

MILLENNIUM BULK TERMINALS - LONGVIEW
NEPA DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

PUBLIC MEETING - MAIN STAGE

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

* * *

CLARK COUNTY EVENT CENTER

17402 N.E. Delfel Road

Ridgefield, Washington 98642

October 25, 2016

Heather Guevarra, CCR

Court Reporter

1 RIDGEFIELD, WASHINGTON; TUESDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2016

2 1:00 p.m.

3 * * *

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

12:59:50 5 EVENT HOST: Welcome. Thank you all for your

12:59:52 6 attendance. On behalf of the US Army Corps of

12:59:55 7 Engineers, we welcome you to this public comment forum

13:00:00 8 designed to provide a safe and welcoming environment

13:00:05 9 for you to provide your comments and input on the

13:00:11 10 National Environmental Policy Statement/Draft

13:00:12 11 Environmental Impact Statement for the Millennium Bulk

13:00:14 12 Terminal Longview Project proposed in Cowlitz County

13:00:18 13 near Longview, Washington.

13:00:20 14 My name is Scott Keillor, and I will be your

13:00:26 15 facilitator as well as public hearing officer for the

13:00:31 16 proceedings today and this evening.

13:00:32 17 I would like to start with a bit of

13:00:34 18 housekeeping. Following an overview of the ground

13:00:34 19 rules, we'll hear from Amy Reese, US Army Corps of

13:00:44 20 Engineers' Chief Operations Support Branch, and we'll

13:00:44 21 also hear from Linda Amato with ICF, and Linda is to

13:00:50 22 provide a little bit of an overview on the project.

13:00:54 23 We'll then begin the public hearing portion of today's

13:00:59 24 proceedings so you can place your comments on the

13:01:01 25 public record.

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13:01:04 1 In addition to joining us here at the podium
13:01:06 2 to give your comments directly to the Corps, we have
13:01:11 3 multiple options for you including an opportunity in
13:01:13 4 the adjacent open house room to speak one on one with
13:01:19 5 a court reporter, to learn about the project in the
13:01:22 6 open house and fill out a comment form, and you'll
13:01:25 7 also be able to submit online or through US mail
13:01:29 8 through the end of the comment period, November 29,
13:01:34 9 2016.

13:01:35 10 So the agency and consultant team are here to
13:01:40 11 assist you. Please don't hesitate to ask. You'll see
13:01:44 12 we all have name tags, and those of us who are not on
13:01:51 13 stage or counting folks coming into the facility also
13:01:53 14 have tan vests. So, if you do have questions, and
13:01:57 15 where to find information is important, please don't
13:02:01 16 hesitate to ask.

13:02:02 17 The exits are located on the building to my
13:02:06 18 right, your left, the restrooms are on my left, to
13:02:10 19 your right in both rooms.

13:02:15 20 The informational materials I mentioned
13:02:18 21 includes the Draft Environmental Impact Statement
13:02:21 22 which is in the open house room, and these same

13:02:25 23 materials, including overview sheets on the project,
13:02:29 24 are available at the welcome table where you enter.
13:02:33 25 If you are in need of assistance, we both

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13:02:37 1 have a Spanish interpreter to assist you, and we do
13:02:41 2 have a screen where all of the proceedings will be
13:02:47 3 shown for folks that might have a hearing impairment.
13:02:51 4 They can sit to my right and view the screen left of
13:02:55 5 the main stage.

13:02:56 6 If you would like to speak here in the main
13:02:59 7 event, please be sure that you pick up a small lottery
13:03:02 8 ticket as you enter, and we'll be selecting numbers
13:03:06 9 that will be projected to the right of the stage, and
13:03:12 10 we will take speakers in the order that they're
13:03:15 11 selected. This is to ensure fairness and
13:03:20 12 equitability. Everyone will be given two minutes to
13:03:24 13 speak.

13:03:25 14 At the top of each hour, including following
13:03:28 15 the presentation, there's the one o'clock hour and,
13:03:30 16 again, at the five o'clock hour, we'll allow up to
13:03:33 17 five public or tribal elected officials to speak. So
13:03:39 18 ensure that you check in with the staff to get on that
13:03:43 19 list at the top of the hour as appropriate.

13:03:48 20 I might add that the public open house
13:03:53 21 remains open from noon until nine p.m., and the

13:04:00 22 comment periods are from one until four with a break
13:04:02 23 between four to five, and then from five until nine
13:04:03 24 o'clock.
13:04:04 25 Again, I would like to introduce the panel.

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13:04:07 1 To my right, my far right, we have from the US Army
13:04:12 2 Corps of Engineers, Amy Reese, and she's your Chief
13:04:17 3 Operational Support Branch Personnel and, to her
13:04:18 4 right, we have Muffy Walker, the Regulatory Branch
13:04:23 5 Chief for the Corps. Further right at the lower
13:04:27 6 table, Diane Butorac of the Washington Department of
13:04:27 7 Ecology, and the Department of Ecology is here to
13:04:33 8 observe these proceedings for the NEPA DEIS.
13:04:39 9 Now, for the ground rules, it's important for
13:04:39 10 the proceedings and for your safety to keep the
13:04:46 11 operation safe, respectful, and nonthreatening for
13:04:46 12 everyone involved. The proposal is a facility that
13:04:49 13 would export coal to overseas markets involves
13:04:54 14 passionate viewpoints on all sides. So the ground
13:04:57 15 rules are really here to ensure a safe environment.
13:05:01 16 If we do have problems with the ground rules, we'll
13:05:05 17 give warnings, and we can suspend the proceedings
13:05:09 18 which can also be canceled completely.
13:05:11 19 Number one, you'll be given two minutes to

13:05:15 20 speak. We'll select speakers in order based on the
13:05:21 21 lottery process. As I mentioned, the public officials
13:05:21 22 can speak at the top of each hour for two minutes. No
13:05:25 23 intimidating behavior, disruptions, no clapping or
13:05:29 24 cheering, no real audible displays are allowed in the
13:05:32 25 main venue and, if there are opportunities for that,

