



PORT OF KENNEWICK

PRESS RELEASE

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PORT OF KENNEWICK GETS CLEAN AUDIT State Auditor Issues Port 13th Consecutive Report with No Findings

Kennewick, WA – The Port of Kennewick’s financial, accountability and legal compliance audits for January 1, 2007 through December 31, 2007 were conducted by the Washington State Auditor’s Office (SAO). According to Kent Zirker, audit manager, this marks the 13th consecutive year Port of Kennewick received no audit findings (a finding indicates material deficiencies within the organization). Zirker stated, “This was another clean audit for the Port of Kennewick which is an outstanding record, and is evidence that the Port works hard to be diligent and transparent in their operations.”

The Port is responsible for ensuring that its financial data, completeness of information, and public disclosures are accurate and in compliance. Each year the State Auditor’s office reviews the Port of Kennewick’s finances and records to ensure complete and accurate reporting; that tax dollars are spent properly; there is no misuse

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of public funds; and that the organization follows state, local, and federal laws, along with its own policies and procedures.

“The Port of Kennewick recognizes that we must be good stewards of the public’s trust and resources, and we strive to uphold the highest integrity in all our operations,” stated Tim Arntzen, Port of Kennewick executive director. Added, Tammy Fine, the Port’s director of finance/auditor, “A clean audit is the key to assuring taxpayers that the Port of Kennewick takes its responsibilities seriously and that the taxpayer’s dollars are being used to benefit the community.”

In the latest inspection, the State Auditor’s Office reviewed internal controls and reporting related to cash receipting; disbursements; long-term debt; cash and investments; accounts receivable; bid law and prevailing wages; contract compliance; Port assets; Open Public Meetings Act; and overall presentation of the financial statements. In addition, the audit reviewed the general accounting department revenues and expenditures. Each of these areas was thoroughly reviewed and was deemed to be in compliance and free of misstatement. The full reports are available online at:

<http://www.sao.wa.gov/reports/auditreports/auditreportfiles/ar1000974.pdf>

<http://www.sao.wa.gov/reports/auditreports/auditreportfiles/ar1000975.pdf>

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