

Bill Hall County Commissioner

Courthouse, Room 110 225 W. Olive Street Newport, Oregon 97365 (541) 265-4100 FAX (541) 265-4176

March 4, 2014

Kimberly Kler, Environmental Planner Naval Facilities Engineering Command Northwest 110 1Tautog Circle, Suite 203 Silverdale, WA 98315-1101

Michael Payne, Chief, Permits and Conservation Division Office of Protected Resources National Marine Fisheries Service 1315 East-West Highway Silver Spring, MD 20910-3225

Re: Request for 60-day extension of deadline for public comments

Dear Ms. Kler and Mr. Payne,

I am writing on behalf of the Lincoln County Board of Commissioners regarding the Navy's request for authorization from the NOAA/National Marine Fisheries Service for the incidental take permits of marine mammals and the Navy Draft EIS/OEIS. We feel that it is in the best interest of the community to extend both of the deadlines for public comments on the ITP permits and Navy NWTT Draft EIS/OEIS.

Due to the length of the documents available for review, we feel that more time is required in order to adequately gather public comments from members of the community and surrounding areas.

We recognize and appreciate the Navy's attempts to reach out to the public in order to gather comments on their Draft EIS/OEIS and their two letters of authorization from the NOAA Fisheries for the incidental take permits. The board however would greatly appreciate an extension on these deadlines mentioned above, and believes this extension is necessary to allow for more meaningful public input.

Thank you for your attention to our concerns.

Sincerely

Bill Hall

