

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25

MILLENNIUM BULK TERMINALS - LONGVIEW

NEPA DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

PUBLIC COMMENTS - MAIN STAGE

1:00 P.M. to 4:00 P.M.

\* \* \*

COWLITZ COUNTY EVENT CENTER

1900 Seventh Avenue

Longview, Washington 98632

October 24, 2016

Cheryl L. Vorhees, CSR, CCR, RPR  
Court Reporter

1 LONGVIEW, WASHINGTON, MONDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2016

2 5:00 p.m.

3 \* \* \*

4 P R O C E E D I N G S

5 EVENT HOST: Welcome. Thank you all for  
6 coming today. On behalf of the US Army Corps of  
7 Engineers, we welcome you to this public comment  
8 forum, designed to provide and ensure a safe and  
9 welcoming environment for your input on the National  
10 Environmental Policy Act Draft Environmental Impact  
11 Statement for the Millennium Bulk Terminals Longview  
12 Project proposed in Cowlitz County, Longview,  
13 Washington.

14 My name is Scott Keillor, and I'll be your  
15 facilitator and hearings officer for this public  
16 hearing.

17 We'll begin with a bit of housekeeping and  
18 an overview of the ground rules for today's hearing.  
19 You'll also hear from Colonel John Buck, with the US  
20 Army Corps of Engineers, and then Linda Amato, who  
21 will provide some overview and background on the  
22 Millennium Bulk Terminal's Longview Project.

23 We'll then begin the formal hearing

24 process, where you'll be able to provide your  
25 comments to the public record.

3

1 We'll also discuss options for you to  
2 comment by other means today and throughout the  
3 comment period, which runs through November 29th.

4 Agency and consultants representing your  
5 interests to be heard at this hearing can be  
6 identified by the name tags, as well as the tan  
7 vests. The folks that are here on the stage, as  
8 well as County folks coming and going are not  
9 wearing those tan vests but many of the staff are,  
10 and we are here to help you with all of your  
11 questions, so please don't hesitate to ask.

12 We have multiple exits for today's main  
13 venue. We have exits on all sides of this room, and  
14 in the foyer where you were welcomed we have  
15 multiple exits as well.

16 If you leave from here, and to the lobby  
17 to the right you'll find the restroom locations.  
18 And we have an open house area out and to your left  
19 adjoining this main comment venue. If you would  
20 like to learn about the project, we have folks  
21 staffing that area that can answer your technical  
22 questions.

23 And across the hall near the welcome table  
24 we've got a transcriber if you prefer to give  
25 comments to a court reporter independently rather

4

1 than to speak in public.

2 I'd also mention for any folks that would  
3 like the services, we've got Spanish interpretation  
4 services. We'll also -- you'll notice the screen to  
5 the left of the stage for the hearing impaired. If  
6 you are needing these services, we'll need to have  
7 you work around the cameras and we'll make sure  
8 and -- get one of those tan vests and we'll make  
9 sure that you have an adequate sight line from your  
10 seat to participate today.

11 If you do plan to come forward today and  
12 speak at the podium, please check to make sure that  
13 you've received a small lottery ticket number in the  
14 lobby. You'll need that number as your call. And  
15 if you could please check in to the speaker line-up  
16 with Kim -- raise your hand, Kim -- and she'll just  
17 get you all set. We'll take the speakers in the  
18 order the numbers are selected.

19 You'll also see those projected on the  
20 screen to the right of the main stage. For

21 fairness, and to keep things equitable, we will have  
22 two minutes allotted per speaker. We also will  
23 allow up to five elected and tribal officials  
24 allowed to speak for two minutes at the top of each  
25 hour, beginning with at the end of this

5

1 presentation.

2       Joining me here on stage, and to my right,  
3 we have Colonel John Buck. He's the district  
4 Commander with the US Army Corps of Engineers. And  
5 to his right Muffy Walker, the Regional Branch Chief  
6 from the US Army Corps of Engineers.

7       Below them, at the lower table, and here  
8 to observe, we have Diane Butyric, with the  
9 Department of Ecology.

10       Now for the grounds rules. These are very  
11 important for today's proceedings and they're in  
12 place to ensure a respectful and non-threatening  
13 environment for everyone who's here.

14       The proposal to build this facility would  
15 export coal to overseas markets, and it does involve  
16 passionate viewpoints on all sides, so we've  
17 developed the ground rules to ensure a safe and  
18 orderly process. And as long as these rules are  
19 adhered to, we'll have no problem giving everyone an

20 opportunity to speak today. I will take the  
21 opportunity to warn the group and we can suspend the  
22 hearings if we have difficulties with these rules.

23 I've already mentioned the two-minute  
24 speaking time line. I've mentioned we'll use the  
25 lottery system to select speakers. And then we'll

6

1 have five elected and tribal officials allowed, up  
2 to five, at the top of each hour.

3 Now the key ones to follow are no  
4 intimidating behavior to interfere with another  
5 speaker, no disrupting them or preventing them from  
6 making their comments. No clapping, jeering, or  
7 cheering. If you do want to identify with a  
8 speaker, we do allow small ten-inch-by-ten-inch  
9 signs, and if you can just raise that to show any  
10 identification with a particular speaker. No loud  
11 speakers, visual or audible disturbances or group  
12 activities.

13 We do want to hear your comments. The  
14 Corps is here and very interested in hearing from  
15 you. And we thank you in advance for cooperating  
16 with the ground rules.

17 I'd now like to welcome Colonel John Buck

18 from the U.S. Corps of Army Engineers for some  
19 openings statements. Colonel?  
20 COLONEL BUCK: All right. Thank you,  
21 Scott. Good afternoon. Again, my name is Colonel  
22 John Buck. I'm the District Engineer and Commander  
23 of the U.S. Corps of Engineers, Seattle District,  
24 and I'll be presiding over this afternoon's hearing.  
25 First and foremost, thank you for taking

7

1 time to come out today. This meeting serves as an  
2 opportunity to comment on the Draft Environmental  
3 Impact Statement and to provide comments on the  
4 permit action itself.

5 In a few minutes, Scott Keillor will  
6 discuss the specifics regarding the process for  
7 commenting, and Linda Amato will discuss the NEPA  
8 Draft EIS in more detail. But before they do, I  
9 want to briefly describe the permit application  
10 hearing process.

11 The purpose of this afternoon's hearing is  
12 for me to gather information on the NEPA Draft EIS  
13 and the permit application, not to debate the pros  
14 and cons of the project. Cross-examination of  
15 speakers will not be allowed. I will not answer  
16 questions asked by speakers regarding the project,

17 and written and oral presentations will be given  
18 weight when I make my decision.  
19 I will carefully consider all your  
20 comments in making my decision on the permit. One  
21 of the federal laws that the US Army Corps of  
22 Engineers implements is Section 404 of the Clean  
23 Water Act. This law requires that a federal permits  
24 be obtained by the Corps for discharging of dredged  
25 or fill material into waters of the United States,

8

1 including wetlands.  
2 Another law that we implement is Section  
3 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act, which regulates  
4 work and navigable waters of the United States.  
5 This proposal also requires a Section 10 permit.  
6 For all standard permits, a public notice  
7 is issued for public review and comment. The public  
8 notice was widely distributed to federal, state, and  
9 local agencies, Indian tribes, adjacent property  
10 owners, and interested citizens and groups.  
11 Generally, the public notice comment  
12 period is 30 days. For this proposal we began the  
13 comment period on September 30th of this year.  
14 Following this public hearing, the Corps will

15 continue to accept additional public comments until  
16 the close of business on the 29th of November of  
17 this year.

18 Comments received both in response to  
19 public notices and at public hearings become a part  
20 of the record and are considered in the evaluation  
21 and final decision on the permit application.

22 I will consider all comments from  
23 citizens, organizations, and local and state and  
24 other federal agencies, as well as tribes, in making  
25 my decision to issue or deny a permit.

9

1 The reason we hold public hearings is to  
2 elicit new, significant information relevant to  
3 Millennium Bulk Terminal's Longview proposal and its  
4 impacts which will help me make a balanced decision.

5 The decision to issue or deny a permit is  
6 also based on the probable impact of the proposed  
7 work with the US Army Corps of Engineers'  
8 jurisdiction, and its intended use, the benefits  
9 which may be expected to approve from the proposal,  
10 and my evaluation under Section 404.B1 guidelines of  
11 the Clean Water Act. Also, the public interest.

12 The guidelines include a review of  
13 alternatives to determine if the proposal is the

14 least environmentally damaging practical  
15 alternative.  
16 Public interest review includes the  
17 analysis of impacts on wetlands, fish and wildlife  
18 values threatened, and endangered species, the  
19 aquatic food web and ecosystem, water quality,  
20 safety, esthetics, environmental justice, and in  
21 general the needs and welfare of the people.

22 My evaluation must look at the benefits  
23 expected from the proposal and weigh them against  
24 the foreseeable detriments in making my decision.  
25 If the determination is made that the project meets

10

1 Section 404(b)(1) guidelines, an evaluation -- and  
2 is not contrary to the public interest, a federal  
3 permit would be issued.

4 I want to stress that while I give all  
5 comments full consideration, the comments of  
6 federal, state, and local agencies, as experts in  
7 their respective field, receive very special  
8 attention.

9 In September, a Draft Environmental Impact  
10 Statement on the proposed Millennium Bulk Terminal  
11 Longview Project was completed according to the

12 procedures of the National Environmental Protection  
13 Act, also NEPA.

14 The Army Corps of Engineers was the lead  
15 federal agency for the NEPA Draft Environmental  
16 Impact Statement, with the Environmental Protection  
17 Agency and the U.S. Coast Guard participating as  
18 cooperating agencies.

19 Now I'd like to introduce Linda Amato to  
20 provide a brief presentation on the NEPA process for  
21 the Draft Environmental Impact Statement. Thank  
22 you.

23 MS. AMATO: Thank you, Colonel. Again, my  
24 name is Linda Amato, I'm with ICF, a consulting  
25 firm, and I'm the consultant project manager for the

11

1 environmental review process. So I want to take the  
2 next couple of minutes to talk about the National  
3 Environmental Policy Act, or NEPA Draft  
4 Environmental Impact Statement process. But first I  
5 want to talk a little bit about the proposed  
6 project.

7 So, Millennium proposes to construct and  
8 operate an export terminal. The terminal would  
9 receive coal by rail from the Powder River Basin in  
10 Wyoming and Montana, and the Uinta Basin in Colorado

11 and Utah.

12 The coal would be stored on site in  
13 stockpiles, and loaded and transported by vessels  
14 via the Columbia River and Pacific Ocean to overseas  
15 markets in Asia.

16 At full operation, the proposed project  
17 would transport up to 44 million metric tons of coal  
18 per year. The proposed project would include a rail  
19 loop to move trains on site, and the rail loop would  
20 have one operating track to move the trains and  
21 eight loop tracks where trains would be parked. And  
22 that is right here. This is the rail loop.

23 There will also be coal stockpiles inside  
24 the rail loop area. And that's right in here. And  
25 the coal stock area would cover about 75 acres of

12

1 the 190-acre site. There would be a network of  
2 conveyers, transfer stations, and bumper bins used  
3 to move the coal around the site from stockpiles and  
4 trains to vessels.

5 Two docks in the Columbia River will be  
6 built. And there they are right there. Each dock  
7 would include equipment called ship loaders to load  
8 coal onto vessels.

9 A water treatment facility to treat  
10 surface runoff and process water would be  
11 constructed. And that facility would be right here.

12 And rail traffic of 16 trains per day,  
13 eight loaded and eight empty, will come to the site  
14 and leave the site, and new vessel traffic of 840  
15 vessels per year, or 1,680 one-way vessel transit  
16 will be per year. And the trains will come --  
17 here's the track, it's a spare line, which will lead  
18 to the BNSF main line in Kelso.

19 So a little bit about the EIS process. As  
20 I mentioned, I'm with ICF, a consulting firm. So  
21 the Corps hired ICF as a third-party consultant to  
22 prepare the Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

23 ICF and a team of consultants analyzed the  
24 project's potential impacts and documented their  
25 findings in technical reports. Core staff, along

13

1 with other federal agencies with expertise, reviewed  
2 the analysis and findings developed by the  
3 consulting team.

4 According to NEPA, the Environmental  
5 Impact Statement is supposed to identify potential  
6 impacts from the project, and also identify possible  
7 ways to mitigate those impacts. And we've looked

8 at --

9 We looked at a range of resource areas.

10 Topics included, for example, land users, esthetics,

11 environmental justice, rail, vehicle, and vessel

12 transportation, fish, wetlands, water quality, and

13 that's just a few about the 20 topics we looked at.

14 And I invite you to go next door to the

15 open house. We have boards there with information

16 about these topics, as well as informational

17 handouts.

18 The Environmental Impact Statement is a

19 prerequisite to the permit process. And local,

20 state, and federal agencies will use the EIS to make

21 permit decision. As the Colonel stated, the EIS

22 itself does not recommend whether a project should

23 be built or not.

24 And like NEPA on the federal level, there

25 is a parallel requirement on the state level under

14

1 the State Environmental Policy Act, or SEPA. And

2 Cowlitz County and Washington State Department of

3 Ecology released their Draft Environmental Impact

4 Statement earlier this year, and also had a public

5 review period.

6 So here's the general NEPA timeline. The  
7 Notice of Intent was issued on August 14, 2013. And  
8 then proximately a 90-day public comment period was  
9 held from August through November 2013. And from  
10 2013 until now, the technical studies that I  
11 mentioned were performed. The consultant team  
12 worked very closely with the Corps, and developed  
13 technical reports on the Draft EIS sections, and  
14 then eventually here we are, September 30th, we  
15 released the NEPA Draft EIS. And we now have a  
16 60-day public comment period from September 30th to  
17 November 29, 2016.

18 After this time, we will work with the  
19 Corps to review all comments. And it is anticipated  
20 that the final EIS will be released in mid 2017.

21 So what's next? As I mentioned, we have a  
22 60-day public comment period. We have public  
23 hearings. We have the one today in Longview, and we  
24 have one tomorrow in Vancouver.

25 Comments will be accepted online, or hard

1 copy via U.S. mail, or you could fill out comment on  
2 sheets that are next door and leave them here at the  
3 public hearings. Comments be will reviewed and  
4 considered -- all comments will be reviewed and

5 considered, and then the final EIS will be issued in  
6 mid 2017.

7       You can visit our website for more  
8 information. And I don't expect you to memorize it  
9 here. It's also on the information sheets in the  
10 open house. And if you want to review the public  
11 comments that we've received thus far, they are  
12 posted weekly to the website.

13       With that, I'm going to turn it over to  
14 Scott Keillor.

15       EVENT HOST: Thank you for your  
16 presentation, Linda. Now it's time for the public  
17 hearing process to begin.

18       Again, if you do wish to speak here,  
19 address your comments to the Corps, make sure that  
20 you do have a lottery ticket number. And while  
21 you're preparing your remarks, please keep your  
22 comments directly to addressing the NEPA EIS.

23       For example, you may comment on the  
24 appropriateness of the methodology used for the  
25 analyses in the EIS; the reasonableness of the

16

1 alternatives, and the need for additional studies  
2 for different or additional mitigation measures; for

3 the accuracy of the information provided.

4 Copies of the Draft NEPA EIS are available  
5 in the adjacent open house area. And they are also  
6 available online, [www.millenniumbulkEISwa.gov](http://www.millenniumbulkEISwa.gov).

7 We'll now select the first ten lottery  
8 numbers. Those will be appearing on the screen, and  
9 we would like you to come, check in with Kim, and go  
10 to the speaker lineup in the order these numbers are  
11 drawn.

12 When I call your number, please come to  
13 the podium and state your name for the record.  
14 You'll have two minutes to speak. The timer will be  
15 right here directly in front of you. And the timer  
16 will show a green light for the first 90 seconds and  
17 then turn orange, giving you 30 seconds to wrap up  
18 your remarks. And when this timer turns red, your  
19 two minutes are up and I'll be asking you to wrap up  
20 immediately. And you're welcome to leave any  
21 written materials here, we have a table adjacent to  
22 the podium, that we can place in the record.

23 We also encourage you, if you have more to  
24 say, to go ahead and address our court reporter  
25 across the lobby hallway in the room adjacent to the

2           You can provide written comments in the  
3 open house area, and there are online comments all  
4 taken through November 29.

5           And as you heard from Colonel Buck, all  
6 comments, no matter how they're received, will be  
7 given equal weight.

8           Thank you again for adhering to the ground  
9 rules. And beginning the formal hearing, I do have  
10 to read some specific information into the record.

11          I'm Scott Keillor, the hearings officer  
12 for this hearing. This afternoon we're conducting a  
13 hearing on the NEPA Draft EIS for Millennium Bulk  
14 Terminals Longview.

15          Let the record show that it is proximately  
16 1:20, on Monday, October 24, 2016. And the hearing  
17 is being held here at the Cowlitz Regional Expo  
18 Center, Longview, Washington.

19          Legal notice of this hearing was published  
20 in the Federal Register on October 7, 2016, Volume  
21 81, Number 195.

22          In addition, notice of the hearing was  
23 mailed to nearly 6,000 interested people near the  
24 proposed site. Notice was also published in the  
25 following papers: The Daily News, Longview,

1 Washington, on September 30 and October 16, 2016.

2 I will call people up to provide oral  
3 testimony. Remember your two-minute limit. And  
4 we'll have you yield your time at two minutes to  
5 allow others to speak.

6 The numbers, I'm going to call those out  
7 audibly in just one moment. When I call your  
8 number, please step up to the podium. Please also  
9 speak clearly. And our court reporter, whom  
10 actually does read lips to record your comments  
11 verbatim, will need you to, again, address the Corps  
12 and the court reporter so that we can officially  
13 record your comments.

