

October 24th , 2016

To whom it may concern:

My name is Kathleen Jones. I grew up in the beautiful state of Washington and now live and work across the river in Portland. I plan on retiring to my family home in Washington. I urge you to vote against the Millenium Coal terminal in Longview for several reasons. As an RN, I experience daily the respiratory effects of polluted air, especially bad for the young and elderly. Coal dust emits millions of unseen particulates that pollute our air and lungs. Obtaining the coal and oil ruins and pollutes the landscape from which it is extracted. Look at some pictures of the Wyoming coal fields! We need to move into a clean energy future now. China, one of our main export countries, is experiencing a decrease in demand for coal along with the terrible health costs of its usage. Blue skies there are a rarity and facial masks common, due to the burning of coal. Economically, it doesn't make sense to spend the money building a terminal for a product for whom the demand is decreasing. Transporting the coal risks the dust entering our water ways as well; Our amazing Columbia River doesn't need more pollutants to threaten our fisheries industry. Unless you're living in a cave, you know the burning of fossil fuels is related to climate change. Let's help keep the snow on our Cascade Mountains by doing whatever we can to prevent global warming. I urge you to think beyond the next 5 years and the small glitch in jobs that the terminal might provide, and think of your grandchildren's future. Help ensure them a healthy earth by thinking ahead and changing our energy usage to clean fuels that don't pollute and don't ravage the earth during extraction.

Thank you, Kathleen Jones

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