

David Perk

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Okay, great. My name is David Perk, P-E-R-K. My contact information is davidperk@comcast.net. I am a resident of Seattle. I am – I appreciate that Ecology is reaching out with a virtual seminar on this. I do regret that it is as abbreviated as it is. I do feel like I have some understanding, but I feel like I still have concerns. Those involve heavy sinking oils and I am recalling some of the testimony that I heard in the State Legislature about the need for staging response teams, virtually following along with the vessels carrying heavy oils. This was testimony in the context of the orca hearings. And the tugboat or vessel captains who testified indicated that a three-minute response time was crucial for being able to respond to heavy oils. I'm not sure whether that's part of the contingency planning here, it doesn't seem to be. I'm not sure whether that capability was included in the legislation that was passed this past session -- the three-minute response time. But I am concerned that currently there is heavy oil being moved by barge and while it's not within the scope of this hearing, I recognize that there may be quite a bit more oil that is moved in the future so it seems that that quick response time will be very crucial. Based on what I've learned tonight, I am reassured slightly that Ecology is going to be more effective and diverse in their response and will be considering more aspects of the response than previously and it sounds like more contractors will be vetted and approved to do various things, that's all great. I am concerned that the best way to deal with this issue would be to prevent it in the first place and I would submit that moving heavy oil by vessel really isn't something we want in our waters. I recognize that's outside of the scope of Ecology, but I feel like that's an intrinsic part of my perspective. I am very concerned that both rivers and shorelines be examined. The other aspect of this that concerns me slightly is that since heavy oil has already been moving through pipelines, over rivers or under rivers in the northern part of our state and being delivered to the Tacoma area, I'm wondering about establishing a baseline to determine what has already spilled and whether that has been done and I regret that I should have asked that as a question since I'm not going to get an answer in my testimony, but that seems like it might be something to do as a way of determining the status of the environment prior to any future event. Thank you very much for the opportunity to comment. I remain concerned that Ecology is not quite up to the challenge of all the junk that is moved by boat and pipeline, but I really appreciate your hard work. Thank you very much.