14 So just before I call the applicant for  
15 their opening statement and elected tribal  
16 officials, I'll have Emma read the first ten numbers  
17 and you can check in with Kim. Emma?

18 EMMA: 1704, 1680, 1677, 1686, 1653, 1708,  
19 1727, 1709, 1574, 1614.

20 EVENT HOST: Thank you. I'd like to also  
21 recognize the gentleman's comments. If there's any  
22 question in terms of your ability to receive these  
23 numbers, you're welcome to bring your ticket up and  
24 check in with Kim or other staff so that you  
25 absolutely get your opportunity to speak.

1           Okay. I do have four folks signed up here  
2 to speak at the top of the hour. And we will begin  
3 with the CEO of Millennium, Mr. Bill Chapman.  
4 You'll have two minutes. Thank you.

5           MR. CHAPMAN: Good afternoon, Colonel  
6 Buck, Branch Chief Walker. My name is Bill Chapman,  
7 4029 Industrial Way, Longview. I'm CEO and  
8 President of Millennium Bulk Terminals in Longview.

9           Two comments about the Draft EIS. First  
10 we're delighted the draft is done and out and open  
11 for public comment. We're grateful for the  
12 tremendous work done by the agency staff and  
13 consultants as plainly represented by 3,400 pages.

14           We're especially pleased, of course, with  
15 two of the significant findings in the draft.

16           Coal dust is not a significant impact and  
17 is expected to meet all applicable state and local  
18 standards, and national standards. More probably  
19 better yet, both state and federal documents find no  
20 significant environmental impact anywhere at the  
21 site to the natural environment, from operations or  
22 construction. Repeat: Air quality, water quality,  
23 all good. The business of the Draft EIS.

24           Proponents asked questions and now the  
25 assessment has been done and questions have been

1 answered. If complaints continue about dust, we  
2 will know it's a device just to deceive people.

3 Facts do matter. We will not be fooled by  
4 opponents that will not listen to facts. Second,  
5 and also significantly, the Draft EIS took an  
6 objective look and finds the operations of the site  
7 will not cause adverse impacts to fish or tribal  
8 resources.

9 These environmental findings are important  
10 and particularly important to setting the stage for  
11 better economic growth, trade, and jobs in Longview  
12 and Cowlitz County, while assuring Washington's high  
13 environmental standards are met.

14 It's important to Longview that we  
15 acknowledge our history and tradition as a  
16 strategically designed city with six miles of  
17 working waterfront served by docks and rail. We  
18 have a business here willing to invest private funds  
19 in our infrastructure. Let's not miss this  
20 opportunity to listening to Portland and Seattle.

21 I will close my comments by explaining our  
22 purpose statement Build it Right. It came from a  
23 gathering of Millennium employees and management and

24 reflects simply the commitment by our team, all of  
25 them, to building the terminal with high efficiency,

21

1 good jobs, and meeting all state standards. Thank  
2 you for listening today.

3       EVENT HOST: Thank you. Next we'll hear  
4 from Jerry Iyall, Cowlitz Tribal Council.

5       MR. IYALL: Dear Lead Agencies. My name  
6 is Jerry Iyall, I'm an elected council member of the  
7 Cowlitz Indian tribe. I'm here to express my  
8 tribe's concerns about the proposed Millennium Bulk  
9 Terminal.

10       We believe this proposed development  
11 threatens our sacred resources. Since time and  
12 memorial, we have relied on the once bountiful  
13 resources for survival. Our tribe continues to  
14 depend on the precious resources in the region which  
15 are very important to our way of life.

16       Many natural resources are in poor  
17 condition and are listed as threatened or endangered  
18 under the Endangered Species Act. Our tribe has  
19 natural resource management, authorities, rights,  
20 and obligations within the Columbia Basin that will  
21 be affected by the applicant's proposal.

22       Millennium is proposing a major project

23 with major impacts. The major project plans massive  
24 movement of fossil fuels against sensitive and  
25 important landscapes.

22

1 The Draft EIS does not present a complete  
2 evaluation of the project impacts. Millennium's  
3 position is that it has met or exceeded all  
4 environmental standards. In reality, the Draft  
5 Environmental Impact Statement understates,  
6 misrepresents, or simply does not have relevant  
7 significant information.

8 The area of potential effect that does not  
9 represent the real impact area. There are many  
10 examples in the document. I will speak to one. In  
11 the fish chapter, the project only evaluated fish  
12 impacts at or downstream of the project site. Up  
13 river fish impacts should have been studied.

14 The Draft EIS expects increased juvenile  
15 salmon, injuries, or deaths associated with wave  
16 wash or dredging. This impact will reduce how many  
17 salmon will return upwards as adults. The Draft EIS  
18 does not estimate how many injuries or deaths will  
19 occur up river.

20 The Draft EIS does not address how many

21 adult salmon and steelhead may be injured or killed  
22 by pile driving sounds. Fewer juvenile or adult  
23 salmon will mean less salmon for tribal, commercial,  
24 and sport fishing.  
25 Smaller salmon runs, ecological, and

23

1 economic impacts have not been evaluated. Thank  
2 you.

3 EVENT HOST: Thank you. Mr. Olsen  
4 McAnnis, Celilo Village Chief.

5 MR. McANNIS: Hello. My name is Olsen  
6 McAnnis, Jr. I'm a Celilo Wyam Chief along the  
7 Columbia River here. I come here to say I'm opposed  
8 against this because I'm in fear for the salmon  
9 because this is our way of life.

10 Our tradition has a lot to do with the  
11 salmon. We eat the salmon a lot in a lot of our  
12 people. And a lot of our traditions have a lot to  
13 do with the salmon. And if we lose this we lose a  
14 lot of big chunks of our lives because a lot of our  
15 tradition, the songs, the stories are depicted on  
16 the salmon returning to this river. And if we don't  
17 get this salmon back, I don't know how, as an elder,  
18 we are going to explain to the children what  
19 happened to the salmon. There is no way to explain

20 to them where they'll understand if we lose the

21 salmon.

22 Because we come on the land. Catching  
23 your first salmon in our way has a lot to do with  
24 our way of living. We become providers to the  
25 elders, to the people, and this is our way. And I

24

1 hope you can understand what I'm trying to say. We  
2 have a lot depicted (sic) on the salmon returning  
3 from here all the way up to where this river begins.

4 All the Indians that live along this  
5 river, we survive on that salmon. It's not all  
6 about money. This is food to us, and we wish you  
7 guys would hear this. Thank you.

8 EVENT HOST: Thank you for your comments.

9 Peter Cornelison, Hood River City Council.

10 MR. CORNELISON: My name is Peter  
11 Cornelison. I live at 1003 Fifth Street, Hood  
12 River, Oregon. And I'm a member of the Hood River  
13 City Council.

14 Our council is one of six cities in the  
15 gorge that have passed resolutions either outright  
16 opposing this project and coal by rail, or  
17 expressing deep concern. And that's because it

18 threatens our home and our river.

19 Contrary to what you've heard earlier, the  
20 coal dust issue is very much alive in the Columbia  
21 Gorge. I've been showered with it, I've got video  
22 of it, and I'm going to be testifying at a trial in  
23 early November against Burlington Northern polluting  
24 the waterways in the United States.

25 To hear that the head of the Millennium

25

1 terminal thinks it's a non issue is ridiculous.  
2 Sixty-two elected officials from throughout the  
3 Pacific Northwest have written to oppose this  
4 project, as well as numerous agencies, including  
5 U.S. Fish and Wildlife, U.S. Forest Service,  
6 National Parks Service, and the Columbia River Gorge  
7 Commission.

8 250,000 people have written comments on  
9 this terminal. Please listen to public opinion and  
10 reason. Do not allow this. Thank you.

11 EVENT HOST: Thank you, Councilor  
12 Cornelison. Next we have Mike Wallin, City of  
13 Longview City Council.

14 MR. WALLIN: Hello. I'm Mike Wallin, I'm  
15 a real estate broker here in Longview, member of the  
16 Longview City Council. The comments that I'll give

17 you are my own, but they also represent the views of  
18 my friends, my family, many of my neighbors. We  
19 believe the DEIS is thorough and complete. We're  
20 now well informed. We now know that all of our  
21 concerns are adequately addressed. We know that we  
22 can plan to mitigate our concerns.

23       We know that air pollutant concentrations  
24 will be within allowable limitations. We know that  
25 there will be no unavoidable or significant adverse

26

1 impacts with coal dust.

2       We know that the global hunger for warmth  
3 and heating, for refrigeration, for lighting, for  
4 industrialization and development is demanding  
5 greater access to affordable electrical power  
6 generation. We know that we can be part of the  
7 global solution to reducing deforestation to  
8 bringing heat, bringing lighting and refrigerated  
9 medicine to some of the most impoverished around the  
10 world.

11       We will foster greater relationships with  
12 our national strategic training partners in  
13 Southeast Asia and elsewhere. We know that the  
14 construction and operation of the proposed export

15 terminal will generate significant positive economic  
16 impacts in terms of jobs, wages, and economic  
17 output, as well as state and local tax revenues.

18       We know that more than 2600 construction  
19 jobs and more than 135 permanent full-time jobs are  
20 waiting for our community. Everyone has had ample  
21 time and audible opportunity to be heard. It's time  
22 to move forward, it's time to issue permits, and  
23 it's time to build. Thank you.

24       EVENT HOST: Thank you. We'll go ahead to  
25 our speaker lineup, and if the first gentleman will

27

1 come forward, you'll have two minutes. Thank you.

2       SPEAKER 1: Good afternoon. My name is  
3 Bob Gregory. I was formally the City Manager of the  
4 City of Longview. Now I continue to be a resident  
5 of the city of Longview.

6       I've long been involved with economic  
7 development and the quality of life in this  
8 community.

9       I have had the opportunity to review the  
10 EIS. I think it's been a very robust EIS. I want  
11 to commend Millennium. They have been very  
12 transparent. Their outreach to the local  
13 governments during my years, but the local

14 governments, the federal and state agencies, I think  
15 they have really been exhaustive in going out and  
16 trying to talk to everybody and understand the  
17 impacts. And I think they have adequately addressed  
18 the impacts that are identified in the EIS.

19 I would like to comment on a personal  
20 level. I have been a 30-year-plus golfer at Three  
21 Rivers Golf Course in Kelso, right on the main line  
22 of the BNSF line. I have watched coal train after  
23 coal train go by there for years serving the  
24 Centralia facility, and I have -- I have to tell you  
25 there has been no dust on my golf clubs or on the

28

1 greens that I can see there, and I can't believe  
2 this is an issue that continues to come up.

3 The other thing I would say about coal  
4 dust, I did have the opportunity to go back to  
5 Wyoming and look at a coal operation, look at the  
6 loading operation that they do in the trains, and  
7 put the surfactants and the preventative measures  
8 that they do, and, again, I think that this company  
9 is prepared to use all the techniques and best  
10 management practices there are available to deal  
11 with that coal dust and make sure that it is not a

12 problem with our community.

13       Lastly, I'd like to make a point. There's  
14 been a significant investment by the federal, state,  
15 and local governments to deepen the Columbia River  
16 Channel. That deepening was done with the  
17 recognition that we need economic development in  
18 this community and there is major capacity in this  
19 river, and we encourage that this project -- we  
20 believe there has been an exhaustive EIS, and I  
21 believe it's time for us to move on and get the  
22 permitting going, let the permits and that play  
23 their course. Thank you.

24       EVENT HOST: Thank you. Just one opening  
25 remark I may have missed, but we'll take comments

29

1 through 4:00, then we will have a suspension of the  
2 hearing from four to five but the open house will  
3 remain open. Our next speaker, please?

4       SPEAKER 2: Hello. My name is Scott  
5 Walster, and I grew up in Washington. I've lived  
6 and worked in Southwest Washington since 1971, and I  
7 speak today in support of Millennium's proposed  
8 export terminal.

9       The old contaminated Reynolds site where  
10 Millennium is located is finally being cleaned up

11 after decades of pollution, decay, and  
12 non-productive stagnation.  
13       The project will benefit families and  
14 businesses locally and outside Southwest Washington.  
15 Millennium currently provides good jobs and will  
16 provide many more new jobs and new direct economic  
17 benefits both locally and regionally.

18       The EIS procedure is a rigorous and  
19 thorough public process that's designed to study all  
20 known environmental risks. Millennium has gone  
21 through and complied with every current  
22 environmental concern in this exhaustive  
23 Environmental Impact Study.

24       Throughout the process, Millennium has  
25 proven itself to be a very environmentally

30

1 conscientious, responsive to community concerns, and  
2 in many cases they've done more than what's required  
3 to make certain this facility is clean, safe, and of  
4 benefit to the community.

5       This is an existing heavy industrial site,  
6 and the planned activities are directly allowed by  
7 its zoning. The permits for this project were  
8 submitted four years ago. I don't believe that

9 after four years of intense public study, public  
10 scrutiny, and public input, that a known risk at  
11 this site was somehow missed. I believe the final  
12 environmental review need to be released as soon as  
13 possible. Thank you.

14 EVENT HOST: Thank you. Our next speaker?  
15 And we'll be drawing new numbers at about five  
16 speakers in the queue.

17 SPEAKER 3: Hello. My name is (inaudible)  
18 Ramera. I'm with Physicians for Social  
19 Responsibility, and I'm testifying on behalf of  
20 Dr. Steven Chandler today, who is at work.

21 My name is Steve Chandler. I'm a  
22 hematologist and oncologist. I live here in  
23 Longview with our children and grandchildren.

24 Oncology is the study and treatment of  
25 cancer. Hematology refers to diseases of the blood.

31

1 In my practice here in Longview, I see people with  
2 cancer every day, every single day. And they always  
3 ask me, Doctor, how did this happen? What took  
4 place? And then starts the conversation.

5 I ask them, have you ever been exposed to  
6 toxic chemicals? Toxic fumes and particles? Coal  
7 dust? Hydrocarbons? Benzenes? Diesel fuel? And

8 then comes that conversation, how do we approach the  
9 cancer? What do we do?  
10 They look at me with fear in their eyes  
11 and apprehension, and they also, with the hope that  
12 this won't happen to their children, they ask me,  
13 how do we keep this from happening to our children  
14 and our grandchildren? And then starts the  
15 conversation about what sorts of risk do we already  
16 have in our.  
17 Cowlitz County has some of the worst  
18 public health risks in the state of Washington.  
19 High rates the cancer and leukemia, cardiopulmonary  
20 disease and coronary artery disease. Our general  
21 health outcomes including length of life and quality  
22 of life has us ranked at 32nd out of 39 counties in  
23 the state. And in health factors we measure 33rd  
24 out of 39 counties. Why take a risk to add more do  
25 that?

32

1 Patients agree with me. We absolutely  
2 need to be careful and not raise the risk here. We  
3 need to lower the risk here. We need a health  
4 impact assessment, and a comprehensive one, and to  
5 say no to this project. Please deny those permits.

6 Thank you.

7 EVENT HOST: Thank you. Our next speaker?

8 And, again, if you'd like to leave written comments,

9 you're welcome to.

10 SPEAKER 4: My name is Diane Winn. I'm a

11 public health nurse who spends over 25 years

12 conducting accident prevention research.

13 NIOSH concluded after investigating the

14 deaths of two firefighters that Powder River Basin

15 coal is notorious for the hazards it presents

16 regarding fires and explosions. Knowing that this

17 project will involve Powder River Basin coal, I

18 spent some time reviewing the issue of fires in the

19 DEIS.

20 Although fires were mentioned briefly for

21 vessels, I did not find any mention of fires

22 occurring at the terminal. Nor did I find any

23 mention of the unique characteristics of PRB coal

24 that make it such a hazard. Operators familiar with

25 this coal will tell that you that it's not a case of

33

1 if you will have a PRB fire, it's when.

2 Self-combustion of coal presents a fire

3 risk and this is an even greater problem with PRB

4 coal which is likely to self-combust than other

5 types of coal. Coal can smolder and catch fire  
6 while in storage piles at terminals and has been  
7 known to be delivered to a power plant with the rail  
8 car or barge partially on fire. Hotspots of  
9 smoldering coal have been routinely seen at the  
10 stockpiles at the Seward terminal. This also raises  
11 a concern about what harmful pollutants might be  
12 emitted from smoldering coal.

13 No place in the coal dust section of the  
14 DEIS are fires mentioned. Fire protection engineers  
15 have warned that coal dust can result in an  
16 explosion on a PRB coal conveyor. Sparks from  
17 machinery and heat from conveyor belts have caused  
18 major coal dust fires and explosions. BNSF has also  
19 stated that coal dust deposits have caused fires in  
20 areas where coal dust has accumulated.

21 These fire risks should be considered in  
22 the EIS. However, given these risks, along with all  
23 of the other potential negative impacts of this  
24 project on the health and safety of employees,  
25 emergency personnel, and residents of Longview, I

34

1 recommend them to deny this permit. Thank you.

2 EVENT HOST: And thank you. Emma, would

3 you please read the next five lottery draws before  
4 our next speaker.

5 EMMA: The last four digits of the ticket  
6 number will be 1582, 1642, 1673, 1649, 1633.

7 EVENT HOST: So if your number is called,  
8 please check in with Kim and we'll get you in the  
9 speak queue.

10 Next please, sir. You'll have two  
11 minutes.

12 SPEAKER 5: Good afternoon. My name is  
13 Mike Dennis. I'm the Government Affairs Director  
14 for the Association of Washington Business. AWB is  
15 the state's Chamber of Commerce and the  
16 manufacturing association representing about 7,000  
17 employers and their roughly 700,000 employees.

18 AWB supports the Millennium Bulk Terminal  
19 project because it will strengthen our state's  
20 ability to export our products to global markets.  
21 Not just coal but agricultural products such as  
22 apples, grain, as well as timber and other  
23 commodities.

