May 20, 2014

Mr. Timothy Blair, Senior Planner
Planning and Development
Port Metro Vancouver
100 The Pointe, 999 Canada Place
Vancouver, BC Canada V6C 3T4

Dear Mr. Blair:

Pursuant to our announcement in 2013, BNSF Railway remains committed to building a coal re-spray center along our rail line. This facility is a voluntary measure that is responsive to a request from Port Metro Vancouver as part of its permitting process for coal export facilities located in British Columbia.

The re-spray center will be located at our Pasco, Wash., Rail Yard, as it best fits our operational needs. BNSF has received all necessary permits and anticipates construction will begin in the summer of 2014. It is our intent to have the re-spray center operational by early 2015; however, it is important to note that there could be unforeseen and uncontrollable issues that may have the potential to impact our progress. The re-spray center is a top priority for us and we are aggressively working to ensure we are doing everything reasonably possible to meet the target date.

Once the re-spray center is operational, coal traveling in unit trains through the facility bound for British Columbia will be treated. This additional effort provides another level of redundancy to an already well-established mitigation process. As we’ve always said, BNSF is committed to addressing coal dust as an issue. We take this commitment very seriously, and this is why for nearly a decade we have been very proactive in our efforts to mitigate coal dust.

BNSF proudly serves British Columbia, transporting both Canadian and U.S. goods between the two strategic trading partners. In fact, one-third of BNSF’s volume is tied to international trade with Canada, Mexico and the U.S. and Canadian ports BNSF serves. We are committed to safely transporting all of the commodities we carry. Nothing is more important to us than the safety of the communities where we operate.

We value our relationship with Port Metro Vancouver and look forward to our continued success in growing and facilitating trade between Canada and the United States.

Sincerely,

George Duggan
Group Vice President, Coal Marketing
BNSF Railway