, two general aviation airports in Troutdale and Hillsboro, and operates Portland International Airport (PDX). Our assets represent critical facilities that provide operational support for Oregon's export and manufacturing economy, everyday commerce, and travel. They are also essential lifelines during disaster response and recovery.

Recognizing the critical role of Port assets to disaster response and recovery, the Port completed a corporate seismic risk assessment in 2015, and adopted a seismic resiliency policy in 2016, directing the Port to develop a systematic program to reduce vulnerability, and shorten recovery time in the event of a significant earthquake—with a focus on providing critical infrastructure to support regional recovery and reduce impacts to the regional economy.

Provided below are examples of the Port's past and current commitment to improving seismic resilience.

#### Portland International Airport

The recently opened Response Operations Coordination Center (ROCC) at PDX is home to the 9-1-1 Communications Center, the TSA, the Port's Emergency Operations Center, Aviation Security, and other field staff. The ROCC is located on a seismically resilient floor that will be immediately occupiable following a major earthquake. It will allow the Port to quickly coordinate a response with our key partners after an earthquake and other emergencies and will serve the Port and the community in the event of a disaster.

In 2020, the Port opened the extension to Concourse E. This new concourse is constructed on a resilient structural slab. This will significantly reduce the harm caused by a catastrophic earthquake and allow a timely return to operations.

PDX Next, our major airport expansion currently underway includes numerous seismic safety improvements to the airport terminal that will significantly reduce harm to the building and simplify the return to operations. As part of this expansion, the Port is improving equipment and utility resilience through the installation of more seismically robust equipment for essential building services (heating/cooling/air circulation) a new power feed to PDX to provide redundancy, and new emergency power generation

The Port also completed 30-percent design for construction of the resilient runway and is poised to complete the shovel-ready design for a seismically resilient runway, supported by Port funds and State Lottery bond funds which the Legislature approved in 2021.

#### Marine Terminal 6

In 2019, the Port completed a marine facilities resilience plan, highlighting the Columbia River's role in response operations and identifying projects to improve resilience at the Port's marine facilities. One critical role for the Port's Marine Terminal 6 is emergency fuel distribution. Fuel shortages will likely be a significant issue following a Cascadia Subduction Zone earthquake. The Port has made seismic safety improvements at Terminal 6 to secure the terminal as an essential operations resource after a major seismic event.

More work around identifying needed debris clearing and dredging capabilities and resources is required to support maritime response and recovery operations. Maritime operations hold significant promise for improving emergency response and recovery. Seismic assessments and mitigation of facilities along the Willamette and Columbia Rivers will help support marine navigation following an earthquake.

#### Additional technical Port comments on SB 1567 (as introduced), and the -1 amendment

The Port of Portland is committed to playing a critical role in protecting the health and safety of Oregonians during and after emergencies, and we recognize the importance of the policies objectives outlined in SB 1567. As the legislature considers the bill, we hope that you can provide more clarity regarding applicability and responsibility of different entities on an integrated and connected network of pipelines and storage facilities.

For example, Section 2 of the bill identifies the responsibility of bulk oils and liquid fuels terminal owners or operators to complete seismic assessments of buildings, pipelines, storage tanks, spill containment, transloading facilities, and any other structures and related to supporting facilities that constitute the bulk oils or liquid fuels terminals. Section 3 of the bill similarly requires mitigation plan implementation for this collection of facilities. The ownership and management structure of these types of facilities, including their interface with connecting pipelines and other infrastructure, is often quite complex. The Department of Environmental Quality and State Department of Geology and Mineral Industries rulemaking processes referenced in Sections 2 and 3 of this bill must address the complexities of ownership and management of fuel systems, clear definition of the facility components subject to regulation, and provide clear limits of responsibility and applicability of the seismic assessment and seismic mitigation implementation plans.

Lastly, the Port recognized the importance and supports the creation of the Seismic Risk Mitigation Fund proposed in the -1 which could be used to provide to provide grants and financial assistance to support mitigation.

Thank you for your consideration of our comments.