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## Press Release

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## WIND ENERGY CARGO DISCHARGED AT PORT OF OLYMPIA

The *Industrial Diamond* arrived at the Port of Olympia's Berth 3 April 21, 2007 to discharge a cargo of windmill blades bound for Phase 3 of the Klondike Wind Farm in Sherman County, Oregon.

The vessel contained 120 windmill blades manufactured in Brazil for the General Electric Company, which is supplying them to the wind farm. The blades are about 125 feet long, weigh on average about 35,000 pounds each, and will be stored in the Port's cargo yard for 30-45 days while they are loaded onto trucks for the trip to Eastern Oregon.

A second vessel carrying a wind energy cargo is expected at the Port later this spring. Last year, the Port handled a similar shipment of blades that was destined for a wind power project in Calgary, Alberta.

"The Port has a skilled labor force that is well suited to handling this type of specialty cargo," said Port Commissioner Bill McGregor. "In addition, we have ample cargo yard space to store the blades and are strategically located near I-5 for easy transport. With our experience from last year, we demonstrated our capabilities and earned this repeat business."

Wind energy is a large emerging market, serving a nationwide need for environmentally friendly, affordable energy. The Klondike Wind Farm is owned by PPM Energy, an energy company based in Portland, OR. The first phase of the project came on line in 2001, and the two phases completed to date generate 99 megawatts of electricity, or enough to power about 25,000 homes in the Pacific Northwest. Phase 3, under construction in 2007, will consist of 122 turbines and generate 221 megawatts of electricity.

"The Port is excited to be part of supplying components to help satisfy the growing demand for wind energy," said McGregor. "Wind farms not only make a substantial contribution to generating clean energy but have positive impacts on the local economies where they are located."

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### About the Port of Olympia

The southernmost deepwater port on Puget Sound, the Port of Olympia is Thurston County's partner in economic opportunity. The Port owns and operates a diversified international shipping terminal, an established niche facility that

handles a range of breakbulk and project cargoes. The Port also owns and operates a strategically located regional airport, a vibrant 656-slip recreational marina and boat haulout/repair facility, and a thriving real estate division. A community port, it generates an estimated 2,600 jobs in Thurston County and indirectly over 5,000 jobs in Washington State.