24 It will create family wage jobs, blue  
25 collar jobs in a part of the state that really needs

1 them. 2600 direct and indirect jobs during

2 construction; 300 hundred jobs and indirect  
3 full-time family wage jobs once fully operational.  
4 Washington is a state fundamentally built  
5 upon trade. In fact, one in four jobs in Washington  
6 is linked to a trade-related activity, making us one  
7 of the most trade-dependent states in the nation.

8 The Millennium Bulk Terminal project  
9 represents an opportunity to expand our trade with  
10 Asia and the rest of the world.

11 In this case, the Draft NEPA EIS found no  
12 significant adverse impacts to the natural  
13 environment in the project area. The minor impacts  
14 identified with appropriate recommendations for  
15 mitigation. We are pleased that federal officials  
16 took a more appropriate analytic view with this  
17 project scope and impact.

18 Trade and manufacturing helped pull  
19 Washington state and the entire nation out of the  
20 great recession. Instead of imposing new and  
21 unprecedented regulation on employees looking to  
22 grow our export economy, our leaders should be  
23 promoting responsible growth.

24 We need a diverse economy in which  
25 everyone in every corner of the state has an

1 opportunity to prosper. Thank you.

2       EVENT HOST: Thank you, sir. If you'll go  
3 ahead and step up. And we appreciate those written  
4 comments. They help as we build a record.

5       SPEAKER 6: Good afternoon. My name is  
6 Cathy Chudy. I live in Vancouver, Washington. I am  
7 on the board of the Oregon Conservancy Foundation.  
8 I work with suicidal children who don't trust adults  
9 to make decisions for their safety and well being. I  
10 am deeply concerned that you are letting children  
11 down in communities all along the rail lines by  
12 leaving out of your DEIS the very real and  
13 significant negative impacts of this proposed coal  
14 export terminal.

15       You will hear from the Millennium  
16 supporters about the benefits to some of jobs, but  
17 this perceived benefit should be irrelevant in your  
18 environmental review. What should be relevant is  
19 that more frequent coal trains pose significant  
20 health and safety risks to all communities along the  
21 rail lines from Spokane through the Columbia River  
22 Gorge, up through my city, Vancouver, and on to  
23 Longview.

24       The adverse impacts are more likely to be  
25 experienced disproportionately by minority and low

1 income populations along the route, and especially  
2 near the terminal site. This is an unacceptable and  
3 glaring oversight in your DEIS document.

4 Most egregiously, your DEIS ignores  
5 climate impacts from mining and burning coal to the  
6 tune of 44 million tons of coal per year, making it  
7 the largest coal export terminal in North America.

8 The facts about coal being the greatest single  
9 threat to our climate should be well known to you.

10 Coal stokes global warming, threatening our  
11 children's air, water, and safety, both now and in  
12 the future.

13 As the federal agency charged with  
14 investigating, developing, and maintaining the  
15 nation's water and related environmental resources,  
16 your mission statement claims that you do your work  
17 with, quote, environmental sustainability as the  
18 guiding principle, unquote.

19 Failing to address the global warming  
20 implication of this proposal contradicts your very  
21 own mission statement. Your job is to advise  
22 decision makers with the truth, and the truth is  
23 that the narrow scope of your document betrays the  
24 trust of children who count on you to take your  
25 blinders off and address the wider scope of negative

1 impacts that will be imposed on our present and  
2 future well being should this proposal be unwisely  
3 permitted. Thank you.

4       EVENT HOST: Thank you for that thought.

5 And we'll take the next speaker.

6       SPEAKER 7: My name is Andrea Grace Stagg.

7 I'm a life-long Washington resident, proud daughter  
8 and granddaughter of a Longview family, and a  
9 graduate in Environmental Studies from Yale  
10 University. I care greatly for Longview and for  
11 Washington, and I urge that this project's permits  
12 be denied.

13       It's a glaring oversight that the EIS,  
14 this version of it, neglects to account for the  
15 greenhouse gas emissions resulting from the burning  
16 of the coal, which is the main thrust of this  
17 project.

18       You've heard that at full capacity this  
19 terminal will allow 44 million metric tons of coal  
20 through per year. That's enough to emit more than  
21 88 million metric tons of carbon dioxide.

22       The EIS accounts for the EPA's carbon  
23 dioxide performance goal for Washington state and

24 the power sector, which is about 9.74 million metric  
25 tons. If this coal were burned, the Millennium Bulk

39

1 Terminal would exceed that target by more than nine  
2 times, moving to the state's other sectors,  
3 including residents' personal energy consumption.

4 The Revised Code of Washington requires  
5 annual greenhouse gas emissions be reduced to 66  
6 million metric tons by 2035. In other words, the  
7 annual target for all sectors of the state would be  
8 exceeded by this project by one-and-a-third times.

9 The impact on the U.S.'s nationally  
10 determined contribution as ratified in the Paris  
11 Agreement of 2015 is not at .005 percent of target  
12 emissions, as the EIS indicates, but 365 times that  
13 amount, or about 1/50th of national target  
14 emissions. That is as if we are okaying the  
15 terminal emit as much as the entire state.

16 Furthermore, Washington is not an average  
17 state. With our long-time reliance on  
18 hydroelectricity and investment in economically  
19 sound industries of the future, like wind and solar,  
20 there's no reason for us to prop up the obsolete  
21 coal industry.

22 We can do better than this

23 over-performing, over-emitting project. And in  
24 order to comply with state, national, and  
25 international emission requirements, we must reject

40

1 this proposal. Thank you so much.

2       EVENT HOST: We'll take our next speaker.

3       SPEAKER 8: I'm Cathy Thompson. With my  
4 husband Steve Pulliam, I sell homes in Cowlitz  
5 County. Over the years we've conducted hundreds of  
6 community tours for prospective employees who are  
7 considering moving to Cowlitz County. Our area  
8 already faces some big obstacles in attracting new  
9 people to our area. Bringing a coal terminal here  
10 sure would not favorably impact the perceived  
11 desirability of our community.

12       We have never once heard anyone say that  
13 they would really like to move here if only we had a  
14 coal export terminal. In fact, in recent years the  
15 most common question we get from candidates is how  
16 green or how environmentally progressive our area  
17 is, and if they don't perceive it as such they don't  
18 want to move here.

19       Additionally, right after Millennium's  
20 announcement, we received calls from several clients

21 who wanted to sell their properties with views  
22 because they were worried about overlooking massive  
23 piles of coal or not being able to sell their homes.

24 In our opinion, if Millennium comes to  
25 Cowlitz County, the presence of the coal dust, the

41

1 coal trains, the huge piles of coal, and the  
2 perception that Cowlitz County is now the national  
3 coal export capital of North America, this would  
4 definitely damage home values in our community and  
5 decrease our standard of living.

6 Steve and I moved back to Cowlitz County  
7 in 1995, and if this coal terminal would have been  
8 here, we would not have moved back here.

9 Coal trains and coal exports are just the  
10 wrong path for Cowlitz County, and we support the no  
11 action alternative on the EIS.

12 EVENT HOST: Thank you. I'd just like to  
13 thank the crowd for compliance with the ground  
14 rules. And I do expect we'll get a chance to  
15 stretch at some point during the afternoon and  
16 evening session. If you could hold those audibles  
17 to a zero and identify with the signs, we'd  
18 appreciate it.

19 You'll have two minutes.

20 SPEAKER 9: Hello. My name is (speaking  
21 native language). I live in Celilo, Oregon, married  
22 to the chief. My first time speaking at something  
23 like this. Gets the coal, kills the salmon. Pretty  
24 much what we do, my family. We fish for the salmon,  
25 we take care of it. People who don't have food,

42

1 we'll give it to them.

2 It's -- you know, I've never talked at a  
3 meeting like this before. And I've never talked to  
4 a bunch of people like this I talk at funerals. I  
5 guess I'm here --

6 EVENT HOST: If you could just -- I'm  
7 sorry. We'll give you a couple extra seconds. If  
8 you could please address the panel. Thank you so  
9 much.

10 SPEAKER 9: Oh, the panel. Okay. I'm  
11 sorry. I guess, like I said, I speak at funerals.  
12 So I guess here I'm speaking for the salmon's  
13 funeral, you know. It's good to see all the red.  
14 Way to go. But, yeah, we're against the coal, you  
15 know. It will kill the salmon.

16 The train that happened in -- the oil  
17 spill, it's not good. But, you know, that's, you

18 know, I don't think it's a good thing to go with  
19 this coal permit thing. I don't.  
20 Because I've got children and  
21 grandchildren that all fish who eat all the salmon.  
22 And not just us natives. There's other races that  
23 eat it, too. But that's all I got to say about  
24 that.  
25 EVENT HOST: Thank you.

43

1 SPEAKER 10: Hi. My name is Jose Malave  
2 (ph), I live in Cowlitz County.  
3 For anybody to think of 40,000 metric tons  
4 of coal in this county is ridiculous. It's bad  
5 enough we have to smell the nasty pulp mills every  
6 day, now you want us to have coal dust inside the  
7 city limits of Longview where we live and go to  
8 school.  
9 But Millennium isn't promising jobs, the  
10 jobs are all taken up by them. They are the only  
11 ones profiting from this. This is where everybody  
12 else is losing. Send the coal back to the ground  
13 where it belongs. No coal.  
14 EVENT HOST: Appreciate your comments. If  
15 you'll please use the stairs and come on up and  
16 we'll give you two minutes. Thank you.

17 SPEAKER 11: Hello. I'm Linda Hyle (ph)  
18 and I'm a retired public health nurse practitioner  
19 from Eugene, Oregon.

20 The Millennium Bulk Coal Export Terminal  
21 is a terrible project for many reasons. The most  
22 fundamental reason is because fossil fuels are the  
23 energy source of the past but not the present.

24 You are well aware of the fact of climate  
25 change caused by the burning of fossil fuels. The

44

1 majority of Americans don't understand that  
2 transition to other sources of energy must be made.

3 The sobering reality is how urgently and  
4 rapidly the change needs to be made. Fossil fuels  
5 cannot be extracted and burned on the last atom of  
6 carbon. We must make the decision to turn the  
7 energy source off with all deliberate speed.

8 Climate activist, Bill McKibben rightly  
9 says that to accomplish this we must mount the  
10 equivalent or more effort than the U.S. made for  
11 World War II. And rejecting new infrastructure  
12 investments such as this one is part of that.

13 The enemy in this war is not the fossil  
14 fuel companies. What we are fighting is physics.

15 This entity does not hate us, it is completely  
16 dispassionate. It also is completely impractical.  
17 It cannot be condensed or cajoled or asked to wait a  
18 little longer, it can only be accommodated.

19 The coal terminal's Environmental Impact  
20 Statement states that the terminal will not be fully  
21 operational until 2028, over a decade from now.

22 The ERS emissions testings are calculated  
23 to cover until 2028, or a decade. But long before  
24 then the energy sector will have moved on, and the  
25 city of Longview will be left with nothing but the

45

1 coal terminal project -- of the coal terminal  
2 project but an ugly, defunct, stranded asset.

3 The EIS only takes into account the  
4 greenhouse gas emissions produced by the  
5 construction and the operation of the plant itself.

6 EVENT HOST: Your time is up. Thank you  
7 very much. We're happy to take those written  
8 comments.

9 Please go ahead and address the panel.

10 SPEAKER 12: I'm Charlotte Persons, a  
11 24-year resident of the Longview/Kelso area. Like  
12 many others who have spoken, I am concerned about  
13 what is missing from the EIS and its narrow scope,

14 and specifically the health impact statement, which  
15 hasn't appeared yet, and the impacting of global  
16 warming, of burning the coal shipped through the  
17 proposed terminal.

18       However, in the great period of these oral  
19 comments, I would most like to discuss the lack of  
20 mitigation for specific hazards to fish and wildlife  
21 during operation of the project. These are  
22 acknowledged in the EIS to be significant and  
23 unavoidable. These unmitigated hazards include the  
24 effects of water shadowing, spilled coal dust,  
25 noise, dredging, and vessel leaks.

46

1       For example, the EIS states that at full  
2 build out the ship traffic for this project will be  
3 27 percent of the traffic on the Columbia River, and  
4 the passage of large vessels will cause wakes that  
5 affect fish stranding. These effects are discussed  
6 but there's no mitigation proposed.

7       In addition, these downstream islands have  
8 been documented to be used as habitat by birds, such  
9 as the threatened Western Snowy Plover, by  
10 pinnipeds, and by the threatened Columbia Whitetail  
11 deer. But there is no scientific study of the

12 impact of higher vessel wakes and coal dust on these  
13 wildlife.

14 I ask that no Draft EIS be issued until  
15 studies by third parties are conduct so that the  
16 true nature of the dangers of this project are known  
17 and can be mitigated.

18 Protecting humans, fish, and wildlife in  
19 the Columbia River estuary is required by law, but  
20 is also your duty to future generations.

21 EVENT HOST: Thank you. Just a reminder,  
22 we are accepting up to five public elected  
23 officials, tribal elected officials. You need to  
24 check in with Dawn, if you want to raise your hands,  
25 and she'll get you signed up.

47

1 Be we are moving in to the top of the hour  
2 with our next speaker. Thank you.

3 SPEAKER 13: Good afternoon. My name is  
4 Pastor Liz Carney. I'm here within the audience  
5 with my husband, Pastor Dexter Carney. We're  
6 co-pastors at Longview Presbyterian Church.

7 We're new here in town, having just moved  
8 here this past August. And this community has been  
9 enormously welcoming to us, and we have experienced  
10 Longview to be a town that desires to be a good

11 neighbor to everyone around them. That is why we're  
12 here today making this statement to you.

13 By putting in our town the largest coal  
14 terminal in North America, we will cease to be a  
15 good neighbor to those around us. The Draft EIS  
16 admits that Millennium would have a  
17 disproportionately high and adverse effect on  
18 minority and low income communities. It would  
19 affect our Native American neighbors whom the EIS  
20 puts outside the study area.

21 It would affect those who, as a result of  
22 this terminal, would have 5,480 new coal trains  
23 going through their back yards each year.

24 Do we need any more evidence for denying  
25 this permit when the DEIS itself states that the

48

1 terminal will most negatively affect those who are  
2 most vulnerable in our community and the communities  
3 around us.

4 The DEIS does not come close to adequately  
5 addressing the impacts of the Millennium plant and  
6 its train traffic on these neighbors right around us  
7 and around the state.

8 As pastors and as fellow citizens, we long

9 for Longview to be a bastion of neighborly love that  
10 extends to the most vulnerable in our midst.

11 Therefore, we oppose the coal terminal and  
12 recommend its permit be denied, because it harms the  
13 most vulnerable populations around us whom we call  
14 neighbors. Thank you for your time.

15 EVENT HOST: Sir, you have two minutes.

16 SPEAKER 14: Good day. I'm Greg Robinson.

17 As a member of the Association of Northwest  
18 Steelheaders, salmon and steelhead are part of the  
19 culture of my family. My grandfather came by wagon  
20 from Iowa, and salmon immediately became a source of  
21 healthy food, cash income, and a source of  
22 recreation.

23 The Columbia River system is the womb of  
24 the Northwest. The life that incubates in this  
25 river is not other nourishment for humans but the

49

1 forest. Recreational fisheries are a huge economic  
2 power supply, providing jobs ranging from  
3 manufacture of tackle and boats to guides, hotels,  
4 restaurants, it goes on and on.

5 Coal kills fish. The science is there.

6 Why in this day and age do we allow uncovered trains  
7 driving the lifeline of the Northwest, spilling coal

8 dust into the rivers and runoff areas? Why would we  
9 want more trains?

10 While we don't burn a tremendous amount of  
11 coal in this area, we ship it off to where the  
12 bi-products of combustion add to acidic levels of  
13 the ocean. The negative effects of this coal  
14 traveling through our area worldwide hurts the fish  
15 everywhere they travel.

16 It's time for the United States Corps of  
17 engineers to be responsible to what we have lost and  
18 listen to what the biologists and the ports are  
19 telling them. It's time for the United States Corps  
20 of Engineers to stop dragging their feet and make  
21 real change for the good for the iconic foundation  
22 of the Northwest.

23 EVENT HOST: Thank you.

24 SPEAKER 15: Good afternoon. My name is  
25 Rob Harris. I live at 1503 25th Avenue in Longview,

50

1 Washington. I've been a resident here for a long  
2 time, since 1992.

3 Our town is beginning to show rapid signs  
4 of economic decline. Families are leaving this  
5 community, our schools, enrollment is dropping. We

6 can't fix the schools that we have because the tax  
7 base is reducing. We've got a drug problem, we've  
8 got a growing homeless problem. We've got a no job  
9 problem in this down.

10 We won't have to worry about selling homes  
11 because no one will be here to buy them. They're  
12 just trying to get out of town right now because of  
13 the economic state of this town.

14 The overwhelming majority of opposition  
15 doesn't live in this community. They have extreme  
16 environmental and political opinions about the  
17 world's energy situation, its needs, and our ability  
18 to serve it as a nation.

19 They're busting in from Seattle and  
20 Portland, they're predominantly retired and  
21 disinterested in the economic welfare of Longview.

22 And the reality-based conversation is that  
23 90 percent of the energy in the world comes from  
24 carbon based products. It's a tough fact but it's  
25 true. Opponents are focused more on global fossil

1 fuel usage and greenhouse gas than on details of  
2 this project while paying worst case scenarios  
3 regarding the safety of transportation that coal and  
4 coal dust create, which both have been proven to be

5 non factors.

6 Fortunately the Corps is here to get past

7 the motion of politics and focus on fact and

8 rational analysis when siting projects.

9 When this project is done, this company

10 will have spent five years and roughly \$15 million

11 trying to bring this project to fruition. Our

12 company, my community that I am part of is excited

13 to see it here as part of Longview, and we hope you

14 stick to the facts. Thank you.

