



Mike Chrisman, Secretary for Resources, Council Chair  
John Garamendi, Lieutenant Governor, State Lands Commission Chair  
Linda Adams, Secretary for Environmental Protection  
Susan Golding, Public Member  
Geraldine Knatz, Public Member  
Darrell Steinberg, State Senator  
Pedro Nava, State Assemblymember

October 25, 2007

Mike Carrier, Natural Resources Policy Director  
900 Court Street, N.E.  
Salem, Oregon 97301

Jay Manning, Director  
Washington Department of Ecology  
P.O. Box 47600  
Olympia, Washington 98504-7600

Dear Directors Carrier and Manning:

The Ocean Protection Council supports the current Draft Action Plan of the West Coast Governors' Agreement on Ocean Health as a first step to address ocean and coastal issues common to our states.

On April 17, 2007 the California Ocean Protection Council (OPC) held the first public workshop on the West Coast Governors' Agreement on Ocean Health. The meeting provided the OPC the opportunity to hear public testimony regarding the West Coast Agreement and the discussion paper released by your staff and staff from California on March 15, 2007. The OPC received testimony from representatives of the three states, the White House Council on Environmental Quality and numerous members of the public. The OPC is pleased with the responsiveness of staff and the fact that many of the OPC's recommendations have been incorporated into the latest Draft Action Plan.

We agree that the three states should begin to address the impacts of global warming, particularly sea level rise, on our coast. Assessment is critical, and we must take action as soon as possible. In addition, we are delighted that under Priority Area 1, that staff has emphasized the importance of enforcement of our water quality laws.

The West Coast Governors' Agreement is a unique regional partnership on ocean management that builds on the recommendations of the U.S. and Pew Commissions on Ocean Policy, both of which call for regional approaches to ocean management. The Draft Action Plan serves as a beginning for this type of unique regional approach to ocean management. Having reviewed the Draft Action Plan and upon the recommendation of our staff, the OPC supports the current Draft Action Plan on the West Coast Governors' Agreement on Ocean Health.

## Exhibit 4

We appreciate the opportunity to comment on the Draft Action Plan and thank you for your leadership on these important issues. We look forward to the release of the final Action Plan.

Sincerely,

Mike Chrisman  
Secretary for Resources  
Ocean Protection Council Chair