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13:05:37 1 they really belong outside of the building. If you
13:05:42 2 would like to identify with a speaker, you can use a
13:05:45 3 small ten-by-ten sign. Those are allowed.
13:05:48 4 Again, we would like to hear your comments.
13:05:50 5 To keep things moving along, we appreciate in advance
13:05:51 6 your cooperation with the ground rules.
13:05:56 7 I'd like to turn it over to welcome and
13:05:59 8 opening remarks by Amy Reese, US Army Corps of
13:05:59 9 Engineers.
13:06:25 10 Amy.
13:06:25 11 MS. REESE: Good afternoon. My name is Amy
13:06:28 12 Reese. I'm recently the Chief of Operations Division
13:06:31 13 at the Corps of Engineers, and so I will be presiding
13:06:37 14 over today's public hearing on behalf of Colonel Buck,
13:06:40 15 the District Engineer for the Corps of Engineers. He
13:06:45 16 is unable to be here today.
13:06:47 17 As Seattle's District Engineer, Colonel Buck
13:06:51 18 will ultimately be making the decision on this permit

13:06:55 19 action. So welcome and thank you for taking your time

13:06:57 20 to come out today.

13:06:58 21 This meeting serves as an opportunity to

13:07:01 22 comment on the Draft EIS and to provide comments on

13:07:05 23 the permit action itself. For my part, I would like

13:07:09 24 to give you context for this hearing, describe our

13:07:12 25 regulatory authority, why the Corps of Engineers is

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13:07:16 1 involved, how we evaluate the permits, and how we make

13:07:18 2 the permit decision. In a few minutes, Linda Amato

13:07:22 3 will discuss the NEPA Draft EIS in more detail but,

13:07:26 4 before she does, I will briefly describe the permit

13:07:26 5 application hearing process.

13:07:33 6 The purpose of today's hearing is for the

13:07:35 7 Corps to gather information specific to the NEPA Draft

13:07:35 8 EIS and permit application. It's not to debate the

13:07:42 9 pros and cons of the project. Cross-examination of

13:07:45 10 speakers will not be allowed. We will not answer

13:07:48 11 questions asked by speakers regarding the project.

13:07:51 12 Written and oral presentations will be given

13:07:55 13 equal weight when Colonel Buck makes his decision. He

13:07:59 14 will carefully consider all of your comments in making

13:08:03 15 his decision on the permit.

13:08:04 16 So why is the Corps of Engineers involved?

13:08:08 17 So, as the regulatory of the Corps of Engineers, one
13:08:10 18 of the federal laws which the US Army Corps of
13:08:14 19 Engineers implements is Section 404 of the Clean Water
13:08:17 20 Act. This law requires that the federal permits
13:08:21 21 obtained from the Corps of Engineers for discharging
13:08:24 22 of dredged or fill material into the waters of the
13:08:26 23 United States including wetlands.

13:08:29 24 Another law we implement is Section 10 of the
13:08:33 25 Rivers and Harbors Act which regulates work in

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13:08:37 1 navigable waters of the United States. This proposal
13:08:40 2 requires both a Section 404 permit and a Section 10
13:08:46 3 authorization.

13:08:47 4 So how are these permits going to be
13:08:50 5 evaluated? For all standard permits, a public notice
13:08:57 6 is issued for public review and comments. The public
13:08:59 7 notice was widely distributed to federal, state, and
13:09:02 8 local agencies, indian tribes, adjacent property
13:09:07 9 owners, and interested citizens and groups. Generally
13:09:10 10 the public notice for comment period is 30 days. For
13:09:14 11 this, it will be 60 days. For this proposal, we began
13:09:18 12 the comment period on September 30th of this year.
13:09:21 13 Following this public hearing, the Corps will accept
13:09:21 14 additional public comments until the close of
13:09:27 15 business, November 29th.

13:09:30 16 Comments received, both in response to public
13:09:34 17 notices and at public hearings like these, become a
13:09:38 18 part of the record and are considered in the
13:09:41 19 evaluation and final decision on the permit
13:09:43 20 application. Colonel Buck will consider all comments
13:09:47 21 from citizens, indian tribes, and local, state, and
13:09:52 22 other federal agencies in making his decision to issue
13:09:57 23 or deny a permit.

13:09:59 24 The reason we hold public hearings is to
13:10:02 25 elicit new, significant information relevant to the

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13:10:04 1 Millennium Bulk Terminal's Longview proposal and its
13:10:08 2 impact which will help Colonel Buck make a balanced
13:10:08 3 decision.

13:10:14 4 So what is the process to come to a permit
13:10:18 5 decision? The decision to issue or deny a permit is
13:10:21 6 also based on the probable impacts of the proposed
13:10:23 7 work within the US Army Corps of Engineers'
13:10:28 8 jurisdiction, its intended use, the benefits which may
13:10:31 9 be expected to accrue from the proposal, and Colonel
13:10:35 10 Buck's evaluation under Section 404 (B)(1) guidelines
13:10:39 11 of the Clean Water Act and the public interest. The
13:10:39 12 guidelines of Section 404(B)(1) include a review of
13:10:39 13 alternatives to determine if the proposal is the least

13:10:39 14 environmentally damaging and practicable alternative.

13:10:39 15 The public interest review includes the

13:11:02 16 analysis on wetlands, fish and wildlife, threatened

13:11:05 17 and endangered species, the aquatic food web and

13:11:10 18 ecosystems, water quality, safety, aesthetics,

13:11:15 19 environmental justice and, in general, the needs and

13:11:17 20 welfare of the people.

13:11:20 21 In order to make his evaluation, Colonel Buck

13:11:22 22 must look at the benefits expected from the proposal

13:11:25 23 and weigh them against the foreseeable detriments when

13:11:28 24 making his decision.

