November 1, 2011

Mr. Sam Ruda
Port of Portland
7200 NE Airport Way, PO Box 3529
Portland, OR 97218

RE: Beneficial Use Determination Approval
BUD No. 20110803
Port of Portland, T-6 Dredge Sediment
Multnomah County

Dear Mr. Ruda:

The Department of Environmental Quality has reviewed and approves The Port of Portland’s August 3, 2011 application for a solid waste beneficial use determination. The Port proposes to use dredge sediment from Port Terminal T-6 as construction fill material at the Port’s existing dredge material placement site on West Hayden Island. The material will be used to raise the site grades for future development.

DEQ has determined that The Port’s beneficial use proposal meets the requirements for a Tier 2 case-specific beneficial use determination under the recently adopted Oregon Administrative Rules (OAR) 340-093-0260 through 0290. DEQ’s determination is based on a review of whether The Port’s proposed beneficial uses of sediment meet the case-specific beneficial use performance criteria outlined in OAR 340-093-0280. Details of our review are provided in the attached Beneficial Use of Solid Waste Determination Evaluation Form.

This beneficial use determination is limited to the materials, approved uses, and conditions specified in this letter. The conditions of this beneficial use determination are intended to prevent adverse impacts to public health, safety, welfare or the environment from the use of your dredge sediment.

Material
The material consists of approximately 20,000 to 40,000 cubic yards of sediments that the Port of Portland will dredge from the Columbia River at the Port of Portland’s Terminal T-6. The application includes laboratory chemical analytical results of sediments from the area that the Port will dredge. This approval applies to the characterized, dredge prism sediments. The Project Review Group, the federal and state agencies that review dredging projects, has approved these T-6 sediments for unconfined in-water disposal. Dredged materials from other locations will need to be evaluated through separate beneficial use determinations.

DEQ reviewed analytical results shown in Table 1 of the application and compared these results, which are representative of the dredge prism, to human health occupational risk-based concentrations, DEQ’s ecological screening level values, and default metals soil background values. DEQ’s review indicates that contaminant concentrations in these Terminal T-6 sediments are below levels of concern.
Approved Uses
DEQ approves placement of the dredged material at the existing West Hayden Island Placement Facility, located at approximately 45° 37' 25" N, 122° 42' 9" W. The use is as fill material to increase site grade prior to future development of the property.

Conditions on Use
Dewatering and placement of sediments must be done to prevent discharges to waters in accordance with the DEQ 401 Water Quality Certification.

The sediment placement area must progress towards development as indicated in the application. DEQ understands the next phase in the planning process to be the preparation of a Legislative Process (Annexation Report, Plan District, Zoning Report) and a City Council decision that will define the future use of West Hayden Island. If, in the planning process, the local governments (City of Portland, Metro or Multnomah County) decide that marine related commercial or industrial development is not approved or that development is otherwise not going to occur, the Port of Portland must contact DEQ and provide a written update on the status of the property. The Port must then reevaluate the risk screening of the contaminant concentrations in the sediments and take any necessary mitigation measures approved by DEQ to ensure that the material will not cause an adverse impact to people or wildlife based on the local government defined land use for the property.

If the material is proposed to be moved from the West Hayden Island Placement Facility to some other location, the Port of Portland must manage the material as solid waste.

Reporting
Within two months of the completion of dredged sediment placement, the Port of Portland must provide a report to DEQ. The report must include the volume of material placed at the West Hayden Island facility and any location or characterization information if changed from that in the application.

Every two years from the completion of sediment placement, the Port must submit an update letter report to DEQ that demonstrates progress towards development. Reports will no longer be required once the area of sediment placement is developed in accordance with this Beneficial Use Determination.

Reports must be submitted to DEQ with a $250.00 fee payment. Submit reports to:

Audrey O’Brien, Manager
Northwest Region Environmental Partnerships Section
Oregon Department of Environmental Quality
2020 SW Fourth Avenue, Suite 400
Portland, OR 97201

If you have any questions about this BUD, please call me at 503-229-5072 or Tim Spencer at 503-229-5826.

Sincerely,

Audrey O’Brien, Manager
Northwest Region Environmental Partnerships

encl:  Beneficial Use of Solid Waste Determination Evaluation Form
ec:    Tim Spencer DEQ-NWR spencer.tim@deq.state.or.us