

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

November 10, 2016

Colonel John G. Buck  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Post Office Box 3755  
Seattle, WA 98124-3755

Millennium Bulk Terminals–Longview NEPA EIS  
c/o ICF International  
710 Second Avenue, Suite 550  
Seattle, Washington 98104

Dear Colonel Buck:

Please accept this letter as our official comment on the Millennium Bulk Terminals–Longview, LLC’s Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS). We strongly support this terminal project, particularly given the tremendous economic potential that exists for Montana, Wyoming, Washington, and the entire region once the facility is constructed and operational.

Since this project began the permitting process four years ago, the economics of energy development and production have dramatically shifted. Despite increased government regulations and shifts in national and international markets, terminals along the Pacific Coast shipping bulk commodities, from grain to coal, are well above capacity. This leaves many of Montana’s energy and agriculture industries with limited options to move exports into the Asian markets. In fact, many of our coal producers have had to ship from Canadian ports, which limits important employment opportunities for U.S. workers. The Millennium Bulk Terminal (MBT) is the most effective solution to create more jobs in Washington while expanding market opportunities for coal producers and good-paying jobs in neighboring states in an environmentally conscious manner.

Moreover, we have made it a priority to support measures that expand the access needed to grow our economic potential across all energy sectors. Coal is and will remain a critical component of our energy future, both in terms of its reliability and efficiency. The coal extracted from the Powder River Basin, while not only being a cleaner and highly sought after resource, directly supports the immediate wellbeing of communities across Montana. This is why a permitted and approved MBT is so crucial. The revenue generated from coal funds our schools, improves infrastructure deficiencies, and contributes to important investments in the immediate community and overall region. Right now, so many coal communities across Montana and Wyoming are struggling; however, a terminal to move one of our critical commodities would help these towns and companies stay viable.

Again, we are pleased to offer our support for the Millennium Bulk Terminal and urge the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to approve the project in its entirety. We appreciate the opportunity to offer comment and ask that you contact our offices if we can provide any additional information.

Sincerely,



---

STEVE DAINES  
U.S. Senator



---

RYAN ZINKE  
Member of Congress