13:11:30 25 If a determination is made that the project

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13:11:34 1 meets the Section 404(B)(1) guidelines and evaluation

13:11:37 2 is not contrary to the public interest, a federal

13:11:39 3 permit would be issued.

13:11:42 4 I want to stress that while we give all

13:11:46 5 comments full consideration, the comments of federal,

13:11:49 6 state, and local agencies, indian tribes are

13:11:53 7 considered experts in their respected fields and

13:11:58 8 receive very careful attention.

13:12:01 9 In September, a Draft Environmental Impact

13:12:05 10 Statement on the proposed Millennium Bulk Terminal

13:12:07 11 Longview Project was completed according to the

13:12:09 12 procedures of the National Environmental Policy Act,

13:12:12 13 NEPA. The US Army Corps of Engineers was the lead
13:12:16 14 federal agency for NEPA's Draft EIS, and the
13:12:21 15 Environmental Protection Agency and US Coast Guard
13:12:21 16 participated as cooperating agencies.

13:12:25 17 So now I would like to introduce Linda Amato
13:12:27 18 to provide a presentation on the NEPA process for the
13:12:32 19 Draft EIS.

13:12:35 20 MS. AMATO: Thank you, Amy. As you all know
13:12:39 21 by now, my name is Linda Amato with ICF, and I'm a
13:12:41 22 consultant project manager for the NEPA DEIS process.
13:12:44 23 I'm going to take the next couple of minutes to go
13:12:47 24 over the process for the EIS, but first I want to
13:12:51 25 describe the proposed project.

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13:12:55 1 So Millennium proposes to construct and
13:13:00 2 operate an export terminal. The terminal would
13:13:01 3 receive coal by rail from the Powder River Basin in
13:13:05 4 Wyoming and Montana and the Uinta Basin in Colorado
13:13:10 5 and Utah. The coal would be stored onsite in
13:13:10 6 stockpiles, then loaded and transported by vessels via
13:13:15 7 the Columbia River and the Pacific Ocean to overseas
13:13:21 8 markets in Asia. At full operation, the proposed
13:13:22 9 project would transport up to 44 million metric tons
13:13:22 10 of coal per year.

13:13:25 11 The proposed project would include a rail
13:13:28 12 loop to move trains on the site, and the rail loop
13:13:31 13 would have one operating track to move trains and
13:13:36 14 eight loop tracks where trains would be parked. And I
13:13:38 15 think I should put my glasses on so I can read this
13:13:41 16 better. So let me point -- hopefully you'll be able
13:13:46 17 to see -- I was having trouble today.

13:13:55 18 So this is the loop track that I just
13:13:59 19 mentioned, the eight tracks, and the one operating
13:14:02 20 track.

13:14:02 21 There would also be coal stockpiles inside
13:14:05 22 the rail loop area. The coal stockpiles would cover
13:14:12 23 about 75 acres of the 190-acre site, and that would be
13:14:14 24 these areas between the tracks.

13:14:18 25 A network of conveyors, transfer stations,

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13:14:21 1 and buffer bins to move coal around the site from
13:14:25 2 stockpiles and trains to vessels would also be
13:14:25 3 constructed.

13:14:30 4 Two new docks on the Columbia River would be
13:14:31 5 constructed. Each dock would include equipment called
13:14:34 6 shiploaders to load coal onto vessels. Here are the
13:14:39 7 two proposed docks, and this is dock one that is an
13:14:44 8 existing dock at the facility now.

13:14:46 9 A water treatment facility to treat surface

13:14:49 10 runoff and process water from the site. Let's see if
13:14:52 11 I can -- I think in that area.
13:14:55 12 And then new rail traffic of 16 trains per
13:14:59 13 day. That would be eight loaded trains to the site
13:15:02 14 and eight empty trains from the site would operate.
13:15:06 15 And new vessel traffic of 840 vessels per
13:15:10 16 year would serve the site. That would be 1,680
13:15:13 17 one-way vessel transits. And, just to show you here,
13:15:13 18 this is a spur line which travels that way and
13:15:13 19 basically goes to the BNSF mainline in Kelso.
13:15:30 20 So the EIS process, third-party consultant,
13:15:35 21 my firm, ICF, was hired to prepare the draft on NEPA
13:15:40 22 EIS. ICF and a team of consultants have analyzed the
13:15:42 23 project's potential impacts and documented their
13:15:46 24 findings in technical reports. Amy went over some of
13:15:49 25 the topic areas that we analyzed in these technical

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13:15:53 1 reports. They range on issues from the built
13:15:57 2 environment to natural environment, and also included
13:15:58 3 are operational elements such as rail transportation,
13:16:03 4 vehicle transportation, vessel transportation, noise,
13:16:07 5 air quality and, for the built environment, that would
13:16:11 6 be things like land use, tribal resources, cultural
13:16:14 7 resources, aesthetics, and then the natural

13:16:17 8 environment would include things, as Amy mentioned,
13:16:20 9 wetlands, water quality, fish and wildlife.

13:16:25 10 After the technical reports were prepared,
13:16:28 11 the Corps' staff along with other federal agencies
13:16:30 12 with expertise, in particular the EPA and Coast Guard,
13:16:35 13 reviewed the analysis and findings developed by the
13:16:38 14 consulting team. The reports were then updated and
13:16:40 15 the Draft EIS was prepared.

13:16:43 16 According to NEPA, the Environmental Impact
13:16:45 17 Statement is supposed to identify potential impacts
13:16:48 18 from the project and possible ways to mitigate those
13:16:51 19 impacts. The Environmental Impact Statement is a
13:16:55 20 prerequisite to the permit process, as Amy mentioned,
13:16:56 21 and local, state, and federal agencies will later use
13:17:00 22 the Final Environmental Impact Statement when they
13:17:04 23 make permanent decisions.

13:17:05 24 The EIS itself does not recommend whether a
13:17:10 25 project should be build or not.

