



C. L. "BUTCH" OTTER
GOVERNOR

January 9, 2009

The Port of Lewiston
1626 6th Ave North
Lewiston, ID 83501

Dear Port of Lewiston Commissioners,

I was pleased to learn that the Columbia-Snake River system was recognized as a national asset by energy companies involved in the Kearl Mine Development in Alberta, Canada. ExxonMobil and Imperial Oil are to be commended for their research to identify logistical efficiencies. I am confident they will find value in using the Columbia-Snake River System as a more direct and efficient route to the Kearl Oil Sands.

It is my understanding that there is an upcoming validation move from Korea to the Kearl Mining area. A replicated module is scheduled to be shipped during the first quarter of 2009. Considering that "Idaho's Seaport," the Port of Lewiston, is further inland than any other seaport on the West Coast, I am honored to be able to take this opportunity to encourage Imperial Oil and ExxonMobil to utilize the Port of Lewiston for the planned test run to Canada.

Therefore, on behalf of the State of Idaho, I pledge our support and cooperation to enhance the development of this important new business opportunity, in partnership with the Port of Lewiston, City of Lewiston, Nez Perce County, and local economic development officials. As the project progresses, we look forward to working with the Port of Lewiston, ExxonMobil, and Imperial Oil to facilitate this exciting project.

We believe your prospective clients will be impressed with Idaho's "can do" spirit, pro-business climate, and the Port's capabilities. Please continue to keep my office and the Idaho Department of Commerce apprised of any new developments and any specific needs the Port may have to support this effort.

As Always – Idaho, "Esto Perpetua"

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "C.L. Butch Otter".

C.L. "Butch" Otter
Governor of Idaho