From: Will Anderson
To: MakahDEIS.nwr@noaa.gov;
Subject: Hearing Request MAKAH DEIS 2008
Date: Thursday, May 15, 2008 10:50:58 PM

May 15, 2008

Steve Stone
NMFS Northwest Region
1201 NE Lloyd Blvd., Suite 1100
Portland, OR 97232

Mr. Stone,

The Federal Register / Vol. 73, No. 91 / Friday, May 9, 2008 / Notices/ 26375 announced the release of the Makah DEIS, a comments deadline of July 8 and a schedule of public hearings – June 1, 2008 for Seattle.

This is an urgent request that the deadline for comments be extended at least 30 days, preferably 45, and the Seattle hearing rescheduled at least 30 days beyond the current date. There is simply not enough time provided to critically read and comment on a 900 page document with so little notice for both the written and hearing purposes. There is no emergency at hand to warrant the proposed schedule of events. In addition, a number of stakeholders will be preparing for and attending the International Whaling Commission June 26 through June 30 in Santiago, Chile.

The current Makah DEIS schedule appears to be a rush through the purposes of NEPA wherein public participation will be diminished. I respectfully ask the Department of Commerce/NMFS NWR to anticipate the signal this sends to those who have questioned the process-to-date. A more reasonable and fair schedule is appropriate.

Thank you,

Will Anderson
Friends of the Gray Whale

2122 - 8th Avenue N, #201
Seattle, WA 98109
friendsofthegraywhale@comcast.net
206.715.6414