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13:17:13 1 Unlike NEPA on the federal level, there is
13:17:16 2 also a State process, the State Environmental Policy
13:17:18 3 Act, and Cowlitz County and the Washington State
13:17:21 4 Department of Ecology released their Draft
13:17:25 5 Environmental Impact Statement on April 30th of this
13:17:27 6 year, and they also had a public comment period.

13:17:32 7 So the general timeline for NEPA, so we
13:17:38 8 began -- the Corps issued a Notice of Intent in August
13:17:42 9 of 2014, which then triggered a 90-day public comment
13:17:45 10 period called scoping, and that went from August
13:17:48 11 through November. For scoping, we received over
13:17:52 12 200,000 comments. The Corps reviewed those comments
13:17:54 13 and, as a result, developed what we call a scope of
13:17:57 14 work which would identify what would be studied in the
13:18:02 15 EIS.

13:18:03 16 So, during that time from early 2014 up until
13:18:07 17 the issuance of th Draft EIS, September 30th of this
13:18:11 18 year, we prepared the technical reports I mentioned
13:18:16 19 and prepared the DEIS.

13:18:19 20 So what's next? As we already mentioned,
13:18:22 21 there is a 60-day comment period. It goes from
13:18:25 22 September 30th through November 29th. And let's see,
13:18:30 23 what else do we have? We have two public hearings.
13:18:34 24 One was held yesterday all day in Longview, and we
13:18:36 25 have the last one today in Vancouver. Comments will

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13:18:39 1 be accepted online via our website. You can go next
13:18:42 2 door to the open house and get the address for our
13:18:45 3 website. We also have comment forms next door which
13:18:48 4 you are welcome to fill out and drop them in the black

13:18:52 5 buckets we have in the open house or you can mail in
13:18:57 6 your comments to us. Again, the mailing address is in
13:18:59 7 the open house on all of the materials we have there.

13:19:03 8 All comments will be reviewed by the Corps
13:19:06 9 and then they will be responded to and compiled into
13:19:15 10 the Final EIS, which will be released in mid 2017.

13:19:19 11 Also you're welcome to go on our website every week.
13:19:21 12 We update the website and we post the comments we've
13:19:26 13 received to date. So you're welcome to go and see
13:19:29 14 what other folks have submitted thus far.

13:19:32 15 And, with that, I will turn it over to Scott.

13:19:36 16 EVENT HOST: Thank you, Linda, and thank you,
13:19:43 17 Amy.

13:19:44 18 So on to the public hearing. Make sure you
13:19:47 19 have your lottery ticket if you would like to speak.
13:19:50 20 Keep in mind as you check in with Kim and go to the
13:19:55 21 speaker lineup in the order the lottery tickets are
13:20:00 22 selected and as you prepare your remarks, you can talk
13:20:02 23 about the accuracy of the information provided, the
13:20:07 24 appropriateness of the methodologies in the EIS, and
13:20:09 25 the reasonableness of the alternatives, for example.

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13:20:13 1 As was mentioned, copies are available in the open
13:20:16 2 house and online.

13:20:18 3 We'll first select ten lottery numbers, and

13:20:22 4 while you're doing that, Emma, I will go through the
13:20:24 5 remainder of my presentation and then we'll have you
13:20:25 6 read those.

13:20:26 7 So listen and watch for your numbers. When
13:20:33 8 you do get your chance to come to the podium, we use a
13:20:37 9 lighted system. So the green light will come on for
13:20:40 10 90 seconds, the last 30 of which it will be flashing.

13:20:45 11 So, once you get to that minute-and-a-half mark, you
13:20:47 12 will see the amber or yellow light so you'll want to
13:20:51 13 think about wrapping up your comments. The red light
13:20:51 14 comes on at two minutes. We'll also be using the
13:20:59 15 colored placards in front of you which Nicole will use
13:21:00 16 to help you stay on time. I'll ask you to wrap up and
13:21:03 17 yield your time to the next speaker in two minutes.

13:21:07 18 I know many of you have attended these
13:21:10 19 hearings, you know there are other opportunities. You
13:21:12 20 can use this table to leave written comments if you
13:21:16 21 don't have enough time here, and you can also see the
13:21:18 22 court reporter in the other room if you would like to
13:21:21 23 continue to give testimony. All forms of comments
13:21:25 24 will be considered through November 29th. Thanks
13:21:28 25 again for adhering to the ground rules. So we'll

13:21:32 1 begin the hearing, and I'll read a couple of items

13:21:32 2 into the formal record.

13:21:37 3 I'm Scott Keillor, the hearing officer for
13:21:39 4 the hearing this afternoon here in Vancouver. We are
13:21:43 5 conducting a hearing on the NEPA Draft EIS for
13:21:48 6 Millennium Terminal Longview. Let the record show
13:21:51 7 that it is approximately 1:20 on October 25, 2016, and
13:21:59 8 we're here at the Clark County Event Center in
13:21:59 9 Vancouver.

13:22:02 10 Legal notices of the hearing were published
13:22:06 11 including the Federal Register on October 7, 2016,
13:22:10 12 Volume 81, Number 195. In addition, notice was mailed
13:22:13 13 to 5,870 interested people near the proposed site.
13:22:20 14 Newspaper published notice dates include The Daily
13:22:25 15 News, Longview, September 30th and October 16, 2016,
13:22:27 16 and then Vancouver, The Columbian, on September 30th
13:22:31 17 and October 18, 2016.

13:22:36 18 I'll call people up using the lottery system
13:22:39 19 described. If you would when you approach the podium,
13:22:47 20 we would like you to state your name and say your
13:22:50 21 county of residence. Please address your comments
13:22:56 22 directly to our panel and, as you're speaking, the
13:22:59 23 court reporter does use lipreading techniques to
13:23:04 24 capture your comments. So it's very important and
13:23:06 25 also we'd like to have the Corps receive your comments

13:23:12 1 directly.

13:23:13 2 Just before I call the first speaker which

13:23:16 3 will be our elected official, State Senator Annette

13:23:22 4 Cleveland, I'd like to have Emma read the first ten

13:23:26 5 lottery numbers.

