

This is meant to address concerns that I have with the construction and operation of a coal terminal in Longview, WA. The draft EIS says that construction will begin in 2018, with completion in 2024, and fully operational status by 2028. It astonishes me that in the same time frame other nations, as well as private companies, propose manned missions to mars, we are discussing a coal terminal. For what? Is it the early 1800's? Is there some secret development of new steam ship technology?

I cannot imagine that 12 years from now the United States will still be shipping coal around the world. We need to set an example and stop enabling others for a few dollars. To say that we will be operating a coal storage and shipping terminal in 2028, and years after, means there will still be companies engaged in the destructive mining of coal. However, it will not be a necessity, but greed that keeps it going. It will be cheaper than developing new technology, and an easy way to take advantage of another county's undisciplined standards. This may sound sarcastic, poorly thought out, or even un-educated. However, it is no more so than shipping, storing, and selling coal to be burned for power in 2028.