15 EVENT HOST: Thank you. We'll draw five

16 additional numbers, please, Emma, and then we'll

17 have our next speaker after that.

18 EMMA: Okay. We have 1571, 1637, 1586,

19 1764, and 1589.

20 SPEAKER 16: My name is Jim Lichatowich.

21 I live in Columbia City, Oregon. I've been a salmon

22 biologist for 46 years. I've serve ten years on the

23 Northwest Power and Conservation Council's

24 Independent Scientific Advisory Board for the

25 Columbia River Fish and Wildlife Restoration

1 Program.

2 I have some comments mostly dealing with

3 climate change, but I want to talk to you about  
4 supporting the concerns that the tribal leaders had  
5 expressed earlier.

6 I've studied the history of the impact of  
7 development of the river on salmon for the last  
8 hundred years. And I wrote a book about it, it's a  
9 college-level text.

10 For a hundred years or more we've heard  
11 promises that this development or that investments  
12 are not going to cause any problems, or we've heard  
13 that our concerns were overblown, or we've heard  
14 that, well, we'll mitigate for this stuff -- this  
15 development or that development.

16 And what it's got us is all of the salmon,  
17 or most of the salmon in the Columbia Basin are on  
18 the endangered species list. So we need to -- we  
19 need stewardship, we don't need more promises about  
20 what not going to happen to the salmon if we do  
21 another development on the river.

22 The tribal people have suffered the brunt  
23 of the declines of the salmon, and I think you need  
24 to take their concerns to heart.

25 EVENT HOST: Appreciate your comments.

2 opportunity to speak. Next five numbers, Emma.

3 EMMA: 1775, 1786, 1636, 1756, 1790.

4 SPEAKER 17: Hi. My name is Billie Smith

5 Austin, and I'm a substitute teacher, and I took

6 today off educating our future generation to work

7 towards protecting the planet they will inherit.

8 Thank you for letting me speak. I support

9 family wage jobs, economic development in our

10 community, but I oppose Millennium Bulk Terminals.

11 As an educator, I'm not here today to

12 share my own opinion, but to voice for the next

13 generation, the working force of this community.

14 When more than 50 juniors and seniors were

15 asked if they supported the project, zero percent

16 were in favor. Here are just some questions of

17 concerns they wanted me to share with you today.

18 There isn't a point to take a step back to

19 coal when we can use the same money for future

20 technology.

21 Would we be forced to work in coal

22 manufacturing? I don't want to work for that. Will

23 we be notified if it's dangerous?

24 I want to breathe clean air, and I want to

25 drink and swim in clean water. I'd rather not have

1 my children die from lung cancer or myself. Lives  
2 before money.

3 If coal isn't healthy for people to be in  
4 contact with, then why do we want more? Our town's  
5 water is already garbage. Don't pollute our air.

6 No, I won't live here if coal comes here.  
7 I will leave. I don't want to live in a town where  
8 I can't breathe. It's not worth it.

9 Do the economic benefits outweigh the  
10 environmental risks? Is there a significant reason  
11 for this kind of investment? If not, then why?  
12 Why?

13 And I'd just say to each and every one of  
14 you, go home and look your children and your  
15 grandchildren in the eyes and you justify the risk  
16 in an investment like this in a very, very  
17 vulnerable environment. I'd prefer -- thank you.

18 EVENT HOST: Thank you. No clapping,  
19 please. That's the first warning for this  
20 afternoon.

21 If we can go ahead and have our next  
22 speaker.

23 SPEAKER 18: Thank you. For the record,  
24 my name is Michael Lang. I'm Conservation Director  
25 for Friends of the Columbia Gorge.

1 Friends of the Columbia Gorge is opposed  
2 to this project, as are communities throughout the  
3 Columbia River Gorge, from Camas/Washougal, to  
4 Dallas Port and beyond.

5 In fact, one thing this project has done  
6 is it's probably unified Gorge communities and  
7 tribes and other interests throughout the Columbia  
8 River Gorge and the Columbia River Basin more than  
9 any other project in recent memory.

10 Coal trains currently travel through the  
11 Columbia River Gorge and its many communities every  
12 day, three to four coal trains per day travel  
13 through the Gorge. And they spew coal dust and  
14 debris throughout national scenic area on lands and  
15 waters, private property, and parks in the  
16 communities throughout the gorge, worsening air  
17 quality, and also littering the Columbia River and  
18 its tributaries with coal.

19 Anybody who doubts this, I have some  
20 comments that we're going to submit into the record.  
21 We'll file detailed comments.

22 To the Draft Environmental Impact  
23 Statement, it fails to analyze these impacts. The  
24 Draft Environmental Impact Statement acknowledges  
25 that 5,840 trains will come and go from the facility

1 every year. Most, if not all, of those trains will  
2 go through the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic  
3 area.

4 Under NEPA, the effects are required to be  
5 analyzed, however, the Draft Environmental Impact  
6 Statement utterly fails to analyze the impacts  
7 beyond just a few thousand yards out from the -- or  
8 feet out from the project.

9 In particular, reasons why the Draft  
10 Environmental Impact Statement is unlawful, it fails  
11 to analyze the impacts in scenic, natural, cultural  
12 and recreation resources within the national scenic  
13 area. It fails to analyze the air quality impacts  
14 within the national scenic area, and in fact along  
15 the rail lines. Thank you. We'll we filing more  
16 detailed comments.

17 EVENT HOST: If you'll wrap up, we'll take  
18 your written comments. The next speaker, please.

19 SPEAKER 19: My name is Shannon Stahl, and  
20 I'm from Washougal, Washington. No, I'm not from  
21 here but I'm the business manager at Laborer's Local  
22 in Vancouver that covers Longview because the  
23 Longview office had to close.

24 Millennium Bulk Terminal will bring jobs  
25 and stability to Cowlitz County. Export projects

57

1 can easily contribute to the economic recovery of  
2 this nation, and this project is ready to make that  
3 happen. We need to do our part to make this project  
4 happen, we need to bring jobs back to Cowlitz  
5 County. Thank you.

6 EVENT HOST: Thank you. Our next speaker?

7 SPEAKER 20: My name is Ken Miller, and  
8 I'm a member of the Board of Directors for the  
9 Wyoming Infrastructure Authority. I live in Rapid  
10 City, South Dakota.

11 I wish to thank the US Army Corps of  
12 Engineers for conducting a thorough, fact-based  
13 environmental review. I note this review studied 23  
14 environmental resource areas. Further, there being  
15 an absence of on-site environment impacts, there's a  
16 positive for Cowlitz County, the cities of Longview  
17 and Kelso, and the state of Washington.

18 I find it exciting that the DEIS  
19 determines that, "The Reynolds Lead and BNSF Spur  
20 have the capacity to handle current baseline rail  
21 traffic plus future project-related rail traffic."

22 Further, "Longview Switching Company

23 indicated it would upgrade the track on the Reynolds  
24 Lead and BNSF Spur by adding ballast, replacing  
25 ties, and upgrading the rails. These improvements

58

1 would provide safer operation and increase maximum  
2 speed from 10 miles per hour to 25 miles per hour on  
3 the Reynolds Lead."

4 I would like to also state that the  
5 impacts to the state's rail system in the year 2028  
6 with project-proposed train traffic is essentially  
7 the same as what the WSDOT 2013 state rail plan  
8 projects for the year 2035 without project-proposed  
9 trains.

10 I also note the conclusions that maximum  
11 monthly coal dust deposition in and near the project  
12 area and along the Reynolds Lead and BNSF Spur are  
13 negligible. This is completely consistent with my  
14 23 years of living in Gillette, Wyoming and three  
15 years of living across the Cowlitz River from the  
16 BNSF mainline near Third Street.

17 More than enough study has been done in  
18 this environmental review, and the final EIS should  
19 be issued in a timely manner. For several reasons,  
20 this project is important to not only Cowlitz

21 County, but also the states of Wyoming, Montana, and  
22 South Dakota. Thank you.  
23       EVENT HOST: Thank you. Our next speaker,  
24 please?  
25       SPEAKER 21: My name is Marcella Chandler.

59

1 I live in downtown Vancouver, Washington. I'm a  
2 retired Licensed Practical Nurse who spent years  
3 working on a medical floor of a local hospital with  
4 patients living and dying of many of the diseases  
5 that may be exacerbated by or caused by toxins found  
6 in coal dust.

7       I am concerned for the health of our  
8 communities, families, our children, and  
9 grandchildren. And for this reason I feel it is  
10 important to remind this panel that the coal dust  
11 has particulates containing sulfur dioxide, heavy  
12 metals, and benzene, to name a few, that get into  
13 our air and water.

14       These particulates are so small they get  
15 into the respiratory tract, then into the lungs,  
16 working their way through the blood stream,  
17 distributing toxins throughout the body. These  
18 toxins increase chances of congestive heart failure,  
19 the likelihood of cancers, lung infections, immune

20 disorders, renal dysfunction, osteoporosis, ataxia,  
21 and other neurological disorders.

22 The dust also increases and antagonizes  
23 already existing cases of emphysema, chronic  
24 obstructive disease, or COPD, and asthma.

25 I also want to remind this panel that coal

60

1 trains, coal dust, and the carbon pollution from the  
2 burning of coal will impact all of us.

3 I believe the scope of this evaluation is  
4 too narrow to provide the decision makers with the  
5 fact needed to accurately and responsively review  
6 this project. Thank you.

7 EMMA: The current ten numbers on call are  
8 1586, 1648, 1746, 1743, 1728, 1724, 1741, 1691,  
9 1734, and 1744.

10 EVENT HOST: And our next speaker?

11 SPEAKER 22: My name is Kayla Degowatufti  
12 (ph). I'm a member of the Confederated Tribes of  
13 Warm Springs, Role Number 4192.

14 My great-great grandmother is Calsalu Lucy  
15 Tufty. She was a Wasco leader of our people from  
16 the Columbia River Gorge.

17 The Warm Springs Declaration of

18 Sovereignty states as tribal members we have  
19 relinquished only limited amount of sovereignty to  
20 our tribal council and have reserved the majority of  
21 our national sovereignty to ourselves.

22 Our tribe is a member of the Columbia  
23 River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission. Their energy  
24 vision of 2003 advocates taking energy demand of the  
25 backs of salmon and the environment that supports

61

1 them as a primary goal of the region's energy  
2 policy.

3 CRIFC also opposes the Millennium Bulk  
4 Terminal proposal in Longview. As an enrolled  
5 member of the Confederated Tribes, I unequivocally  
6 support the Cowlitz Tribal Council's opposition to  
7 the Millennium Bulk Terminal and the Army Corps of  
8 Engineer's proposal to open this coal terminal in  
9 Longview, Washington.

10 Since our ancestors signed the  
11 Mid-Columbia River Treaty in 1855, multiple Army  
12 Corps of Engineer proposals have irreversibly  
13 damaged our territories indefinitely. Village sites  
14 blended, life ways destroyed. Our family has come  
15 from the narrow. A historic fishing place and  
16 trading place that was inundated by the Army Corps

17 of Engineers' Dalles and Bonneville Dam.

18 We are witnessing a fork in the road. The  
19 Industrial Revolution has taken more from our  
20 territories than the earth can withstand. Coal,  
21 pipelines, dams or all seeing the end of their life  
22 span.

23 These extreme energy proposals lack the  
24 ingenuity and foresight in creating an economy for  
25 the future while simultaneously leaving a clean,

62

1 healthy environment for future generations.

2 The impacts on our treaty rights,  
3 environment, and culture have not been mitigated by  
4 the Army Corps of Engineers or Millennium Bulk  
5 Terminals. At the time of creation, creator placed  
6 us in this land, he gave us the voice of this land,  
7 and that is our law.

8 EVENT HOST: Next speaker, please.

9 SPEAKER 23: Good afternoon. My name is  
10 Mason Evans. I grew up in Longview. I'm the  
11 president of Gage Kelly, a large employer in Cowlitz  
12 County. I support Millennium's project.

13 I believe the DEIS was comprehensive and  
14 it's time to move on to the Final EIS and approved

15 the permit for the project. I believe that merits

16 of this project outweigh the risks.

17 Millennium's investment improves our

18 infrastructure, grows trade, increases our tax base,

19 and provides family wage jobs.

20 The DEIS was comprehensive, I believe in

21 this project, and it's time to move it forward.

22 Thank you.

23 SPEAKER 24: Hi. My name is Larry

24 Wilhelmson. I came to Longview in 1961 as a

25 chemical engineer. I retired from Longview Fiber in

63

1 1992.

2 My approach is a little bit different. I

3 think approve this project because I think we need

4 to pay it forward. As the United States, we are

5 five percent of the population, we've been consuming

6 about 25 percent of the oil production in the world,

7 we have our coal, we use our coal for making steel.

8 Now you want to get rid of the environmental people

9 by saying, hey, we can't use our coal anymore so we

10 need to export it.

11 Since 1992, our government has invested

12 \$42 billion on proving that we are causing the

13 environment to go bad.

14 Well, for the last 18 years there's been  
15 no increase in temperature on the atmosphere, and  
16 so -- the people are laughing, however, if you go  
17 look up, these claims that we have record  
18 temperatures, NASA has actually gone back and  
19 lowered the temperatures in 1936 that were the  
20 highest, raised the temperatures so they could  
21 announce that we have record high temperatures.  
22 It's just not true.

23 Carbon dioxide is the life blood of this  
24 earth. It grows the plants, it goes into the sea,  
25 it creates oxygen. It's actually good for fish. If

64

1 you look at the oceans, the most productive areas in  
2 the oceans are of low pH. And you can go back and  
3 look at that.

4 The other part of the thing is we need to  
5 be looking forward to technology. Right now if  
6 people are going to be lining up and waiting for the  
7 trains to go by we've got our technology cell phones  
8 to allow us to be productive while we're sitting  
9 there waiting there to go across.

10 We should be looking at some of the  
11 environmental side of the things and the health

12 concerns because you cannot always believe what the  
13 government is telling you. Thank you.

14 EVENT HOST: Next speaker please?

15 SPEAKER 25: Hi. My name is Linda

16 Leonard. I'm a resident from Kalama. The  
17 Millennium Bulk Terminal has the potential to impact  
18 our region with a coal train corridor being  
19 proposed. Being a resident of Kalama, we have a  
20 view of the Columbia River and the BNSF rail lines.

21 The health risks from eight coal laden  
22 trains and 125 cars, each train is proximately  
23 eight miles of train per day seven days a week.

24 The diesel particulate matter is a  
25 particularly noxious form of air pollution often

65

1 resulting in pulmonary and asthma issues. The air  
2 quality will be severely compromised. Are we  
3 willing to allow that to happen?

4 Millennium proposed to transport 44  
5 million metric tons of coal annually from the Powder  
6 River Basin if this project is allowed to continue.  
7 Everyone has a right to a safe environment and clean  
8 air. Please say no to this project.

9 EVENT HOST: Next speaker, please?

10 SPEAKER 26: Hello. My name is Donald

11 McKinley from Portland, Oregon.

12       As long as we are alive, we have the  
13 opportunity to do the right thing in many arenas of  
14 life. Every day, every hour we give it another  
15 chance to reach out of the circle of our security to  
16 those in need and to the world that calls us to a  
17 new and more righteous path of action. This is that  
18 call.

19       An old way of living, of doing business,  
20 finally demanding these large trains and ships of  
21 death upon our lands and waters. And this terminal  
22 that betrays both the earth itself and all the hopes  
23 that we as people have for it.

24       Such is a destination to which the single  
25 purpose quest for profit had to leave. This old way

66

1 doesn't work anymore. It cannot fulfill our real  
2 needs. It cannot develop anything of value. It is  
3 time to step beyond the values that led to this  
4 proposal, values that may have served well enough in  
5 the past but now betray us, to step up to the real  
6 needs of our communities and our lands.

7       We want the security that we won't be  
8 thrown into low wage jobs or poverty in the future.

9 We want healthy jobs that we can be proud of, that  
10 actually produce something of value, that actually  
11 serve the communities of which we are a part.

12 We want healthy communities that prosper  
13 and grow free of the malignant invasive fossil fuel  
14 empire, and all the harms it produces. We want a  
15 healthy earth in which all living things, including  
16 us, have a hope of survival. And we want justice  
17 and the power to shape our own world.

18 It is time to step forward and build a  
19 future based on healthy renewable resources and  
20 local control of our economy, and the caring of all  
21 people on the earth and on the principle that the  
22 people, not giant resource companies, make the  
23 important decisions. Thank you.

24 EVENT HOST: Next speaker, please.

25 SPEAKER 27: Colonel Buck and others, my

67

1 name is Dr. Kelly O'Hanley. As an obstetrician  
2 gynecologist with a degree in public health, I've  
3 taught the next generation of doctors Stanford and  
4 Harvard universities.

5 It is my concern for the impact of climate  
6 change on all mothers and babies that brings me here  
7 today.

8 I think most people in this room agree  
9 that climate change is no longer a theoretical,  
10 distant threat, but a real and present danger, and  
11 that hard data must inform all levels of decision  
12 making.

13 To this end, in August of this year, a new  
14 guidance document was released entitled Memorandum  
15 from the White House to Heads of Federal Departments  
16 and Agencies on Consideration of Greenhouse Gas  
17 Emissions and the Effects of Climate Change in NEPA  
18 Reviews. According to this memorandum, agencies  
19 that are evaluating a proposed action involving  
20 resource extraction and development should account  
21 for reasonably foreseeable effects of various phases  
22 in the process, namely clearing of the land for the  
23 project, building access roads, extraction,  
24 transport, refining, processing, resource use,  
25 disassembly, disposal, and reclamation. This

68

1 guidance is to be applied to all projects in which a  
2 final EIS has not been issued.