13:23:29 6 EMMA: 2080, 2087, 2116, 2084, 2108, 2122,

13:23:45 7 2114, 2124, 2093, 2119. These are the last four

13:23:56 8 digits on the ticket.

13:24:01 9 SPEAKER 1: Good afternoon. My name is

13:24:11 10 Annette Cleveland, and I serve as State Senator

13:24:14 11 representing the 49th Legislative District which

13:24:18 12 encompasses Vancouver and part of Clark County, and I

13:24:21 13 want to begin by thanking you for this opportunity to

13:24:24 14 provide comments today.

13:24:25 15 I am the proud daughter of a longshoreman and

13:24:30 16 my dad, while he's no longer with us, was hardworking

13:24:34 17 and he fought to ensure that our family was always

13:24:38 18 provided for. It was work along the Columbia River,

13:24:42 19 both in Longview and Vancouver, that allowed my father

13:24:45 20 to support our family. Now, our family is not unique.

13:24:50 21 Hundreds of other men and women in Washington State

13:24:53 22 make their living loading and unloading cargo from

13:24:57 23 vessels on the Columbia River.

13:25:00 24 It's critical to me, not only as a policy

13:25:03 25 maker but as an individual, that we as a state are

13:25:05 1 able to maintain these jobs and grow our great
13:25:09 2 economy. So obtaining timely decisions on proposed
13:25:12 3 maritime-related projects is essential in my mind to
13:25:17 4 attract the investment needed to grow our economy and
13:25:21 5 jobs.

13:25:21 6 So, as a legislator, even though I do not
13:25:24 7 have a vote regarding the proposed projects such as
13:25:28 8 this, but I do support the careful process that is in
13:25:31 9 place to evaluate these types of proposals, and I
13:25:35 10 fully support providing the community with information
13:25:39 11 necessary to consider a project and opportunity to
13:25:43 12 voice their opinions.

13:25:44 13 I am concerned, however, about allowing the
13:25:49 14 regulatory process to be used to impede the possible
13:25:53 15 progress or decision on the necessary permits for a
13:25:55 16 project, and I very much appreciate that Department of
13:25:59 17 Ecology and Cowlitz County have carefully and
13:26:02 18 completely considered the Millennium Bulk Terminal
13:26:04 19 Project in Longview, and certainly the release of the
13:26:07 20 Draft Environmental Impact Statement represents an
13:26:10 21 important step in the evaluation of this project.
13:26:12 22 While I wholeheartedly support fully your due
13:26:16 23 diligence, I am disturbed it has taken over four years
13:26:20 24 to get to this point.

13:26:21 25 So I will conclude my sharing but what I urge

13:26:24 1 today is timely final review and permit decision on
13:26:28 2 the application submitted for this project. I feel
13:26:31 3 our jobs, our communities, our families supported by
13:26:34 4 these jobs depend on that certainly. Thank you for
13:26:37 5 your hard work and your efforts to advance this
13:26:40 6 process in a timely way and for a timely outcome.

13:26:47 7 EVENT HOST: Our next speaker, please.

13:26:50 8 SPEAKER 2: Good afternoon. My name is Diane
13:27:02 9 (inaudible).

13:27:02 10 I would like to address the omission of
13:27:05 11 climate change from the Draft Environmental Impact
13:27:09 12 Statement. The operative words in Draft Environmental
13:27:14 13 Impact Statement is, of course, environment.

13:27:17 14 Environment is defined as the totality of
13:27:20 15 circumstances surrounding an organism or a group of
13:27:23 16 organisms. There is nothing that affects organisms or
13:27:28 17 groups of organisms more than climate change. It
13:27:31 18 causes organisms or groups of organisms to move, to
13:27:37 19 adapt, to go extinct. There is nothing that is more
13:27:41 20 profound in the life of an organism than climate.

13:27:46 21 If that is not enough of an inducement, the
13:27:52 22 Pentagon released a report dated October 13, 2014,
13:27:56 23 asserting decisively that climate change poses an
13:28:00 24 immediate, immediate threat, to national security

13:28:04 25 including more severe storms, food and water

21

13:28:08 1 shortages, disease spreading from regions to a broader

13:28:12 2 expanse of the world. Those things affect all of us.

13:28:16 3 They affect workers, they affect CEOs, they affect

13:28:21 4 children, they affect retirees. None of us can escape

13:28:25 5 the impacts of climate change.

13:28:27 6 The Pentagon characterized this as a

13:28:31 7 present-day threat. That is a significant shift from

13:28:37 8 it's former focus as a future risk. Even now in the

13:28:41 9 Hampton (inaudible) area of Virginia, the largest

13:28:42 10 concentration of military sites in this country has

13:28:46 11 experienced repeated flooding due to rising sea

13:28:46 12 levels.

13:28:50 13 The Journal of Earth and Planetary Science

13:28:54 14 sounded an alarm about the stability of the Antarctic

13:28:58 15 ice sheets as atmospheric CO2 concentrations have

13:29:00 16 risen to levels never before seen or experienced by

13:29:05 17 humans.

13:29:07 18 Climate change by definition and the order of

13:29:10 19 the Pentagon to it's top brass is to incorporate

13:29:16 20 climate change into virtually everything they do. It

13:29:17 21 must be included in this impact statement. It cannot

13:29:21 22 be avoided. Thank you.

