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**Subject:** Comment on agenda item 11.a

Dear Humboldt Bay Harbor Commissioners

We are pleased to see that the District has included an agenda item for an overview of NOP comments for the proposed Humboldt Bay Offshore Wind Heavy Lift Multipurpose Marine Terminal Project.

We are concerned that the District has not provided an update or formal response to serious concerns raised in writing by several Tribal Nations, community based organizations, and other partners on the potential impact to Tribal peoples as relates to the ongoing crisis of Missing and Murdered Indigenous People (MMIP). We hope that this agenda item will discuss measures the District will take to address MMIP, as the risk of MMIP was brought up in the joint NOP comments submitted by the Northcoast Environmental Center, EPIC, Coalition for Responsible Transportation Priorities and Humboldt Baykeeper, as well as comments from Bear River Band of the Rohnerville Rancheria, the Blue Lake Rancheria, California Center for Rural Policy, Changing Tides Family Services, College of the Redwoods, CORE Hub, the Hoopa Valley Tribe, Humboldt County Association of Governments, Northern California Indian Development Council, Peninsula Community Collaborative, Peninsula Community Services District, Redwood Community Action Agency, Selkie Land and Sea, Sierra Club North Group of the Redwood Chapter, Surfrider Foundation Humboldt, 350 Humboldt, the Yurok Tribe, and multiple other parties.

We are asking you to commit to responding to Tribal Nations, and community based organizations regarding the need for policies to prevent and respond to issues related to MMIP, and indicate how the District will incorporate these policies as a condition to Harbor Commission approval of any lease for development. Given Crowley maritime services' alarming history of sex trafficking and recent legal and personnel developments, we also want to know if the District is moving forward with their negotiations with Crowley. If so, how will you ensure protections for local Indigenous communities?

As noted in the joint comments submitted by environmental organizations, the sheer size of this Project —with a potential geographical footprint twice the size of the adjacent town of Fairhaven— will inevitably result in various impacts, not just to the Bay but to the surrounding communities. Meaningfully responding to these concerns, both environmental and community impacts, and coming up with implementable policies to address and avoid impacts needs to be a part of this process.

Thank you for incorporating this into your discussion.

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**Caroline Griffith (she/they)**

**Executive Director and EcoNews Editor**

*The Northcoast Environmental Center sits in Goudi'ni, part of the unceded ancestral land of the Wiyot peoples. We strive to follow the example of the Indigenous peoples of the north coast who continue to steward this land as they*

*have done since time immemorial. We pledge to listen to, learn from, respect, and include the voices of Indigenous peoples in our work advocating for the wellbeing of this land and the people who call it home. Join us in acknowledging and respecting the sovereignty of the Wiyot Tribe by participating in the [Wiyot Honor Tax](#), or supporting the tribe upon whose land you reside.*

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