3 So let's look at the Millennium Bulk EIS  
4 section on Greenhouse Gas Emissions. What we find  
5 is that reports out only on emissions from

6 construction and operation of the terminal. It  
7 fails to address any emissions from extraction,  
8 transport, refining, processing, resource use,  
9 disassembly, disposal, and reclamation.

10 This narrow focus does not serve the  
11 public. It seems to speak to a relationship between  
12 the Corps of Engineers and industry that's been too  
13 accommodating for too long. Moreover, the narrow  
14 focus of the Millennium Bulk EIS no longer meets  
15 federal guidance.

16 EVENT HOST: Thank you. We're just about  
17 halfway through our afternoon session. Let's just  
18 take a 30-second stretch. I'm going to suspend the  
19 rules, but if you can bring it back to order in  
20 just -- a quick stand up and stretch for everybody  
21 getting half way through this.

22 (Pause in proceedings.)

23 Folks, if we could bring it back to order.  
24 I appreciate your opportunity to stand up and  
25 stretch, meet with your neighbors.

69

1 Emma, could you go ahead and select five  
2 more numbers and we'll bring the group back to order  
3 for our next speaker after five more lottery  
4 numbers. Thank you.

5 EMMA: 1691, 1624, 1597, 1705, 1629, 1698.

6 EVENT HOST: Sir, you can proceed with  
7 your two minutes.

8 SPEAKER 28: I'm Cliff Dolman, a speech  
9 pathologist in Portland, Oregon. I'd like to thank  
10 the Corps for letting me speak today.

11 I'm opposed to any permits for coal  
12 exports. Some say that we need the jobs to go  
13 ahead, issue the permit, buy and load and ship the  
14 coal. No to that.

15 Generating a few temporary jobs is a  
16 terrible and tragic trade-off for increase of the  
17 spewing of arsenic, sulfur, cadmium, mercury, lead,  
18 as well as lowering our property values, a community  
19 through which the coal is shipped through.

20 In fact there would eventually be jobs  
21 lost in the shellfish, fishing, wildlife industry  
22 where the habitat and growers in the habitat is  
23 virtually less effective. Not to mention the health  
24 of humans and the destruction of emergency  
25 transportation routes that could cause lives.

70

1 Would you intentionally hire people to  
2 endanger the environment and be harmful to people's

3 health?

4       The coal that will be shipped to China  
5 with burning coal burners will further pollute China  
6 and there will be a significant amount that will  
7 blow back to the West Coast. Have you seen pictures  
8 of Beijing?

9       The representatives from the company say  
10 that the chemicals mentioned above are already found  
11 in the earth naturally, as if to say there's no  
12 problem. But I say why do you want to artificially  
13 want to add to it?

14       The Corps should not treat us narrowly,  
15 they should be, in making their ruling, consider all  
16 of the area, land, and water that the coal would  
17 have to be transported over, not just what goes on  
18 at the loading and unloading terminals. Broaden the  
19 scope.

20       The entire environment needs to be  
21 considered. Not to do so would be like a cancer  
22 patient seeing the doctor and wanting only his mouth  
23 to be examined. The problem is systemic. Like the  
24 Z's, the damage from coal does not stop at the city  
25 limits or the port. The coal dust effects cannot be

1 totally mitigated. Anyone who claims --

2           EVENT HOST: Thank you, sir. And if I  
3 could just again thank you all for cooperating with  
4 the ground rules. And other than when we suspend  
5 them for a quick stretch, you need to take your  
6 conversations and identification beyond the signs,  
7 anything audible, to the lobby, that would be  
8 greatly appreciated. Our next speaker? Thank you.

9           SPEAKER 29: Good afternoon, Colonel Buck  
10 and esteemed panel. My name is Mike Elliott. I'm  
11 speaking today on behalf of the Washington State  
12 Legislative Board, Brotherhood of Locomotive  
13 Engineers and Trainmen.

14           We represent over 900 railroad operating  
15 craft personnel state-wide. Our board was  
16 established in 1904, and our evening has a  
17 documented presence here dating back to 1884.

18           We respectfully offer the following  
19 comments regarding the Millennium Draft EIS.

20           As we approach the five-year milestone  
21 since Millennium applied for permits, every  
22 potential impact regarding the construction site,  
23 the railroad right-of-way, and even things beyond  
24 the boards of our state have been considered or  
25 commented on.

1           While we would have hoped to have arrived  
2 at this point in the process sooner, we are grateful  
3 to finally be here today.

4           In examining the NEPA Draft EIS documents,  
5 it's clear to us that a comprehensive study of most  
6 every potential impact has been given its due  
7 diligence and consideration. For this we thank the  
8 Army Corps of Engineers and the other agencies  
9 involved for their thorough and full efforts. Let  
10 us now complete the process and move forward.

11           One point we want to make today is this:  
12 The NEPA/SEPA process needs to be fair, timely, and  
13 unbiased for everyone, regardless of commodity  
14 involved. We have participated in this process from  
15 the beginning, and in doing so we believe Millennium  
16 has made every effort to follow the protocol and  
17 comply with the requirements of the EIS process.

18           Having hauled every commodity on earth for  
19 over 153 years, we understand the importance of  
20 trade and of commerce to the economy of the United  
21 States, the state of Washington, the 49 other  
22 states, and to our allies overseas.

23           Millennium is an upgrade and vital trade  
24 in commerce infrastructure, and without it we fall  
25 behind Canada and other countries where the

1 infrastructure upgrade process is much more

2 streamline and efficient. Thank you.

3       EVENT HOST: Thank you. And our next

4 speaker, please.

5       SPEAKER 30: Hello. My name is Mike Dash.

6 I've been a Washington state resident for over 50

7 years, and I live in Seattle and have a small

8 business there. Thank you for the opportunity to

9 speak today.

10       And I want to address Section 7.3.3.9,

11 which is the cumulative impacts of greenhouse gases

12 section. That section currently is inadequate in

13 its scope.

14       We signed the Paris Accords about a year

15 ago, and the U.S. and the world committed to trying

16 to hold global temperature increase to two degrees

17 or less. If all of the current commitments under

18 the Paris Accords are observed, by 2100 we're going

19 to blow well past two degrees, we'll be at three and

20 a half degrees. Three and a half degrees is a

21 complete, total, and unmitigated disaster.

22       Vast areas of the world that are

23 agricultural now will be dust holes, there will be

24 hundreds of millions of climate refugees, and

25 Seattle and Longview and San Francisco and New York

1 and every other port city in the United States will  
2 be drowned.

3 If we think that the United States now,  
4 and Longview and Seattle in particular, have  
5 struggling economies, then we do not want to know  
6 what those cities will look like and what our  
7 economies will look like if we get to 3.5 degrees.

8 So for the final EIS, widen the scope of  
9 7.3.3.9, or widen the scope of cumulative greenhouse  
10 gas emissions impact because the current section now  
11 is only inadequate and irresponsible in the  
12 narrowness of its scope. Thank you.

13 EVENT HOST: Thank you. Our next speaker?

14 SPEAKER 31: Good afternoon. I'm Dr.  
15 Theodora Saugus. I'm an environmental health  
16 scientist. I'm speaking today on behalf of Dr.  
17 Alice Suder, who is not able to be here today.

18 Dr. Suder is an audiologist with many  
19 years of experience as an environmental and  
20 occupational noise consultant, advising companies,  
21 municipalities, and government agencies about their  
22 noise problems. I will read her comments.

23 It is my opinion that the noise impact on

24 the nearby community would be extremely serious,  
25 considerably more serious than the Draft EIS

75

1 concludes. The Draft EIS estimates that the noise  
2 impact from trains on some 229 residences would be  
3 moderate, and on 60 homes would be severe. The  
4 number of people impacted would considerably exceed  
5 the number of homes.

6 The method by which the noise impacts are  
7 estimated is incomplete and biased away from public  
8 health and welfare. It is based on only the  
9 percentage of people describing themselves as highly  
10 annoyed by noise.

11 But the adverse physiological and  
12 psychological effects of noise will occur  
13 considerably before the point at which individuals  
14 describe themselves as highly annoyed.

15 By examining the noise contour maps, it is  
16 clear that large portions of the city would be  
17 adversely impacted, greatly exceeding the estimates  
18 made in the Draft EIS. By failing to apply the  
19 noise contours to the analysis, particularly the 55  
20 decibel contour, the EPA level required to protect  
21 public health and welfare from the harmful effects  
22 of noise, the Draft EIS leaves out a large swath of

23 the city and its residents who would be adversely  
24 impacted.  
25 The Draft EIS makes no mention of the most

76

1 important noise impacts, those causing psychological  
2 and physiological effects. In the end, it is the  
3 city of Longview and its citizens that would bear  
4 the health and financial burden of this extremely  
5 noisy proposal. Please deny the permit.

6 EVENT HOST: And our next speaker?

7 SPEAKER 32: (Speaking native language.)  
8 My name is Raymond Estrada. My Indian name is  
9 (speaking native language.)

10 Today I come here to speak on behalf of  
11 the land and the water and the people -- all of us  
12 people that live on it and take from it.

13 As an Indian person we're taught that  
14 we're stewards of the land, and that it is our  
15 love -- not our responsibility -- our love to  
16 protect this land that's provided so much for us.

17 And I know the coal comes from the earth,  
18 but it needs to stay there because it's hurting our  
19 future. It's hurting the future for my daughter.  
20 I've said this before. I don't want to teach my

21 daughter as a historian about how I live my life. I  
22 want to show her. I want to take her out and show  
23 her how to fish. All my people are fishermen. Our  
24 chief that came here with us today is a big  
25 fisherman of the Columbia River.

77

1 Today, I was trying to think of the words  
2 to say, but all that comes to mind is (speaking  
3 native language), the Columbia River (speaking  
4 native language), the water and the land are talking  
5 to us and we're not listening, we're not hearing.

6 And I would hope that you would remember  
7 this land in terms of how it goes through as it is  
8 today opposed to how it's going to look for our  
9 children and my children's children. Thank you.

10 EVENT HOST: Thank you. And our next  
11 speaker, please.

12 SPEAKER 33: Good afternoon. My name is  
13 Bob Reese, I'm Executive Director for the  
14 Association of Northwest Steelheaders, a board  
15 member of the Northwest Guides and Anglers  
16 Association, and a 20-year veteran fishing guide on  
17 the Columbia River.

18 I've spent the last two decades making my  
19 living off the Columbia River salmon as a

20 professional fishing guide, and hope to do that for  
21 the next 20 years. Salmon doesn't just support a  
22 \$3.5 billion a year industry in rural Oregon,  
23 Washington, and Idaho. It supports entire  
24 ecosystems as a keystone species for the entire West  
25 Coast.

78

1 The science is overwhelming. Coal burning  
2 creates carbonic acid, souring our seas, and  
3 disintegrating the exoskeletons of the creatures  
4 that make up the very base of our food chain. And  
5 coal dust is grossly polluting our Columbia River  
6 where treaty tribes, sport fishing families, and  
7 commercial fishermen derive our important food  
8 sources. Fisherman everywhere are saying no. No to  
9 coal.

10 We've recently seen the capability of the  
11 Columbia River for producing wild salmon, but this  
12 year's fall chinook, coho, and summer steelhead fell  
13 far short of expectations with only worst news for  
14 the years ahead.

15 Now is the time to address our human  
16 impact on this incredible resource. Coal pollution  
17 and the loss of river function are primary factors

18 contributing to the decline of these species.

19 We're relying on the US Army Corps of  
20 Engineers to lead our region in recovery so this  
21 iconic species will continue to benefit our nation.

22 The sixth great extinction is underway.  
23 Let's not exacerbate it with another dirty industry  
24 that crashes earth's ecosystems. Thank you.

25 EVENT HOST: Okay. We'll have a quick

79

1 break to read five more numbers, then we'll have our  
2 next speaker.

3 EMMA: 1745, 1598, 1778, 1757, 1663.

4 SPEAKER 34: Greetings. My name is Barron  
5 Hart-Masterson. I live and work in Portland,  
6 Oregon, and I work in the sustainable construction  
7 industry. I'd like to point out that the deficiency  
8 of the EIS draft is that it does not address  
9 environmental impacts on the Millennium site itself.

10 Building codes and guidelines for  
11 environmental review have historically focused  
12 exclusively on product sites. And this needs to  
13 change if we hope to have our children and  
14 grandchildren live in a healthy environment.

15 We've heard significant testimony about  
16 project impact from extraction of burning the coal.

17 I urge you to serve this community, the country, and  
18 planet and do more than follow specifically the  
19 written guidelines for EIS statements.

20 Please be a leader and take a broader  
21 perspective. I know that you may feel like, well,  
22 okay, all of these guidelines that are provided as  
23 to how to write an EIS statement have been  
24 accurately followed, but this project is bigger than  
25 that. We as a culture and society need to go beyond

80

1 that.

2 So I urge you to look inside yourself and  
3 take a wise approach and evaluate what are the  
4 deficiencies that you've been handed with the  
5 guidelines for writing the EIS statement, and then  
6 take the testimony that people have given that may  
7 fall outside of those provisions to heart.

8 The Millennium terminal is a project that  
9 would profit multi-national companies at the expense  
10 of the local environment and local communities and  
11 the global climate. I urge you to deny terminal  
12 permit. Thank you.

13 EVENT HOST: Thank you. Our next speaker,  
14 please.

15           SPEAKER 35: My name is (inaudible). I'm  
16 a mother and a teacher.  
17           When I first visited her in Longview on  
18 the shore of the waters of the Columbia, she barely  
19 had a pulse. According to her medical history I  
20 wasn't surprised. She was left for dead. Her  
21 surface scarred and oozing cryolite, sciaenid, black  
22 carbon liquid, years of abuse. But now this?  
23 Terminal illness.  
24           The DEIS diagnosis, compromised immune  
25 system, toxins and coal dust seeping into her belly,

81

1 wafting through the air she breathes. They say that  
2 these can be easily monitored and adjusted with  
3 minimal exposure. But what about acres of wetland.  
4 Her blood, her life line drained, altered and  
5 degraded, permanently lost. Her children dusted  
6 with coal, left to find another home. So much  
7 sickness and now this.  
8           Forklifts, excavators, dozers will stab at  
9 her flesh. Terminally ill, you say, but don't  
10 worry, best available methods will be employed to  
11 monitor signs of stress.  
12           What about her guts turned inside out, the  
13 organs removed from her belly, asthma-causing-coal

14 traveling on diesel trains, spewing her guts along  
15 the way into her sacred waters of life into places  
16 they don't belong, only to arrive in Longview to be  
17 contained, to be used against her will to create  
18 more poison.  
19 Will there be nothing left but scar  
20 tissue? Disease spread like coliuria into the mouth  
21 of the Columbia River. Aquatic creatures, organisms  
22 gasping for air, particles escaping, floating  
23 through the atmosphere, burned and bleeding,  
24 disrupting equilibrium, adrenaline rushing, high  
25 winds, rising seas like hands covering the coast of

82

1 the Marshall Islands, Haiti, Manzanita, pushing,  
2 pleading -- pleading no more.  
3 Yes, she has a pulse, but she is breathing  
4 and pleading for her life.  
5 EVENT HOST: Next speaker, please.  
6 SPEAKER 36: Hello. My name is Crystal  
7 Estrada. I'm against the coal. From Celilo  
8 Village. My Indian name is (inaudible).  
9 I just want to talk to the effects of  
10 coal, the cancer, and the losing of breath, and the  
11 effect for the children of our village.

12           There's about 50 that get on the bus to go  
13 to the school, and they walk around by the  
14 railroads, they eat the fish and the deer meat.  
15 We're all the first people of this nation. The coal  
16 doesn't help us in any way, so we're against the  
17 coal. So no coal. Thank you.

18           EVENT HOST: Thank you. Our next speaker  
19 will approach the podium and take your two minutes.  
20 Thanks.

21           SPEAKER 37: I'm Jan Holme with Montana  
22 Elders for a Livable Tomorrow, MELT, in Missoula,  
23 Montana.

24           I'm a teacher and EMT. The last 12 years  
25 I've been on the City/County Air Quality Advisory

83

1 Council, three as its chair. Missoula has sent  
2 letters protesting every proposed coal export  
3 terminal in Washington and Oregon because of serious  
4 health concerns. Our letters spoke of increases in  
5 heart disease, lung disease, cancers, and strokes  
6 related to the mining, shipping, and burning of  
7 Montana coal.

8           A now member and former coal mine manager  
9 says the problem with coal is that the product is  
10 poison. Affordable clean coal is only a pipe dream

11 for my lifetime and probably yours. The most jobs  
12 related to coal would be in the health care industry  
13 as we try to heal those who are harmed, especially  
14 children.

15 As with the tobacco industry, when they  
16 admitted tobacco was killing people and their market  
17 shrank, coal companies want to sell their product  
18 abroad. I find selling a product that kills  
19 Americans to people Asia to be morally unacceptable.

20 It's not like we're just poisoning the  
21 people we sell it to because toxins come back to us  
22 on air currents faster than the ships that took it  
23 there.

24 Montana's beautiful lakes and rivers  
25 contain mercury that can be traced to coal burning

84

1 plants in Asia. The alarm across the region is that  
2 a Longview terminal will circumvent five years of  
3 effort and hundreds of thousands of protesters,  
4 ordinary people who have nothing to gain but  
5 maintaining their quality of life and protecting the  
6 planet. We are better than this. Let our gift to  
7 the future be the coal we leave in the ground.  
8 Thank you.

9 EVENT HOST: Thank you. Our next speaker?

10 SPEAKER 38: Hi. My name is Jackson

11 (inaudible.) I'm an eighth grade student at

12 Sunnyside Environmental School. I'm worried about

13 the future.