13:29:28 23 EVENT HOST: Thank you.
13:29:29 24 Our next speaker approach the podium, please.
13:29:33 25 SPEAKER 3. Good afternoon. My name is James

22

13:29:40 1 Lanz (phonetic). I'm a resident of Vancouver,
13:29:43 2 Washington where I've lived for 25 years.
13:29:45 3 I am a retired public health nurse, and I
13:29:48 4 live within one mile of the railroad tracks that carry
13:29:52 5 coal trains through our community several times each
13:29:57 6 day. This proposed project would add an additional
13:30:00 7 eight fully loaded coal trains each day.
13:30:03 8 I'm extremely concerned about the health and
13:30:07 9 environmental effects of the proposed bulk terminal,
13:30:10 10 and I do not believe the US Army Corps of Engineers'
13:30:13 11 Draft EIS document addresses these concerns
13:30:17 12 adequately. I believe the Draft EIS is too narrow.
13:30:22 13 It focuses only on the potential downstream effects of
13:30:26 14 the proposed facility.
13:30:28 15 However, coal dust accumulates alongside the
13:30:32 16 tracks the entire distance the trains travel from the
13:30:36 17 time they're loaded until they arrive at the proposed
13:30:40 18 terminal. Furthermore, coal dust escapes into the
13:30:45 19 Columbia River all along the route these trains
13:30:45 20 travel.
13:30:48 21 Specifically I'm concerned about the negative

13:30:51 22 impacts on public health from coal dust, also called
13:30:54 23 fugitive coal dust, spewed into our air and water by
13:30:59 24 the additional coal trains.

13:31:02 25 As an article that was printed in the Golden

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13:31:09 1 Gate University Environmental Law Journal, Coal trains
13:31:09 2 are known as black snakes. The name aptly describes
13:31:14 3 the miles of uncovered railcars bearing the black
13:31:18 4 cargo as they slither along the tracks. During the
13:31:22 5 journey from the coal mine to the final destination,
13:31:25 6 they shed plumes of coal dust from the tops of their
13:31:29 7 uncovered train cars. This dust contains substances
13:31:32 8 like mercury, lead, cadmium, arsenic, manganese,
13:31:39 9 beryllium, and chromium. When the dust settles, these
13:31:44 10 substances are deposited in soil and water harming
13:31:46 11 plants, animals, and marine life.

13:31:48 12 Thank you very much. I want the Draft EIS to
13:31:54 13 be more adequate. Thank you for your time.

13:31:59 14 EVENT HOST: Thank you, sir.

13:32:01 15 Next, please.

13:32:03 16 SPEAKER 4: Thank you very much for the
13:32:10 17 opportunity to speak. My name is Mark Martinez. I'm
13:32:14 18 the president of the Washington State Building and
13:32:19 19 Construction Trades Council representing 70,000 union

13:32:21 20 construction professionals who live and work in our
13:32:24 21 beautiful state. The skilled brothers and sisters of
13:32:27 22 the building trades are your neighbors who build the
13:32:29 23 roads, the schools, the hospitals, and the office
13:32:32 24 buildings that we all use every day.

13:32:35 25 The proposed private investment of hundreds

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13:32:35 1 of millions of dollars into an export facility in
13:32:39 2 Longview is a much needed boost for our members living
13:32:42 3 in Southwest Washington. Along with millions of
13:32:46 4 dollars in wages, the project will generate tens of
13:32:47 5 millions of dollars of tax revenues during
13:32:51 6 construction and millions of local taxes during
13:32:55 7 operations that can be used for community needs.

13:32:58 8 The developer isn't just building a new
13:33:00 9 facility. They are cleaning up a longtime brown field
13:33:03 10 site, moving over 300,000 tons of waste from the site
13:33:06 11 and recycling two-thirds of that material. They're
13:33:10 12 doing the right thing for the community and the right
13:33:13 13 thing for the local environment.

13:33:14 14 And make no mistake, the members welcome a
13:33:17 15 transition to a power-generation economy that reduces
13:33:19 16 dependence on fossil fuels. We are the skilled folks
13:33:22 17 that are erecting the wind turbines and wiring the
13:33:26 18 solar panels that are lighting the way to a more

13:33:28 19 sustainable energy future. But we also understand
13:33:31 20 that the power needed for that transition that fossil
13:33:35 21 fuels will be in demand worldwide.

13:33:35 22 Washington State Building and Construction
13:33:41 23 Trades Council and it's 70,000 members support the
13:33:42 24 Millennium Bulk Terminal Longview Project. We believe
13:33:46 25 that the Draft EIS is as thorough and complete as

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13:33:51 1 possible. It is time to move forward with the Final
13:33:52 2 EIS, approve the permits and put thousands of my
13:33:55 3 members to work. Thank you.

13:33:57 4 EVENT HOST: We'll take our next speaker and
13:34:03 5 then draw an additional five lottery numbers.

13:34:06 6 SPEAKER 5: Good afternoon, Panel. My name
13:34:17 7 is Mike Elliott. I currently reside in Tacoma,
13:34:20 8 Washington, and I've worked in the railroad industry
13:34:21 9 for the past 22 years. I'm speaking today on behalf
13:34:21 10 of the Washington State Legislative Board Brotherhood
13:34:29 11 of the Locomotive Engineers and Trainmen. We
13:34:30 12 represent over 900 railroad operating craft personnel
13:34:32 13 statewide. Our board was established in 1904, and our
13:34:38 14 labor union has documented presence here dating back
13:34:40 15 to 1884.

13:34:43 16 The I-5 rail corridor, to include Vancouver

13:34:46 17 and Longview, play an important role in interstate and
13:34:52 18 international congress. Longview is one of the few
13:34:55 19 remaining industrial corridors in Washington State and
13:34:57 20 upgrade to its trade infrastructure is mandatory.

13:35:01 21 We fully support the Millennium Bulk Terminal
13:35:05 22 Project. It's a vital private investment in jobs,
13:35:10 23 community, commerce, and the trade infrastructure key
13:35:13 24 in keeping Washington competitive.

13:35:16 25 Nearly five years ago, Millennium applied for

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13:35:20 1 permits to build a modern, state-of-the-art transfer
13:35:20 2 terminal within an existing industrial corridor on a
13:35:24 3 former smelter site. Millennium has cleaned up the
13:35:28 4 smelting site including recycling tons of waste
13:35:31 5 material proving they are a responsible operator,
13:35:34 6 community partner, and employer. Unfortunately, they
13:35:38 7 have been demonized because the commodity they intend
13:35:38 8 to transport is coal.

