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Pacific Northwest navigation interests represented at U.S. Senate Hearing

PNWA Executive Director Dr. Glenn Vanselow will testify at the U.S. Senate hearing on National Strategies for Efficient Freight Mobility on Tuesday, June 10th, 2008 in Washington, DC.

“Navigation is the cleanest and most cost effective mode of transportation, and is extremely important to the Pacific Northwest. In this region, our ports ship 90 million tons of cargo worth over \$60 billion,” Vanselow said. “It is important that our leaders realize this so they can provide the funds necessary to fully maintain our navigable waterways in the Pacific Northwest.”

Vanselow represents navigation interests in the Pacific Northwest and is set to bear witness on the state of Pacific Northwest navigation infrastructure before the Subcommittee on Surface Transportation and Merchant Marine Infrastructure, Safety and Security of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation. His testimony will stress the importance of both water and landside transportation infrastructure, with a focus on navigation’s vast economic and environmental benefits, and the need for adequate funding of navigation infrastructure. In particular, Vanselow will address the \$4 billion surplus in the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund, PNWA’s opposition to the Administration’s proposed inland lockage fees, and the additional money needed in FY2009 to successfully maintain navigation throughout the Columbia Snake River System, Oregon coastal ports, the Puget Sound, and northern California.

For more information and to view Vanselow’s full testimony, please visit our website, www.pnwa.net.

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About PNWA: The Pacific Northwest Waterways Association (PNWA) is a non-partisan, non-profit organization that advocates for federal policies and funding in support of regional economic development. PNWA represents multiple industries in the public and private sectors in Oregon, Washington, Idaho, and California. Members include public ports, navigation, transportation, international trade, tourism, agriculture, forest products, energy and local government interests. Since its founding in 1934, PNWA led the way for development of economic infrastructure for navigation, electric power and irrigated agriculture on the Columbia and Snake River System. In 1971, PNWA expanded, adding Puget Sound and coastal port members to provide a comprehensive regional perspective. Today, PNWA works with the U.S. Congress, federal agencies and regional decision leaders on transportation, trade, tourism, energy and environmental policy to enhance economic vitality in the Pacific Northwest. You can learn more about PNWA at www.pnwa.net.