14 Over the summer I went camping an

15 uncountable number of times and took a the most

16 scenic drive to Montana. On that drive I saw two

17 coal trains billowing dust. At first I thought

18 nothing of it. Then I got deeper in the Gorge and I

19 got mad seeing all the pollution and toxins in the

20 air.

21 I've gone to certain campsites over my

22 whole life and seen them drastically change. It's

23 hard to see some memories change with one forest

24 fire or storm caused by global warming.

25 I have four younger brothers. One of them

85

1 is one and a half. It's hard to think about the

2 fact that he may not see the same place as me. I'm

3 scared for him. He will have a higher chance of

4 getting asthma, the summer droughts will be longer,

5 and the storms will be worse.

6 At our school we had an intern helping one

7 of our sustainability coordinators. His name is

8 Pinel. He's from Haiti. Last week he sent a video  
9 to our school showing before and after Hurricane  
10 Matthew. His home was knee deep in water and you  
11 could hear the stress in his voice.

12 The one road going into his town was  
13 blocked and broken. They can rebuild as much as  
14 they want, but if we put this coal plant up it's not  
15 going to matter when another hurricane comes through  
16 and destroys it all again.

17 Last year my school taught us about all  
18 types of energy, focusing on the positives and  
19 negatives of each one. Today I'm confused. Why is  
20 a coal -- why is coal trumping clean energy when  
21 coal has huge negative effects on the environment.

22 Please, for the sake of me and other young  
23 people, say no to this proposal so we can have hope  
24 for the future with no worries. Thank you.

25 EVENT HOST: Thank you. A quick break.

86

1 Can we call five more numbers, and then we'll hear  
2 from our next speaker? I see empty chairs, so...

3 Folks, if you have heard your number or it  
4 is up on the screen, if you could come forward. We  
5 need to line folks up in the order they're called

6 up.

7 EMMA: The next five are 1631, 1700, 1646,  
8 1715, and 1725.

9 SPEAKER 39: Good afternoon. Thank you  
10 for allowing us to speak. (Inaudible) Williams,  
11 Oregon. I'm an immigrant to this country. And when  
12 I was accepted 55 years ago as a citizen here, I  
13 assumed the full rights and responsibilities of a  
14 citizen of the United States.

15 I will not be disenfranchised by the CEO  
16 of Millennium Bulk Terminals simply because I happen  
17 to live in Portland, Oregon.

18 I'm offended by the travesty of limiting  
19 the scope of this Draft EIS to the property itself,  
20 the industrial parcel, the project area.

21 I urge you to amend your final to be in  
22 compliance with the White House directive to take in  
23 the full scope, mining transportation, processing,  
24 shipping, use of resources. We all know coal is the  
25 dirtiest of the all fuels.

87

1 Now, my grandfather was a miner. I know  
2 what coal dust does to a community, and I think it  
3 is a betrayal of the highest order that Millennium  
4 Bulk Terminal promises jobs and well being to the

5 citizens of Longview when in fact they're increasing  
6 hazards to the health and to their safety.

7 But most importantly, the Draft EIS  
8 completely ignores climate change, and if you don't  
9 know it's here you better talk to the oyster  
10 fishermen along the coast who will tell you that the  
11 survival rate of their small oyster larvae is a  
12 disaster and plummeting because of acidity of the  
13 waters.

14 It is here and we have to reckon with it,  
15 and the Corps has to begin to dial up the future,  
16 not the past. We know you're good, we know you do  
17 good work, but the scope is deficient and it's a  
18 travesty.

19 EVENT HOST: Thank you. Our next speaker,  
20 please.

21 SPEAKER 40: My name is Robin Bumgarden  
22 and I live in Eugene, Oregon. And I just want to  
23 say that I'm against this terminal and any other  
24 fossil fuel export terminals that come along.

25 So I just have one thing to say, and that

88

1 is to everyone in this room, and that is there are  
2 no good jobs on a dead planet. Keep that in mind.

3           EVENT HOST: Our next speaker.

4           SPEAKER 41: Good afternoon. My name is  
5 Paulette Lichatowich. I live in Columbia City,  
6 Oregon. And I've lived in Oregon and Washington for  
7 more than 50 years.

8           The Army Corps of Engineers' Draft EIS has  
9 major flaws. The Corps' review ignores climate  
10 change impacts from mining and burning 44 million  
11 metric tons of coal per year. The Corps' Draft EIS  
12 fails to consider Washington State Department of  
13 Ecology's new rule for reducing carbon pollution  
14 under the State Clean Air Act.

15          In 2015, Governor Inslee directed Ecology  
16 to cap and reduce carbon. Department of Ecology  
17 director said, We are taking leadership under out  
18 Clean Air Act, adopting a strong and practical plan  
19 to reduce greenhouse gases and doing our fair share  
20 to tackle climate change.

21          The new rule took effect October 17 this  
22 year, and is the first step. And the first step of  
23 its kind to combat climate change in an effort to  
24 protect future generations.

25          Natural gas distributors, petroleum fuel

1 producers, importers, power plants, metal

2 manufacturers, waste facilities, and state and  
3 federal facilities are included in the plan and need  
4 to show their emissions are declining by an average  
5 of 1.7 percent a year starting next year.

6 The Corps is working against the intent of  
7 the new 2016 emissions rule which when it ignores  
8 the effort on climate change.

9 EVENT HOST: Thank you very much for your  
10 comment.

11 SPEAKER 42: Members of the panel, my name  
12 is John Sheppert. I've been living in Longview for  
13 over 46 years.

14 Colonel Buck and other members of this  
15 panel, I stand before you today as a very  
16 disappointed resident and faith leader. This  
17 proposal and study does not take the long view. Its  
18 very operation runs counter to the agreements of the  
19 Paris Climate Accord that was ratified just a few  
20 weeks ago and goes into effect next month.

21 This study also ignores the findings of  
22 97 percent of the world's climate scientists who  
23 agree that global warming is caused by the burning  
24 of fossil fuel, especially coal. It also goes  
25 against the world's religious leaders, including the

1 Pope, who tell us that climate change is one of the  
2 principal challenges of our day, and that we are  
3 facing unprecedented destruction to the planet if  
4 action is not taken swiftly.

5 It should be noticed -- it should be noted  
6 in passing that 12 Native American tribes, including  
7 the Cowlitz have expressed opposition to this coal  
8 terminal, as have 3,000 health care professionals.

9 This proposal also does not take into  
10 account that 240,000 tons of coal will be offloaded  
11 and reloaded each day causing environmental and  
12 public health hazards of huge proportions.

13 This study also does not take into account  
14 that 1600 very large Panamax ships traveling  
15 annually up and down the Columbia -- that's 30 a  
16 week -- impacting fish, shore lines, and air from  
17 diesel exhaust.

18 The results of this study does not reflect  
19 the urgency. Thank you very much.

20 EVENT HOST: Thank you for your comments.

21 We're going to take a quick pause. It's 3:00 p.m.

22 The one elected official that I do have signed up is  
23 Scott Vydra, Longview City Council. You'll have two  
24 minutes.

25 MR. VYDRA: Panel, hello. My name is

1 Scott Vydra, Longview City Council. A physician,  
2 too, and owner of a spa business here in Longview.  
3 Thank you for taking the time for having this  
4 hearing today.

5 The NEPA Draft EIS is an important part of  
6 the process. As such, I urge you to keep the  
7 process moving so that the citizens of Longview have  
8 all the facts and are aware of all the environmental  
9 concerns as well as the economic benefits for this  
10 project. Thank you very much for your time.

11 EVENT HOST: Our next speaker?

12 SPEAKER 43: Good afternoon. I'm Bill  
13 Markum with the Longview Chamber of Commerce. And  
14 as the Chamber of Commerce, our vision is the  
15 catalyst for business and community prosperity. One  
16 of our critical roles is to foster a successful  
17 economic environment with community and for our  
18 nearly 500 business members.

19 The export terminal will result in an  
20 economical and fiscal benefit to the local area and  
21 to Washington state, while mitigating existing  
22 environmental issues on the site.

23 The project represents an opportunity to  
24 locate a world class industrial facility on under  
25 utilized industrial land. State and local benefits

1 will include new and significant family wage jobs,  
2 tax revenue, and the Millennium Bulk project would  
3 be a valuable edition to our region's economy, it  
4 will create jobs, and it will be an asset to the  
5 surrounding communities and the economic outlook of  
6 our nation.

7       We also want to thank you for the work  
8 you've done over the past four and a half years to  
9 bring this to this point, and that we feel that your  
10 work has outlined us to opportunity to have this  
11 facility in our area.

12       It's for these reasons that the  
13 Kelso/Longview Chamber supports the Millennium  
14 permitting application, and ask for a timely  
15 approval of the process to enable the development to  
16 move forward. Thank you.

17       EVENT HOST: Thank you. Just a quick  
18 reminder as we head into the 3:00 hour. We will  
19 take a break at four. Any numbers, any tickets that  
20 you have will remain valid when we reconvene at  
21 5:00 p.m., so hold on to those tickets.

22       Our next speaker?

23       SPEAKER 44: Hi. I'm Dr. Rose

24 Christopherson, a retired VA physician. I want to  
25 thank you Colonel Buck. From hearing your speech at

93

1 the beginning it sounds as if ultimately you will  
2 have to decide. This is not like a panel job or  
3 like a vote, you have to -- and it's a tremendous  
4 responsibility.

5 Now, I'm not going to talk about climate  
6 change. You've heard a lot about that from some  
7 very good speakers. But I am concerned about our  
8 forces, our fighting men and women now and our  
9 future veterans and the rising oceans, the warming  
10 oceans, the storms, the fact that a huge amount of  
11 the world population lives on the coastlines. We  
12 don't know when big storms will strike or where, but  
13 we do know that when these things happen,  
14 populations will be displaced and there will be  
15 refugees. We don't know who will be president or  
16 what our fighters will be asked to do.

17 But for the safety and well being for our  
18 fighters who don't need to risk more death and  
19 injury, who knows where. Due to all these refugees,  
20 I hope you will take that into consideration, along  
21 with our concerns about the climate change, which is  
22 going to cause all this. Thank you.

23           EVENT HOST: Just before our next speaker  
24 we're going to take five more numbers.  
25           EMMA: The numbers are 1668, 1892, 1670,

94

1 1699, 1706.  
2           SPEAKER 45: Thank you. I'll keep mine  
3 short and sweet. My name is Steven Purdy. I live  
4 in Silverton, Oregon. I'm here to voice my support  
5 for this project.  
6           I'm a business agent for Fire Sprinkler  
7 Fitters Union Local 669. My 450 members deserve the  
8 opportunity to build this great project and earn  
9 family wages and benefits. Please approve this  
10 project. It's long overdue. Thank you.  
11          SPEAKER 46: My name is Eric Stid. I'm a  
12 retired high-tech CEO, living in White Salmon,  
13 Washington. And, yes, I've been pelted by coal  
14 particles from a coal train at the White Salmon  
15 River.  
16          I keep losing sleep to Drew Dellinger's  
17 poem, What did you do, once you know? What did you  
18 do, once you know that we must stop building any  
19 fossil-fuel infrastructure and start dismantling it?  
20 That our atmosphere can take only another ten years

21 of our current rate of pollution before we risk  
22 thermal runaway? 197 countries know that. The  
23 Department of Defense knows that. The Department of  
24 State knows that.  
25 What did you do, once you knew that fossil

95

1 fuel emissions, mostly from coal, prematurely end  
2 the lives of at least 50,000 Americans -- more than  
3 traffic deaths? That local communities have the  
4 most to gain health-wise and economically from  
5 stopping fossil fuels and deploying clean energy.

6 What did you do? Did you listen to the  
7 people telling you that smoking didn't cause lung  
8 cancer? Did you look the other way because you  
9 don't feel climate crisis yourself, even though it's  
10 obvious that your children will be?

11 Or did you educate others and take to the  
12 streets to stop insane projects like this one?

13 Actually, this project will never be  
14 built, because the global coal demand has peaked.  
15 It peaked because China is building more wind and  
16 solar than any other country, and is now also number  
17 one in electric vehicles now. China's coal  
18 consumption has been dropping since 2013. U.S.  
19 Consumption is down about 30% and all the largest

20 U.S. coal companies are bankrupt. The market study  
21 justifying this project assumes past trends and  
22 didn't even predict the U.S. bankruptcies. This  
23 project is a stranded asset even before the EIS is  
24 complete.  
25 Our grandchildren will ask us, "What did

96

1 you do, once you knew?"  
2 EVENT HOST: Thank you. Folks, if you do  
3 have a number on the screen and that you've heard  
4 called out, please come and join us. The speaker  
5 queue has just got one gentleman there. I believe  
6 we've got, what, eight numbers up? So please come  
7 forward. Sir?  
8 SPEAKER 47: Good afternoon. My name is  
9 John Flynn. I'm a resident of Kalama, Washington.  
10 I retired from Union Pacific Railroad in September  
11 of 2010, after a 37-year career in the track  
12 department. I originally hired out as a track  
13 laborer, and over the years worked my way up to  
14 manager track maintenance and manager special  
15 projects, focusing on construction, maintenance, and  
16 inspection of tracks.  
17 The last two years of my career was spent

18 living and working out of Helper, Utah on the double  
19 track railroad between Price and Provo over the  
20 Wasatch Mountains. I can attest from personal  
21 experience and observation to the presence of coal  
22 and coal dust along the right-of-way between Price  
23 and Provo, Utah. There were three coal loading  
24 facilities serviced by the Union Pacific and Utah  
25 Railway along this route at Price, Castle Gate, and

97

1 Schofield, Utah.  
2 Not only does the coal and coal dust lost  
3 from the gondolas during transit have a negative  
4 impact on the track structure resulting in fouled  
5 ballast and degraded track geometry, I also believe  
6 it has a significant harmful effect on the  
7 surrounding environment.

8 In my opinion, the scope of your  
9 environmental analysis is too narrow, focusing only  
10 on the area immediately surrounding the proposed  
11 trans-load terminal. I believe that the scope  
12 should include the entire transit route from port of  
13 origin at the mines to the point of destination,  
14 whether it be Longview or the end-source user in  
15 China or Japan or India. Thank you.

16 EVENT HOST: Thank you. Our next speaker,

17 please.

18 SPEAKER 48: My name is Dave Gillihan. I  
19 live in Longview and work at Millennium. There's  
20 been a Gillihan working on this site since the '40s.  
21 I've been here almost 43 years. This site is very  
22 special to me and I'd never do anything to endanger  
23 it.

24 I don't know what's wrong with the  
25 opposition. It's everyone's right to protest and

98

1 oppose. But when you have an opportunity for a  
2 win-win you want to drive businesses away. And I'm  
3 telling you now, coal has been and will be railed  
4 through this area.

5 Canada will take our jobs. Damn straight.  
6 The people who want this energy will get it from us  
7 or the Canadians, and every rail car will still pass  
8 through here. Yes, we want to try something new.  
9 It's been proven that it's safe dust-wise and  
10 environmentally.

11 It's a state-of-the-art coal facility. We  
12 don't mine it, we are a transfer point. We will be  
13 a conduit and help a lot of people with jobs from  
14 Wyoming and Montana to Washington. Taxable incomes,

15 family wage jobs, a better quality of life for a  
16 whole bunch of families.

17 I admire the opposition for its tenacity  
18 but it's time to look at reality. This project has  
19 and will provide so many jobs that you can't  
20 realistically chase us off. I don't know how you  
21 put bread on the table. This is how honest, hard  
22 working people do it.

23 We need good paying jobs with good  
24 benefits just to start it off. A business like this  
25 coming in to our area will make a tremendous impact

99

1 in this community. It will affect far more than the  
2 people who work there. Think about it as the ripple  
3 effect. Grocery stores, minute marts, everywhere we  
4 spend our money provides income. It's the grease  
5 that spins the world.

6 Please let us continue and do something  
7 right. It's been proven through the DEIS that this  
8 is doable. Chase after someone's windmills. Give  
9 us those permits. Thank you.

10 EVENT HOST: Thank you. And our next  
11 speaker?

12 SPEAKER 49: Thank you. My name is Russ  
13 Thompson. I'm a resident of the state of Washington

14 since I was seven years old. Despite all the  
15 rhetoric to the contrary about coal exports, I  
16 firmly believe we can have both. We can have good  
17 family wage jobs and we can also be good stewards of  
18 the environment. It doesn't have to be a choice of  
19 one over the other.

20 So this Draft EIS is sufficient and we  
21 need to move forward with this world class project.

22 Thank you.

23 EVENT HOST: Thank you. A quick break for  
24 five more lottery numbers.

25 MS. AMATO: 1751, 1773, 1687, 1586, 1865.

100

1 SPEAKER 50: Good afternoon. I'm Joe  
2 Dunlap. I live in Scappoose, Oregon. I thank you  
3 for all of you coming today and attending. Thank  
4 you for your diligent work.

5 The Millennium Bulk Terminals has been a  
6 community member in the city of Longview for the  
7 past five years. The support to the local charities  
8 that they have given and many of their employees are  
9 active volunteers in. I believe they're good  
10 neighbors and they're environmental view should be  
11 treated like every other commodity down at the Port

12 of Longview.

13 We need more good corporate citizens in  
14 Longview, and we need to see that this project keeps  
15 moving forward. Please expedite the process. And  
16 thank you.

17 SPEAKER 51: My name is Stevie Parsons. I  
18 am the Diversity and Inclusion Director for the  
19 Association of Northwest Steelheaders.

20 Salmon is a sustainable affordable food  
21 had is available to you -- to all of us in the  
22 Pacific Northwest. You don't have to be able to pay  
23 \$50 a pound at the market. You can get yourself a  
24 fishing license, get yourself a pole, borrow a pole,  
25 go down and get it yourself. That's part of the

101

1 Pacific Northwest way of life. We do things our own  
2 way. We grow our own food, we catch our own fish.  
3 That's Pacific Northwest.

