

Building and Construction Trades Council

IN AFFILIATION WITH

BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION TRADES DEPARTMENT
AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR AND CONGRESS OF INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATIONS
P. O. BOX 2393
LONGVIEW, WASHINGTON 98632



Date: 11/14/16

To: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Seattle District.

RE: Final DEIS

The Longview-Kelso Building and Construction Trades Council (LKBCTC) is proud to offer support for Millennium Bulk Terminals (Millennium). LKBCTC coordinates the efforts of a host of Building Trade Union Locals in Cowlitz County, and led the effort to obtain a historic Project Labor Agreement with Millennium to ensure that many of the 1350 direct construction jobs, and a large portion of the \$70 million construction payroll, will stay in Southwest WA communities.

Our communities continue to struggle with high unemployment. While the average unemployment rate for the country is 5% and the state is near this number at 5.6%, many areas of Southwest WA are plagued by rates that are almost 50% higher than the national average. Many in our community feel left out of the economic boom that has taken place in areas like Seattle. We are eager to build these same types of long-term opportunities for working families in our own communities.

LKBCTC appreciates the careful and detailed Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) completed by the US Army Corps of Engineers for the Millennium project. The thousands of pages of information that make up this document provide a comprehensive and complete evaluation of the Millennium proposal. The DEIS shows that Millennium can be built and operated in a manner that will bring jobs to our community, but also preserve our quality of life by protecting our water and air.

LKBCTC urges the Corps to move quickly to complete its work on both the Final Environmental Impact Statement and the permits necessary for this project. After almost five years of review, it is time to begin construction. The men and women working in the construction trades are eager to share in the same types of opportunities that have been created in other parts of the state. We stand ready for the jobs that will be created by building the Millennium project, and our communities stand with us.

Sincerely,

Mike Bridges



President LKBCTC