13:35:43 9 A word about the NEPA process. It must be
13:35:46 10 fair, balanced and timely for all applicants
13:35:51 11 regardless of commodity. This NEPA Draft EIS is
13:35:57 12 unprecedented in its thoroughness. The US Army Corps
13:36:00 13 of Engineers afforded all stakeholders the opportunity
13:36:02 14 to provide input on the scope of the Draft EIS back in
13:36:07 15 2014. Rail route, alleged coal dust, noise, traffic,

13:36:13 16 congestion, and much, much more have all been given

13:36:17 17 careful consideration.

13:36:17 18 The time has come to move forward. Having

13:36:20 19 hauled every commodity on Earth for over 153 years, we

13:36:23 20 know the importance of work, jobs, commerce, and

13:36:28 21 trade. Millennium has met the high expectations of

13:36:33 22 the NEPA process and should be issued the permits

13:36:33 23 needed to build the project. Thank you very much.

13:36:36 24 EVENT HOST: Thank you.

13:36:36 25 Emma will draw an additional five numbers.

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13:36:42 1 EMMA: 2123, 2067, 1908, 2126, 2117.

13:36:58 2 SPEAKER 6: Good afternoon. My name is Phil

13:37:06 3 Martin. I'm from Kelso, Washington, born and raised

13:37:09 4 there.

13:37:09 5 I come to you -- I am Native American. I do

13:37:14 6 take environmental issues seriously. I fish, I hunt,

13:37:19 7 I cycle, I fish in the Columbia Gorge. You know, I

13:37:24 8 don't see coal dust up there, but what I do see when I

13:37:27 9 do fish up there is I see indian nets stretched across

13:37:31 10 the river with fish in them, so it goes both ways.

13:37:35 11 Millennium is a good company, they've been in

13:37:40 12 our community for five years now. They help out,

13:37:42 13 they're there to stay, they're good people. They are

13:37:46 14 involved in the Rotary, local organizations. They've
13:37:50 15 cleaned up the Reynolds site. We need the jobs.
13:37:54 16 Our environment is just -- it's more than
13:37:57 17 just the environment. It's the whole system of
13:38:01 18 Cowlitz County. We used to have jobs there. I drove
13:38:04 19 truck for a long time with US Reddaway. We had 80
13:38:08 20 employees. Manufacturing has left that area and we
13:38:11 21 lost all of those employees and many more.
13:38:14 22 Millennium coming in offers hope to people.
13:38:17 23 More jobs creates better local environment for people,
13:38:22 24 schools, parks, everything.
13:38:26 25 So I would say the study is great, you've

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13:38:29 1 done your job. I'm not smarter than any of you. All
13:38:32 2 of the studies are there, just move forward with it.
13:38:37 3 We don't need to keep dragging it out longer and
13:38:37 4 longer.
13:38:40 5 If this was a marijuana grow operation, which
13:38:41 6 we have multiple in Longview/Kelso, it would be done
13:38:43 7 already. We wouldn't be standing here debating it and
13:38:47 8 talking about it. I work three blocks from one. The
13:38:51 9 stench is horrific but nobody seems to complain about
13:38:54 10 that. Yet we're debating five years now on something
13:38:56 11 that is not even -- it's irrelevant. There is no coal
13:39:00 12 dust out there. The trains go up and down the tracks

13:39:03 13 every day and there's no dust, so please move forward.

13:39:10 14 EVENT HOST: Thank you.

13:39:12 15 Our next speaker.

13:39:15 16 SPEAKER 7: Good afternoon. My name is Rick

13:39:19 17 (inaudible). I'm with Oregon Labors Local 737.

13:39:23 18 During this political season, we've heard a

13:39:24 19 lot of talk about the economy, jobs, and our tax base.

13:39:31 20 Millennium has worked the plan on this job, planned

13:39:35 21 the work. I think it's time that we let them get out

13:39:38 22 and work the plan to create these jobs both for the

13:39:42 23 construction and for the ongoing employment of the

13:39:45 24 people in Cowlitz County. Thank you.

13:39:59 25 EVENT HOST: If you have a number, please

29

13:40:00 1 come to the speaker lineup.

13:40:03 2 SPEAKER 8: My name is Dave Dillingham, and I

13:40:05 3 work at Millennium, and I've lived in Longview my

13:40:10 4 entire life with the exception of a few years in the

13:40:10 5 Army.

13:40:10 6 From living here, I know what's good for our

13:40:13 7 community and what isn't. When I was younger, our

13:40:18 8 town thrived and prospered. Anyone who could work had

13:40:20 9 a job. Now we have outsiders coming in and extorting

13:40:23 10 money from honest businesses who employ hardworking

13:40:25 11 people. Good businesses are run off and communities
13:40:28 12 around us are doing far better than us because of
13:40:32 13 outside interference. We have opposition who either
13:40:35 14 cannot or will not listen to reason.

13:40:37 15 The Department of Ecology says this project
13:40:40 16 is doable and there will be no dust problems nor
13:40:44 17 transportation issues that aren't solvable, but yet
13:40:46 18 the same people cry from on top of their soapboxes the
13:40:49 19 sky is falling.

13:40:50 20 Millennium will employ many people, both in
13:40:53 21 the construction and the running of this facility.
13:40:56 22 With this, our tax dollars that our community needs,
13:40:58 23 money for our children's schools, and everything else
13:41:02 24 that this community needs to thrive. I want this
13:41:04 25 company doing just as good when I retire as when I

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13:41:07 1 started, offering family-wage jobs with good benefits.
13:41:10 2 The employees will spend money in their communities to
13:41:12 3 make this whole area prosper again.
13:41:15 4 I know you red shirts don't care and, in
13:41:18 5 return, I'm tired of hearing you whine and snivel.
13:41:20 6 Millennium has done everything asked of it, we have
13:41:23 7 overcome every obstacle. Now it's our turn to ask
13:41:27 8 something from you.
13:41:28 9 Give us our permits and let us build our

13:41:30 10 facility and prove once and for all it is possible to
13:41:33 11 build a state-of-the-art coal facility,
13:41:37 12 environmentally friendly, and prove to all of the
13:41:39 13 naysayers that the sky will not fall when people work
13:41:39 14 together and prosper.