4 Science is clear. Coal kills salmon.  
5 Again, coal kills salmon. Uncovered coal trains  
6 spill coal dust into the Columbia River. Overseas  
7 coal pharmacists add acid rain to our water.

8 The National Academy of Scientist's  
9 ten-year report says that every fresh water fish in  
10 the U.S. now contains mercury. Every salmon off the

11 coast of the Northwest contains mercury. They can  
12 prove that this mercury is coming from Asia.

13 This is the poison that we are exporting.

14 We are poisoning our own food supply, we are  
15 poisoning our our salmon. Coal is a dirty lie.

16 Don't believe it.

17 A promise of 135 jobs with 13,000 jobs  
18 possibly lost, it doesn't only affect Longview. I  
19 deeply, deeply find offensive that this only -- for  
20 some reason only affects Longview. It affects us  
21 all. No.

22 EVENT HOST: Thank you. Sir, you can step  
23 up and take your two minutes.

24 SPEAKER 52: (Speaking native language.)  
25 Good afternoon, in my name tongue. My name is

102

1 (inaudible.) My Christian name is William Quinn. I  
2 come here as a tribal member from Warm Springs,  
3 Number 767. And I listen to these folks talk about  
4 unemployment.

5 Unemployment at Warm Springs Indian  
6 Reservation is over 70 percent. So what they're  
7 talking about is probably miniscule compared to what  
8 we're experiencing.

9           How much do we have to give up as native  
10 people. We've given up a lot. I think it's time to  
11 stop taking what the creator gave us to take care  
12 of.

13           My mother grew up at Celilo Falls, which  
14 is history now since 1957. There were millions of  
15 salmon at one time in the Columbia River. You  
16 hardly see any salmon anymore. I'm a fisherman. A  
17 native fisherman.

18           Stewardship. We need to start practicing  
19 stewardship. It's in the Bible, too. We need to  
20 take care of what God has given us, the creator.

21           I want to ask you today to think from your  
22 heart. You know, make your decision according to  
23 what your heart is telling you. And I pray that  
24 your heart is connected with God. God bless you.

25           EVENT HOST: Thank you. Ma'am, if you'll

103

1 step up. Thank you. Again, if you would like to  
2 speak, and if you've heard your number called,  
3 please come up to the front row.

4           SPEAKER 53: Thank you very much. Thank  
5 you for listening to all these testimonies. My name  
6 is Marilee Dea. I'm a Pediatric Nurse Practitioner,  
7 and I work for Multnomah County coordinating the

8 Lead and Asthma Prevention Program, so I'm fairly  
9 upset that the DEIS did not include all the effects  
10 of the dust coming off of the trains all the way,  
11 the entire way through Oregon and Washington.

12 I have a small urban farm. I have a  
13 two-year-old granddaughter, and we garden there.  
14 That was an organic farm. I don't think I can call  
15 it that. I'm only three blocks away. That's  
16 one-third of a mile from -- and that's where the  
17 dust falls on a windy day. We're going to be full  
18 of lead and mercury and asthma for all the people  
19 that live along that area.

20 It needs to be concluded, not just right  
21 here. Coal contains lead and mercury and up to  
22 one pound per car per mile. Over 10,000 pounds per  
23 train are blowing off into the waterways, the  
24 wetlands, and the neighborhoods like mine.

25 Lead and dust is one hundred percent

104

1 absorbed and inhaled by infants. It is known as a  
2 neurotoxin and it causes severe effects in children,  
3 multiple organs and widespread disruption of  
4 cellular functioning. These kids are not going to  
5 have the strength, stamina, and mental capacity that

6 our children have now if they continue to have many  
7 coal trains going back and forth along the Gorge.

8 It damages bone marrow and nervous systems  
9 with direct nerve cell system damages. I think  
10 they're going to fail in school, and I'm very  
11 concerned about this, and I think you need to  
12 consider this when you're thinking about bringing  
13 coal trains.

14 The other thing that I just heard last  
15 night was that we have all -- nations just agree  
16 that we have to keep it below 1.5 degrees  
17 centigrade, and it reached it this year.

18 EVENT HOST: And if you could please leave  
19 any written comments for us. We're going to take  
20 five more numbers and then we'll move to our next  
21 speaker.

22 EMMA: 1641, 1607, 1644, 1827, 1737.

23 SPEAKER 54: Good afternoon. My name is  
24 Gary Lindstrom. I'm from Longview, Washington,  
25 formerly with Port of Longview, where I spent half

1 my career.

2 My first day on the waterfront was 1970  
3 working for State Steamship Company out of San  
4 Francisco. And I worked on the waterfront at Pier

5 20.

6 I've watched ships go from 14,000 dead  
7 weight tons to 70,000 tons on this river and it  
8 increased certainly due to the draft at 43 feet.

9 Everything about this terminal is double.  
10 There's 44 million tons in and 44 million tons out.  
11 That's a quarter of a million tons of coal a day on  
12 average for the year.

13 I would have to say that you take the  
14 trains with 44 million and the ships out with 44  
15 million, we're handling 88 million tons of coal a  
16 day. That's a huge number. I don't think anybody  
17 in this room, myself included, understands the size  
18 of this mega terminal and its impact on both the  
19 local community and the river.

20 So I would encourage the Corps to take a  
21 look at this in a holistic fashion and consider  
22 those 800 ships up and down the river, erosion, and  
23 other issues that might come up, particular with the  
24 jetties.

25 My last comment would be on global

106

1 warming, and of course as the seas rise, they will.  
2 And the work that you have to do on the jetties is

3 only going to increase in the next generations of  
4 those that follow. Not only your services, Colonel,  
5 but those who are following me as well. Thank you.

6 SPEAKER 55: Thank you. I'm Reverend  
7 Roshenda Fairhurst. I serve the Camas United  
8 Methodist Church. We are in the blast zone of those  
9 trains coming through, and we have coal trains on  
10 those tracks as well. I serve on the board of  
11 Church and Society for the Pacific Northwest.

12 Our number one issue when we met this year  
13 the first time was that climate is a key imperative  
14 for us. So I would present clergy -- many, many  
15 clergies were deeply concerned about climate and  
16 justice -- not just justice for climate but justice  
17 for people who need good jobs as well.

18 So Millennium Bulk Terminals, let's follow  
19 the money for two seconds. It's owned by Lighthouse  
20 Energy, which exists because of investors, people  
21 who have money to invest. That particular  
22 Lighthouse is invested by Resource Capital Funds.  
23 Resource Capital Funds is a private equity  
24 investment firm. It has assets in excess of \$2  
25 billion. And what it is, it's a distressed asset

1 company based out of Denver, Colorado, but truly

2 based out of the Cayman Islands where they don't  
3 have to pay taxes on any of the money that they are  
4 sucking out of our communities and reinvesting.  
5 It's got more than \$2 billion. It rolls up  
6 companies, it buys out companies. It takes  
7 advantage of mortgage crises, people who can't pay  
8 their bills, credit card crises, distressed assets,  
9 and distressed folks who could use a real good job  
10 right now. And it's not okay.

11       And if they have \$2 billion to invest in  
12 an old-fashioned coal terminal that will put people  
13 in an early grave, luring us with this idea that  
14 we're going to be able to make a construction job so  
15 we're going to build a prison, so we're going to be  
16 incarcerated in the prison of coal for the next 25,  
17 50 years, and then cleaning it up afterwards? It's  
18 not okay.

19       By were given provision as human beings  
20 when we were created. Us, our kids, and our  
21 children. And it is not okay to feed their future  
22 into our mouth. Thank you.

23       EVENT HOST: Our next speaker? Please, no  
24 applause. And we'd rather go right up until four  
25 and not have to take a break right now. Thanks for

1 your cooperation.

2 SPEAKER 56: Thank you for the opportunity  
3 to speak.

4 For the record, my name is Mark Martinez.  
5 I'm the president of the Washington State Building  
6 and Construction Trades Council, representing  
7 approximately 70,000 union construction workers who  
8 live and work in this beautiful state.

9 My skilled brothers and sisters in the  
10 building trades are your neighbors. They build the  
11 roads, the schools, the hospitals, and the office  
12 buildings that we use every day.

13 The proposed private investment of  
14 hundreds of millions of dollars in the export  
15 facility is a needed boost for our members living  
16 here in Southwest Washington.

17 In addition, tens of millions of dollars  
18 in tax revenues during construction and millions of  
19 local taxes during operations will be used for  
20 community needs right here in Longview.

21 The developer is not just building a new  
22 facility. They're cleaning up a long-time brown  
23 fields, recycling and removing 3,000 tons of waste  
24 and debris from the site, doing the right thing for  
25 the community.

1           And make no mistake, our members would  
2 welcome a transition, and are welcoming the  
3 transition to a power generation economy that  
4 reduces the (inaudible) on fossil fuels. We are the  
5 skilled people who are erecting the wind turbines  
6 and wiring the solar panels. We understand,  
7 however, that to get to that transition point,  
8 fossil fuels will still be demanded around the  
9 world.

10           The Washington State Building and  
11 Production Trades Council, its 70,000 members  
12 support the Millennium Bulk Terminal Project in  
13 Longview. We believe that the Draft EIS is as  
14 thorough and complete as possible, just time to move  
15 on to the Final EIS, approve the permits, put  
16 thousands of my members to work. Thank you.

17           EVENT HOST: We'll draw five more numbers,  
18 and hear from our next speaker. Thank you.

19           EMMA: 1796, 1654, 1617, 1687, 1873.

20           SPEAKER 57: Good afternoon. I'm your  
21 Northwest neighbor. My name is Patricia Belamy.  
22 I'm here to talk to you about health and safety.  
23 I'm a member of the Oregon Nurse's Association, ONA.

24           ONA represents over 10,000 Oregon  
25 Registered Nurses. I'm here to share ONA's

1 declarative opposition to projects that would  
2 increase coal transportation in Oregon, and to urge  
3 you to extend the DEIS study area to our region to  
4 consider Millennium's cumulative global impact.

5       Currently unknown numbers of these  
6 mile-long diesel powered trains will travel in  
7 Oregon through ONA districts. ONA has unanimously  
8 passed a state-wide resolution in support of  
9 Oregon's no to coal transports.

10       In a letter to Oregon's Governor, Kate  
11 Brown, ONA wrote, and I quote, ONA is continuing to  
12 work to oppose projects that would increase coal  
13 transportation in Oregon. As a front line member of  
14 our health care system, nurses are concerned about  
15 the negative health and environmental impact caused  
16 by coal. End of quote.

17       According to the World Health  
18 Organization, diesel exhaust is carcinogenic. Coal  
19 dust is a known causative agent to heart and lung  
20 disease.

21       More train accidents are inevitable.  
22 There are documented reports of smoldering coal cars  
23 and smoldering piles of rail site coal dust. As our

24 summers are increasingly hot, these are real risks.

25 Despite disaster drills, which I have

111

1 participated in, we are not able to fully meet local

2 response in a catastrophic fire event. Our region

3 has only 16 critical care burn beds at Legacy

4 Emanuel in Portland. Critically burned patients

5 would need to be air lifted. Thank you.

6 EVENT HOST: Thank you. Happy to keep

7 those written comments as well. You can set them on

8 the table if you'd like, or take them with you.

9 And our next speaker, you'll have two

10 minutes.

11 SPEAKER 58: Hello. My name is Donna

12 Murphy. I'm a retired Portland Public Schools

13 teacher. I want to -- and I'm concerned about the

14 coal problem in the United States.

15 I want to focus on the issue of coal dust

16 in the transportation from the fields to Longview

17 and into Asia as well.

18 Coal dust effects on living matter is well

19 documented. It smothers plant and animal life all

20 along its perilous way. It lessens organisms'

21 ability to photosynthesize by cutting off sunlight,

22 it smothers and asphyxiates breathing in animals and

23 humans, and scrapes away protective layers from fish  
24 and plants.  
25 I think about it as black lung disease,

112

1 which killed my grandfather. He worked in a coal  
2 mine.  
3 Surfactants applied to lessen the problem  
4 of coal dust actually enable coal pollutants to more  
5 easily spread. Coal that was once safe inside the  
6 earth now is let loose in the air and on plants and  
7 into the soil, and into our precious waterways,  
8 making lethal contact with our endangered small  
9 supplies of once plentiful sea life like crab and  
10 oysters and salmon.

11 After hearing from the DEIS statement that  
12 this project has significant and unavoidable  
13 impacts, I kept wondering, why are we even talking  
14 about all of this? But I know it's for the benefit  
15 of the few, in this case the coal company.

16 Your agency is on the front line of our  
17 defense against that interest of profit who want to  
18 use our precious earth as a commodity to be bought,  
19 sold, and destroyed for their profit. I'm asking  
20 you to please hold the line and say no to the coal

21 proposal. Thank you.

22       EVENT HOST: Thank you. Next speaker,  
23 please.

24       SPEAKER 59: Good afternoon, Colonel Buck.  
25 My name is Diane Dick, I'm a 31-year resident of

113

1 Longview.

2       According to Table 6.6-5 of the Millennium  
3 Bulk Terminals DEIS, the maximum annual average  
4 emissions of PM 10 from operation of the coal  
5 terminal from total project area sources is 7.08  
6 tons. This would be a miraculous achievement if  
7 compared with actual emissions reports from  
8 operating coal terminals.

9       Hay Point Coal Terminal in Australia has  
10 been in operation for almost 50 years, and has been  
11 addressing coal dust and pollutant emissions the  
12 entire time. They promote the most current dust  
13 suppression systems. There is a long record of  
14 emissions data. The DEIS in Table 2-5 refers to Hay  
15 Point with the same throughput capacity of 44  
16 million metric tons. And page 2-11 states, Similar  
17 to the proposed export terminal, Australian coal  
18 terminals transfer coal from rail to ships and use  
19 large stockpiles of coal to maintain throughput.

20 Hay Point Coal Terminal self-reported to  
21 the Australian National Pollutant Inventory for  
22 2014-2015 PM 10 air emissions of 154 tons, or more  
23 than 20 times what the MBT DEIS predicts. PM 2.5  
24 emissions have a similar wide discrepancy. MBT 2.4  
25 tons, HPCT 19 tons. Which data has more

114

1 credibility?

2 Important data in the MBT DEIS is too good  
3 to be true and not to be believed. Please support  
4 the No Action Alternative. Thank you.

5 EVENT HOST: Thank you. Just to remind  
6 folks, we're in our last half hour before the  
7 one-hour break. The open house will remain open.  
8 We'll have a court reporter to take your comments.

9 And if I do have to cut anyone off, again,  
10 the Colonel has stated he'll look at all comments  
11 equally and you can comment online or with a comment  
12 card.

13 So we'll take our next speaker. We should  
14 get another, oh, dozen in before the break.

15 SPEAKER 60: Hello. My name is Cheri  
16 Davis. I was born and raised here. When I was  
17 young I thought, hey, the world probably has

18 something better to offer. And so out there I went.

19       When I decided to start a family and  
20 settle down, I came back here. Because this is a  
21 great place to raise a family.

22       Millennium called me at home to offer me a  
23 free lunch to come here and speak for them. I'm not  
24 a politician so I didn't accept it. I can't be  
25 bought. I'm here to speak about Millennium and

115

1 their untruths that they've told over the years,  
2 controlling the dust and how much coal will be  
3 pushed through here.

4       They stoop low to cover up the truth.  
5 Even saying coal is just a rock. They told us that  
6 at a meeting, that coal is just a rock. Do they  
7 think we're that stupid?

8       I saw a commercial for a class action  
9 lawsuit concerning mesothelioma, a deadly cancer.  
10 On their list of workplace causes was coal dust.  
11 The current coal trains that run behind people's  
12 back yards leave a fine black dust on the plants or  
13 the flowers there. That means deadly dust is in the  
14 air already.

15       Imagine the damage that mountains of coal  
16 and constant coal trains at all hours would do to

17 our state. Seasoned doctors and nurses know first  
18 hand what coal trains and coal dust will do to the  
19 area and it isn't good.

20       Already we are seeing coal being washed up  
21 on our river banks. Imagine what will happen with  
22 ugly mountains of it along our river. Water  
23 pollution from coal includes negative health and  
24 environmental effects, contamination of ground  
25 water, streams, rivers, and ocean. Coal contains

116

1 heavy metals, mercury, and other toxins. How will  
2 that not affect our fish and other wildlife when  
3 coal ports in other countries are killing off the  
4 marine life there?

5       We have so much to protect here. That  
6 river property needs to be properly cleaned up and  
7 go to a better business that better suits our area.  
8 Those other businesses are out there if you just  
9 look for them.

10       I stand with the Cowlitz Tribe. They know  
11 full well that all of us will lose if that filthy  
12 coal is allowed to take over here. Thank you.

13       SPEAKER 61: My name is Damon and I'm a  
14 resident of Longview. I'm 16. I appreciate being

15 able to comment on the Longview port proposal. I  
16 wish to add my support to those who wish to see this  
17 terminal open and operating as soon as possible. We  
18 have spent enough time fairly reviewing this  
19 project, now it's time to make it happen.

20 SPEAKER 62: Hi. My name is Jill Maynard,  
21 and I live Mosier, Oregon, a community that's still  
22 reeling from the aftermath of a derailment. One  
23 that's pretty likely to happen again if this project  
24 goes through, maybe not in our community but  
25 elsewhere.

117

1 So I'm here today asking you to expand the  
2 scope of this project specifically and to deepen the  
3 cumulative impact analysis part of it.

4 I step back and I look at the project from  
5 digging up coal to carrying open coal trains through  
6 our communities, our precious rivers, our rich  
7 agricultural lands, to bringing it here to a part of  
8 the river that's going to be dredged up, a river  
9 that's already been way over taxed with dams and  
10 dredging and barges and spills, to shipping it  
11 overseas where it's going to be burned. And that  
12 greenhouse gas is going to come back and affect us.

