



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**PORT OF LONGVIEW SETS RECORD YEAR:
*Operating revenue reaches all time high***

Longview, WA- In a presentation to the Board of Commissioners, Executive Director Ken O'Hollaren reported 2008 as a record setting year for the Port of Longview.

In 2008 operating revenue reached a Port best \$23,486, 930. Last year is the first time the Port has ever exceeded the \$20 million dollar mark, second closest being \$19,825,917 in 1999. Operating revenue was a reported 26% higher in 2008 than \$18,661,118 in 2007. As a result of the record income, net operating revenue (before depreciation) rose more than 100% to \$2,854,692. Port officials attribute much of the revenue increase to continued wind energy cargo handling.

"Everyone in our Longview Port community should be deservedly proud of this record-setting accomplishment," stated O'Hollaren while praising staff efforts.

The Port of Longview recorded 1.3 million metric tons of total cargo handled last year, up 16% from 1.1 million metric tons in 2007. While 2008 import tonnages were down 26% for the year, the overall increase was spurred by a 29% increase in the export of bulk cargos, steel, logs and wind energy cargo.

"The Commission is extremely pleased with the Port's performance", remarked Commission Chairman Dan Buell. "We feel 2008 has positioned us well to weather the uncertain economic climate."

In 2008 the Port welcomed its Liebherr LHM500S Mobile Harbor Crane to supplement the growing wind energy cargo handling operations, as well as attract additional heavy lift cargos.

Looking forward into 2009, the Port welcomes the prospect of a grain terminal, which would be the first export grain elevator built in the country in over twenty five years. A grain facility at the Port would provide significant local and regional economic benefits; employment, revenue to the Port and contribution to the local tax base.

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About the Port of Longview

The Port of Longview is the first full-service operating port with strategic transportation connections on the deep-draft Columbia River shipping channel in southwest Washington State. The Port is located just 66 river miles from the Pacific Ocean, 120 driving miles from Seattle, Washington, and 40 driving miles from Portland, Oregon. Port facilities include eight marine terminals and waterfront industrial property with direct connections to main-line rail and interstate highway. Cargo handling specialties include all types of bulk cargos and breakbulk commodities such as steel, lumber, logs, pulp, paper, project and heavy-lift cargo.