RESOLUTION NO. 1429

A RESOLUTION OF THE PORT OF PASCO, SUPPORTING RECONVEYANCE OF FEDERALLY-OWNED LANDS ALONG THE COLUMBIA AND SNAKE RIVERS TO LOCAL OWNERSHIP

WHEREAS, most of the Columbia River shoreline and some of the lower Snake River shoreline in the Tri-Cities Region was expropriated from local public and private ownership and placed into federal ownership after the floods of 1948 and subsequent construction of the McNary and John Day Dam projects; and,

WHEREAS, after several decades, management of the Columbia River is now a refined practice that has changed the hydrology of the rivers such that its flow is generally static, predictable and not subject to the threats of dynamic fluctuations; and,

WHEREAS, there is a sense in the Tri-Cities Region that local ownership and control over these shore lands would improve opportunities for economic development and enhanced recreational use; and,

WHEREAS, the Port of Pasco is engaged in the economic development of our region and owns property adjacent to the federally appropriated shore lands that could benefit by local control; and,

WHEREAS, the Port of Pasco finds the time appropriate for detailed discussions about the long-term ownership of Rivershore area and is ready to assist local efforts in these discussions with local, state, tribal and federal partners and stakeholders;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Port of Pasco supports the efforts to re-convey to local ownership the lands acquired by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers within that area of the Columbia and Snake River shoreline commonly defined as the Tri-Cities; and that such re-conveyance also include the release of property easements and other deed restrictions, such as, but not limited to, flowage easements and occupancy restrictions.

BE IT RESOLVED, that copies of this Resolution be immediately transmitted to the state of Washington's Congressional delegation.

PORT OF PASCO COMMISSIONERS

Ronald P. Reimann, President

Jean Ryckman, Vice President

James T. Klindworth, Secretary