13 And there's no piece of this, when I look

14 at it with a wider lense, that makes sense. So I'm  
15 not against development, I'm certainly not against  
16 job creation, but I am against those that don't make  
17 sense and that don't look at our development  
18 projects with a deeper vision.  
19 So, and I just wanted to say, I was  
20 driving here today along the river, and I have a two  
21 and a six-year-old, and my two-year-old loves the  
22 trains. Like, he looks at them and just loves them.  
23 And I was think about how I wished I could look at  
24 them and think a train is a train is a train. But  
25 we know too much to know what they're carrying and a

118

1 train is not a train is not a train.  
2 And I hope that we'll make a wise enough  
3 decision not to let them carry coal through our  
4 communities to be burned overseas. I appreciate the  
5 process. Thank you.  
6 EVENT HOST: We'll pause for five more  
7 numbers, and then we'll hear from our next speaker.  
8 EMMA: 1643, 1658, 1676, 1580, 1859.  
9 SPEAKER 63: Hi. I'm Jim Walsh. I'm  
10 running for the State House here, Legislature 19,  
11 Longview on up to Aberdeen. So I guess I am a

12 politician. But I didn't take the free lunch. I'm  
13 here to speak for this project to thank you all for  
14 pushing the process along as well as you have  
15 through the Draft EIS, and to encourage you to keep  
16 moving it along. Because this area needs jobs.

17       But more than just jobs, this area needs  
18 economic activity. It needs commercial viability.  
19 And this project can be a first step in a process of  
20 really improving our overall economic base here.  
21 Which in the end we want to be diversified and  
22 involved in many different sorts of industrial  
23 activity. But this can certainly be part of it.

24       And I'm happy that this process has been  
25 undertaken in a serious way so that it will protect

119

1 to the maximum ability possible our natural  
2 resources, our rivers and lakes, and all the area  
3 around.

4       I'd like to think that we're Teddy  
5 Roosevelt style conservationists. We want to  
6 protect nature but we want it to serve the people  
7 who live in it. Thanks so much, and carry forward.

8       EVENT HOST: And our next speaker, please.

9       SPEAKER 64: Good afternoon. My name is  
10 Janice Smith, and I'm an enrolled member of the Warm

11 Springs Confederated Tribes. And our salmon is a  
12 traditional resource. And our traditional resource  
13 is enlisted under the endangered species.

14 And the Columbia estuary is ecologically a  
15 critical area. It's essential to development of  
16 juvenile fish, which is salmon and steelhead,  
17 waterfowl, and other species that are dependent on  
18 it.

19 The tribes have maintained the goal of  
20 restoring habitat loss, poor water quality, and  
21 other factors of industrial development.

22 One accident or a spill could wipe out  
23 several years of investment, and there is no  
24 mitigation to compensate for this loss, this loss of  
25 our precious resource that we were so dependent on.

120

1 Because my culture considers salmon as a sacred  
2 part, a sacred part of our traditions, our customs.

3 I'm a Vietnam War era veteran, and I'm a  
4 mother, I'm a grandmother, and I'm a  
5 great-grandmother. And I want to say that, you  
6 know, when I talk to my great-granddaughter, she  
7 will say, what did you do, grandma? What did you  
8 do, Grandma, to ensure that we have enough salmon?

9 What did do you, Grandma, to make sure to keep our  
10 water clean? And what did you do, Grandma, to  
11 protect -- not protest. I'm not here to protest,  
12 I'm here as a protector. Protector of our land, our  
13 air, our water, and our salmon. And our way of  
14 life. Our way of life.

15 Because as a Native American, we have lost  
16 so much. We have little to retain, and salmon is so  
17 precious. All the plants that we eat are dependent  
18 on this. And I thank you and I say no.

19 EVENT HOST: Thank you. Our next speaker?

20 SPEAKER 65: Good afternoon. My name is  
21 Norman Ritchie. I'm a dedicated sport angler and a  
22 Northwest steelheader. I have fished for all the  
23 species that the Northwest has to offer us, and I've  
24 spent, in the last 35 years, several thousand  
25 volunteer hours dedicated to salmon and steelhead

121

1 fisheries and their habitat, including being  
2 appointed by two of Oregon's Governors to the  
3 Salmon/Trout Advisory Committee.

4 Some of that time has been spent doing  
5 aquatic surveys. And they're really important to  
6 these species and their habitats, to the salmon and  
7 steelhead diet.

8           It has been documented that coal dust has  
9 contaminated vertebrates such as Dungeness crab near  
10 a coal terminal in British Columbia, Canada. The  
11 contamination has been so severe that the crab's  
12 flesh has been visibly tainted.

13           We can't afford the Columbia's submerged  
14 soils to be contaminated with coal dust and the  
15 impurities ultimately contaminating our fish. Thank  
16 you.

17           SPEAKER 66: My name is Linda Horst. I'm  
18 speaking for Larry Horst. We live in Kelso.

19           The saying "Don't bite the hand that feeds  
20 you" comes to mind when I consider a Millennium  
21 terminal surrounding the most vital business in  
22 Cowlitz county, BPA. This company provides the  
23 public power we all depend upon, ironically even  
24 Millennium.

25           I worked for the BPA for 390 years,

122

1 retiring as an electrical maintenance supervisor at  
2 the Longview substation. The BPA's highly intricate  
3 and extensive equipment would directly adjoin the  
4 terminal. In my opinion, it defies logic to think  
5 that none of the openly stored, 44 metric tons of

6 conductive coal dust will ever be carried by  
7 prevailing westerly winds causing a loss of power,  
8 equipment fire, explosion or injury to employees.  
9 This indispensable public service should be allowed  
10 to operate unencumbered by Millennium.

11 While dust is a major issue, so too is  
12 access. The mile and a half long coal trains  
13 blocking BPA's only access every one and a half  
14 hours, 24/7, is a safety and logistic nightmare.  
15 Millennium's mitigation for this blocked access is a  
16 two-and-a-half-mile detour around the coal terminal  
17 plus opening a minimum of two security gates. This  
18 additional travel time creates a delayed response to  
19 an emergency, and in the event of an accident or  
20 heart attack, this could result in the unacceptable  
21 difference of life or death. Minutes matter.

22 I request the final DEIS address our  
23 communities' priorities concerning these two  
24 companies. Millennium provides a product foreign  
25 countries use, whereas BPA provides a product that

123

1 one hundred percent of Cowlitz County residents and  
2 businesses need and use. I therefore support the no  
3 action alternative. Thank you very much.

4 EVENT HOST: Thank you. Emma, if we could

5 draw two more numbers. I think that will take us  
6 close to the top of the hour and then we'll take our  
7 next speaker.

8 EMMA: 1821, 1712.

9 SPEAKER 67: My name is Den Mark. I'm a  
10 science teacher in Vancouver, Washington, the oldest  
11 city in the Pacific Northwest.

12 The Corps of Engineers has been intent on  
13 the study and the effects of the proposal coal  
14 terminal only at the port itself. That's quaint,  
15 and also makes COE's subsequent conclusions  
16 irrelevant.

17 The time is long gone where property  
18 owners could do whatever they liked without regard  
19 to those beyond said property lines. If COE chooses  
20 to remain in that knowledge and mind-set, there's  
21 not much I can do except protest.

22 Even a modicum of sense knows that if the  
23 terminal were built it would negatively impact  
24 people and the environment from point of extraction  
25 along many miles of rail transport, to the terminal,

1 affecting many people in cities and towns, on tribal  
2 lands, on the farms, along protected waterways. To

3 ignore all of that in the (inaudible) report, is  
4 irrelevant.

5 If a person goes to a physician for a  
6 check-up, she expects more than a report on her  
7 elbow. If a person goes to a car mechanic for a  
8 performance analysis, he expect more than a report  
9 on his hood ornament. Yet when the public goes to  
10 COE for a report on consequences of a monstrous coal  
11 terminal, we get a report about a tiny fraction of  
12 the total affected area.

13 This is the 21st century, not the 19th.  
14 Clever people know well in our present time that  
15 everything and everyone are connected in the world.  
16 Thinking and acting otherwise is backward and  
17 irrelevant and dangerous. I strongly protest.

18 SPEAKER 68: Hello. Thanks for having me  
19 here today. My name is Justin Roberts. I live in  
20 Seattle, Washington, where I work as a naturalist  
21 tour guide for the growing tourism industry in  
22 Washington. I'm also from Astoria, Oregon, where I  
23 grew up as a fisherman.

24 So I have a lot of concerns about the coal  
25 export terminal, but I want to talk briefly about

1 orca whales, specifically southern resident orcas,

2 which are endangered species. I don't speak  
3 citation, but I'll to my best to speak for them  
4 today.

5       The southern resident orcas are unique  
6 species. They've been distinguished from other  
7 whales for about 500,000 years, longer than any  
8 people have lived in the Pacific Northwest. Today  
9 they're very endangered. Only 82 whales still  
10 survive. Eighty percent of their diet is chinook  
11 salmon.

12       So the Columbia River is a very important  
13 feeding ground for them in the winter and the  
14 spring. Granny, their oldest whale at 104 years  
15 old, still takes her pod here every year to feed on  
16 chinook for her family. And recent NOAA studies  
17 have shown that they do congregate here every year,  
18 and the region is on the way as being listed as  
19 critical habitat for the species.

20       So, despite this, the EIS doesn't appear  
21 to consider impacts to orcas, which could come in  
22 the form of additional 1,680 vessel transits in the  
23 river mouth. We don't know how that will impact  
24 their feeding and behavior. They see with sound,  
25 and a sound of all of the vessels may impact their

1 ability to eat and stay alive. The abundance of  
2 salmon is the main motivating factor in their  
3 survival.

4 Also, toxins accumulate into the flesh of  
5 orcas as they get worked into the bodies of small  
6 organisms and concentrated up the food chain.

7 So we need to consider the impacts to  
8 orcas and wildlife part of the EIS. As it is, it  
9 only appears to consider impedes.

10 Climate change also impacts orcas due to  
11 ocean acidification, the warming of waters, which  
12 can impact salmon survival. Thank you.

13 EVENT HOST: And thank you.

14 SPEAKER 69: Good afternoon. My name is  
15 Ted Sprague. I'm the President of the Cowlitz  
16 Economic Development Council, and I appreciate your  
17 time today. I also appreciate that we've gotten to  
18 the point where we are not.

19 If you look through the Draft  
20 Environmental Impact Statement you'll see it's very  
21 comprehensive reciting things that sometimes we  
22 haven't had to go to this level in the past. We  
23 feel like it's a comprehensive plan and -- I would  
24 have worn my blue shirt today but I was working on  
25 another job-creating project for Cowlitz County that

1 I'm sure some of my colleagues in the red would  
2 probably oppose that one, too.

3 And I'm just optimistic that this can get  
4 pushed forward and continue to move on. Thank you.

5 EVENT HOST: Just a quick reminder to  
6 speak with only the signs. Our next speaker? Thank  
7 you.

8 SPEAKER 70: Hello. My name is Pamela  
9 Masse McDonald, and I'm a member of the Inland  
10 Boatman's Union. And I formally worked for Crowley  
11 Maritime Service hauling petroleum around the  
12 Pacific. And I've been to many ports that are very  
13 dirty.

14 Why the Millennium project should be  
15 rejected. The Corps of Engineers ignores the  
16 impacts of coal dust and rail traffic on the  
17 Columbia Northwest tribes' fishing of the Columbia  
18 River.

19 In addition, train incidents could ruin  
20 the water on which millions depend on  
21 transportation, fish and wildlife, commerce, and the  
22 safety of our health and environment.

23 Sixty-two elected officials from  
24 throughout the Pacific Northwest have submitted  
25 letters of concern or downright opposition to coal

1 export in Longview, Washington. Fifteen cities  
2 which would be adversely affected submitted comments  
3 to the Department of Ecology and Cowlitz County.

4       The narrowly focused study ignores the  
5 impacts of 16 new coal trains a day focusing only on  
6 the Longview industrial area and none on the region  
7 in which the trains would travel.

8       In conclusion, with the tripling air  
9 pollution China has experienced, much of it from  
10 burning coal, all economic classes have been  
11 affected for a new business.

12       Some of the most technologically advanced  
13 solar cells are coming from China. As more  
14 sustainable energy projects are coming online in the  
15 Far East so the ban for coal will wither and die.

16       China is the fastest growing consumer  
17 market for consumer cars. BYD and Shanghai Motor  
18 Corporation have sold, last year, over a million  
19 EVs, electric vehicles. They've also sold a lot of  
20 Teslas and Nissans.

21       We live in exciting times of innovation,  
22 exploration, and discovery. Coal is a dinosaur  
23 howling its last on the eve of an era of

24 sustainability.

25 The Millennium coal terminal is a poor

129

1 business decision which hasn't been studied in full.

2 Thank you.

3 EVENT HOST: Thank you. Our next speaker.

4 SPEAKER 71: Good afternoon. My name is

5 Dennis Robowski, plain old citizen. I don't have

6 any prepared statements because I forgot my glasses.

7 With that being said, I would like to have

8 the process of Millennium Bulk Terminals go forward

9 with the permitting process. I see absolutely no

10 down side to what they're trying to do. And the

11 sooner we can get it done the sooner we can get

12 product moved to a billion customers. Thank you.

13 EVENT HOST: Folks, heading towards the

14 end of our afternoon session, I do need to ask that

15 you comply with the ground rules. They're in place

16 to keep the order and to avoid any intimidation.

17 So, please, no comments and no audible statements.

18 Let folks speak and use your sign if you do or don't

19 agree with them. Our next speaker.

20 SPEAKER 72: Hello. My name is Grant

21 Sawyer. In the past I've been a 26-year resident of

22 Cowlitz County. And as many have said here before

23 today, that the Draft Environmental Impact Statement  
24 that you folks have created is totally inadequate  
25 and incomplete. And so I'm not going to reiterate

130

1 the details brought to that conclusion.

2 But I do want to bring to your attention  
3 something that just came out in the news in the last  
4 two days in China, which is totally germane to this  
5 project, and I think you should pay attention to it.

6 It's from the Minute Press News, and it  
7 talks about China Starts Canceling Under  
8 Construction Coal Plants.

9 Chinese have called a halt to construction  
10 work on 30 large coal-fired power plants with a  
11 combined capacity of 17 gigawatts, greater than the  
12 United Kingdom's entire coal fleet.

13 This unprecedented move indicates just how  
14 serious the Chinese authorities are about bringing  
15 their country's coal power bubble under control.  
16 And those 30 plants aren't the only ones that are  
17 being stopped. The policy also dramatically scales  
18 down plans for transmitting coal-fired power plants  
19 west of China to the coast through a network of very  
20 long distance transmission lines.

21 Now these plants that they're canceling  
22 are far longer -- farther in the process of being  
23 permitted, and they actually have all the money  
24 involved and their construction had started. They  
25 realized such a catastrophe they're creating, so

131

1 they're stopping it. Those investors are losing  
2 their shirts and so are these guys here. So you'd  
3 be doing them a favor by turning down this project.  
4 And thank you very much. Do them a favor, will you?

5 EVENT HOST: We do have time for one more  
6 speaker before our break.

7 SPEAKER 73: Hello. My name is John. I  
8 live upstream a little ways, not terribly far.

9 I'd like to say the EIS and Millennium  
10 Coal, looking only at impacts to a tiny industrial  
11 area and ignoring the entire area affected is sort  
12 of spurious. It's like saying, I'm only peeing in  
13 this small area of the hot tub.

14 EVENT HOST: We're going to go ahead and  
15 just hold your time. Folks, I'm going to go ahead  
16 and grant him his time back, but we're going to go  
17 to kind of a one, two, three, and take a suspension  
18 after five if we continue to have trouble with the  
19 ground rules. John, proceed.

20           SPEAKER 73: Where I live, coal dust along  
21 the rails is so deep that Burlington Northern scoops  
22 it up to prevent derailments. They have a giant  
23 vacuum cleaner that they drive across the areas  
24 where tourists go.  
25           We breathe that. And I call for a

132

1 comprehensive Environmental Impact Statement,  
2 covering coal from the mine all the way to the giant  
3 burn pile up wind in China. Thank you.  
4           EVENT HOST: And thank you. Appreciate  
5 the comments.  
6           So we're just about at 4:00. I appreciate  
7 your time today. I know that the Corps appreciates  
8 your comments. And we will remind you that the open  
9 house stays open.  
10          We will suspend and convene this hearing  
11 again with the presentation that we did at  
12 one o'clock today, and that will occur at five  
13 o'clock. And we'll use the same format. So if  
14 you're holding a ticket or you'd like to get one in  
15 front, those will be valid. We'll call out numbers  
16 at five. And you can use the court reporter,  
17 comments in the comment room, and online comment.

18 Again, thank you, and we'll suspend until five.

19 (Session concluded at 4:00 p.m.)

20

21

22

23

24

25

133

1

2 CERTIFICATE

3 I, Cheryl L. Vorhees, Certified Shorthand

4 Reporter for Oregon and Washington, certify that, at

5 the time and place set forth in the caption hereof,

6 I reported in stenotype all testimony adduced and

7 other oral proceedings had in the foregoing matter,

8 that thereafter my notes were reduced to typewriting

9 under my direction; and the foregoing transcript,

10 Page 1 to 132, both inclusive, constitutes a full,

11 true and correct record of such testimony adduced

12 and oral proceedings had and of the whole thereof.

13 Witness my hand and seal at Portland, Oregon,

14 this 7th day of November, 2016.

15

16

17

18

Cheryl L. Vorhees

19

Certified Shorthand Reporter

20

CSR No. 08-0409

21

Exp. 09-30-2018

22

23

24

25