Ms. Carole Washburn
Executive Secretary
Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission
PO Box 47250
1300 Evergreen Park Drive S.W.
Olympia, WA 98504-7250

**Subject: Olympic Pipe Line Company Application (Docket TO-051977)** 

Dear Ms. Washburn:

In preparation for the January 25, 2006 hearing before the commission, I wanted to take this opportunity to summarize the efforts Olympic Pipeline Company has taken to communicate with key stakeholders regarding the pending ownership change.

## **Phone Notifications (December 12<sup>th</sup> 2005):**

As president of Olympic Pipeline Company, I personally contacted more than 20 key stakeholders by phone on the day Olympic announced that Enbridge would seek a majority ownership position in the company. The stakeholders included a mix of pipeline safety and regulatory agencies, including WUTC, OPS, and FERC, DOE and EPA. In addition, I notified several members of the pipeline safety community, state and federal legislators, and municipalities. The primary purpose of these contacts was to ensure the stakeholders understood that BP would remain the operator of Olympic and current operating procedures and safety practices would remain unchanged. All conversations were positive and no issues or concerns were raised.

## Notice Mailing (December 22 – 23, 2005):

Olympic prepared a "Notice" document to provide stakeholders with a more formal means of understanding the pending Enbridge and BP ownership transaction. After WUTC staff reviewed and commented on the form of notice, between 12/22/05 and 12/23/05, 58 separate notifications were mailed to key stakeholders. To date, Olympic has not received any comments, challenges or concerns as a result of the Notification process.

## **Shippers Meeting (January 17, 2006):**

Olympic Pipeline conducts periodic "Shippers" meetings to allow customers who nominate shipments on the pipeline to discuss business issues. On January 17, Olympic

hosted a Shippers meeting attended by 34 people representing our customer base. No comments, challenges, or concerns were raised at this meeting by the customers.

## **Daily Business Contacts:**

As a normal outcome of daily business, Olympic personnel routinely interact with stakeholders (Shippers, Department of Ecology, Office of Pipeline Safety, Refiners, etc.). Since announcing the pending transaction between BP and Enbridge on 12/12/05, I am not aware of any challenges or concerns raised from our diverse set of stakeholders regarding the transaction.

I hope this summary of our efforts to provide external stakeholders with numerous opportunities to comment helps the Commission favorably rule on our application. I look forward to the public meeting on the January 25 and working with the Commission to finalize the process.

Respectfully submitted,

Chris Maudlin President, Olympic Pipe Line Company