

*BNSF's Rail Expansion Project*

# **SANDPOINT JUNCTION CONNECTOR PROJECT**

*Tips for commenting & testifying*

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## **INTRODUCE YOURSELF**

*Respectfully greet the hearing official and share your name and the city/state you reside in.*

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## **SHARE YOUR STORY**

*How long have you lived in Idaho?*

*Why do you care about Lake Pend Oreille or the City of Sandpoint?*

*Connect the issue with your profession, your family, or your values.*

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## **ONE AND DONE**

*State one strong argument or concern you have about the bridge. Are you concerned about wildlife? Water quality? Train traffic? Derailments? Noise?*

*Explain why you're concerned.*

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## **END WITH A REQUEST**

*Respectfully thank the hearing official for the opportunity to comment/speak, and request the Coast Guard provide an Environmental Impact Statement.*

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### ***Why an Environmental Impact statement is needed:***

*An EIS is needed to thoroughly evaluate impacts to the human, economic, and environmental health. Most importantly, an EIS will identify measures to mitigate impacts resulting from the project and identify any remaining unavoidable and significant adverse impacts for the benefit of rail side communities and the health of Lake Pend Oreille.*

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*draft Environmental Assessment Comment Period*

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*The Coast Guard is accepting public comment on its draft Environmental Assessment through March 25, 2019*

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*Two public hearings are scheduled for March 13, 2019  
8 AM and 6 PM  
Ponderay Events Center, 401 Bonner Mall Way, Ponderay, Idaho.*

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*You can access a hard copy of the draft EA here:  
East Bonner County Library  
1407 Cedar Street  
Sandpoint, Idaho 83864*

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*You can submit written comments via snail mail to this address:  
Attn: Steven Fischer  
915 2nd Avenue  
Seattle, WA 98174-1067*

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*You can submit comments online at:  
<https://www.regulations.gov/comment?D=USCG-2018-1085-0001>*

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