Terminal 4 Pier Modernization Project

**Project description**

Terminal 4, part of the Husky Container Terminal, has become outdated in the face of modern containerized ship building trends. With wharfs constructed at odd alignments and cranes unable to handle increasingly larger ships, Terminal 4 is in need of improvements. The Port began phased improvements of the container terminal by upgrading the adjacent Terminal 3 in 2014. The second phase involves the removal of contaminated sediment under the Terminal 4 Pier; construction is currently underway. The final phase, for which the Port is seeking federal funds, would reconstruct the Terminal 4 pier, aligning it with the neighboring Pier 3 to create one contiguous 2,960 foot long pier structure capable of simultaneously berthing two ultra-large container ships. The new pier structure will also be designed to accommodate modern 24-container wide, 100-gauge cranes needed to work larger vessels.

**Project status**

The Port began design work in August 2012 and is at 60 percent design. The Port completed its environmental review through SEPA in April 2014 and is currently undergoing permit review.

**Upgrades improve cargo throughput**

In an effort to contain costs and remain competitive, ocean carriers are increasingly moving to larger and larger ships. These larger vessels provide economies of scale to reduce the per-container cost of moving cargo across the ocean.

The planned upgrades to Terminal 4 will allow the Husky Container Terminal to increase the size of ships it can handle. Today, the terminal can serve ships that carry 6,500 Twenty Foot Equivalent Unit (TEU) containers. After the improvements, the terminal will be able to handle 18,000 TEU vessels with the new cranes, increasing cargo throughput capacity across the pier from about 767,000 TEUs annually to an estimated 1.3 million TEUs. It is the increased throughput that will create the demand for new family wage jobs in the region.

**Improved cargo throughput results in additional jobs**

Today, an estimated 1,519 jobs in Washington State are somehow connected to the movement of cargo through the Husky Container Terminal. The upgrades to Terminal 4 will provide more cargo throughput and ensure the Terminal remains competitive in today's evolving international shipping market-- providing an opportunity to increase the number of jobs associated with the terminal over time.