

**Washington State Auditor's Office**

**Accountability Audit Report**

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**Port of Bellingham Industrial Development  
Corporation  
Whatcom County**

Report Date  
**July 24, 2014**

**Report No. 1012404**

Issue Date  
**August 25, 2014**



**Washington State Auditor  
Troy Kelley**

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Independence • Respect • Integrity



## Washington State Auditor Troy Kelley

August 25, 2014

Board of Directors  
Port of Bellingham Industrial Development Corporation  
Bellingham, Washington

### ***Report on Accountability***

We appreciate the opportunity to work in cooperation with your Corporation to promote accountability, integrity and openness in government. The State Auditor's Office takes seriously our role to advocate for government accountability and transparency and to promote positive change.

Please find attached our report on the Port of Bellingham Industrial Development Corporation's internal controls and compliance. This report will also be published on our website at [www.sao.wa.gov](http://www.sao.wa.gov) as a matter of public record. Our audit was performed under the authority of state law (RCW 43.09.260) and included procedures we considered necessary under the circumstances.

Thank you for working with us to ensure the efficient and effective use of public resources.

Sincerely,

**TROY KELLEY**  
STATE AUDITOR

# **Audit Summary**

## **Port of Bellingham Industrial Development Corporation Whatcom County July 24, 2014**

### ***ABOUT THE AUDIT***

This report contains the results of our independent accountability audit of the Port of Bellingham Industrial Development Corporation from January 1, 2011 through December 31, 2013.

The objective of our audit was to evaluate the adequacy of the Corporation's internal controls to safeguard public resources and the Corporation's compliance with state law and its own policies. In keeping with general auditing practices, we did not review every aspect of the Corporation's internal controls and compliance. Instead, our review focused on areas representing the highest risk of misappropriation, misuse or noncompliance.

Our report is addressed to the governing body and management of the Corporation. However, this report is a matter of public record and its distribution is not limited.

### ***RESULTS***

In the areas we examined, the Corporation's internal controls were adequate to safeguard public assets. The Corporation also complied with state laws and its own policies in the areas we examined.

However, we noted certain matters that we communicated to the Corporation. We appreciate the Corporation's commitment to resolving those matters.

## **Description of the Corporation**

### **Port of Bellingham Industrial Development Corporation Whatcom County July 24, 2014**

#### ***ABOUT THE CORPORATION***

The Port of Bellingham Industrial Development Corporation, established in 1982, facilitates the issuance of tax-exempt, nonrecourse revenue bonds to assist in development of industrial facilities within the corporate boundaries of the port.

The Port of Bellingham's three-member Board of Commissioners governs the Corporation. The Corporation is considered a blended component unit of the port and is included within the port's financial statements.

#### ***CORPORATION CONTACT INFORMATION***

Address: Port of Bellingham Industrial Development Corporation  
P.O. Box 1677  
Bellingham, WA 98227-1677

Phone: 360-676-2500



## **ABOUT THE STATE AUDITOR'S OFFICE**

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The State Auditor's Office is established in the state's Constitution and is part of the executive branch of state government. The State Auditor is elected by the citizens of Washington and serves four-year terms.

We work with our audit clients and citizens as an advocate for government accountability. As an elected agency, the State Auditor's Office has the independence necessary to objectively perform audits and investigations. Our audits are designed to comply with professional standards as well as to satisfy the requirements of federal, state, and local laws.

The State Auditor's Office employees are located around the state to deliver services effectively and efficiently.

Our audits look at financial information and compliance with state, federal and local laws on the part of all local governments, including schools, and all state agencies, including institutions of higher education. In addition, we conduct performance audits of state agencies and local governments and fraud, whistleblower and citizen hotline investigations.

The results of our work are widely distributed through a variety of reports, which are available on our Web site and through our free, electronic subscription service.

We take our role as partners in accountability seriously. We provide training and technical assistance to governments and have an extensive quality assurance program.

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