13:41:43 15 In closing, I would like to thank Colonel
13:41:44 16 Buck and the Corps' hard work. I appreciate what you
13:41:47 17 do and cannot imagine not having you around.

13:41:53 18 EVENT HOST: Just checking in on speakers, we
13:42:01 19 encourage you to move to the front of the speaker
13:42:03 20 lineup.

13:42:05 21 SPEAKER 9: My name is Dixie Bailey. I live
13:42:07 22 and work in Longview.

13:42:08 23 In fact, I work at Millennium. I too love
13:42:11 24 our community and am concerned about breathing clean
13:42:14 25 air and eating clean foods. I enjoy the things that

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13:42:17 1 Longview has to offer, I love Lake Sacajawea. It's
13:42:20 2 the backdrop to our city, so I too want only the best
13:42:22 3 for Longview and Cowlitz County.

13:42:23 4 I have kids and grandkids that go to school
13:42:26 5 in Longview. I want only the best for them. I want
13:42:29 6 their schools to be well funded. As of now, they are
13:42:31 7 not.

13:42:32 8 This project will help our city out in more
13:42:34 9 ways than people realize. The tax revenue that it
13:42:38 10 will bring in will be tremendous. Our schools will
13:42:42 11 greatly benefit along with our Parks Department. The
13:42:42 12 jobs, direct and indirect, will help a town that is
13:42:46 13 struggling.

13:42:47 14 Coal is just a product like so many others
13:42:49 15 out there that are shipped overseas. There are so
13:42:52 16 many state and national environmental rules and
13:42:53 17 regulations to follow, and Millennium has showed that
13:42:56 18 as an employer to the City of Longview, Cowlitz
13:42:59 19 County, and the State of Washington that they are
13:43:01 20 there to follow all of those strict guidelines.

13:43:04 21 Millennium is here for the duration and we aren't
13:43:05 22 going anywhere.

13:43:06 23 We have waited an exceptional amount of time,
13:43:09 24 and we are ready to get the Final EIS and construct
13:43:13 25 this project. Thanks.

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13:43:16 1 EVENT HOST: Thank you.

13:43:19 2 Additional lottery numbers, please.

13:43:23 3 EMMA: 2012, 2021, 2120, 2109, 2106.

13:43:23 4 EVENT HOST: Thank you.

13:43:37 5 Sir, go ahead and proceed.

13:43:40 6 SPEAKER 10: My name is Joe (inaudible). I

13:43:42 7 live in Cowlitz County.

13:43:43 8 I didn't come here to actually get up in

13:43:45 9 front of you all but four years to make a decision.

13:43:52 10 You're part of the Army Corps of Engineers, you're

13:43:55 11 part of the problem. Make a decision. This is

13:43:59 12 stupid. This group of people come out her and snivel

13:44:03 13 about a little bit of dust, accidents do happen. We

13:44:08 14 seen one in a town in Oregon here not long ago with

13:44:11 15 oil. We learn from it, we fix it, we make it better.

13:44:17 16 If we don't make mistakes, you can't fix it.

13:44:21 17 Now, dust from these trains, ha. You've got

13:44:24 18 to be out of your mind. There is no -- hardly any

13:44:29 19 dust, maybe a cup over a thousand miles comes out of

13:44:33 20 one car, 100 cars, 100 cups. We get more than that

13:44:38 21 with the truck and the dozers pushing that coal over

13:44:44 22 to where it goes to get sucked up. This is insane,

13:44:49 23 four years is insane. Make a decision, please.

13:44:54 24 And also remember like the first lady that

13:44:58 25 was here, her comment was about the weather. In 1970,

13:45:05 1 be were going to freeze. Do any -- I know some of you

13:45:11 2 are old enough to remember that. They said we're

13:45:17 3 going to have an ice age by the '80s. I didn't see

13:45:19 4 it.

13:45:19 5 The same group now, you're wearing red, there
13:45:23 6 they are, they're saying the same stuff that's
13:45:23 7 environmentally bunk.

13:45:29 8 I remember when gas wasn't going to be
13:45:31 9 around, we're going to run out of fuel. Mother Earth
13:45:35 10 makes fuel, oil out of the ground. We have over 2,000
13:45:40 11 years of oil in the Dakotas, and there's oil fields
13:45:47 12 under it that's over 3,000 years' worth of oil. We
13:45:51 13 just have to get to it. Good day.

13:45:54 14 EVENT HOST: Thank you.

13:45:56 15 We're ready for our next speaker. If you do
13:45:59 16 have a number on the screen, please enter the speaker
13:46:03 17 lineup.

13:46:04 18 SPEAKER 11: Good afternoon. My name is
13:46:13 19 Trevor Simmons. I currently live in Longview, however
13:46:15 20 I am from New Castle, Australia, which is the home of
13:46:19 21 the world's largest coal export terminal, and I worked
13:46:23 22 there in that facility for nearly 30 years.

13:46:26 23 From my experience, I can see that the Corps
13:46:30 24 has done a thorough job looking at the environmental
13:46:34 25 impacts. You've done a thorough job assessing the

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13:46:37 1 impacts and you've done a thorough job in concluding
13:46:41 2 that the proposed terminal will meet the appropriate
13:46:43 3 environmental and community standards.

13:46:46 4 So what is it like to live in a city that is
13:46:49 5 the home of a coal export terminal? New Castle has a
13:46:54 6 coal terminal operating for more than 40 years. It
13:46:57 7 exports three times what is proposed for Longview.
13:47:03 8 New Castle and Longview have many similarities. Both
13:47:07 9 having many port-related activities. Along with these
13:47:12 10 many port-related activities are many port-related
13:47:16 11 businesses. Business generates business.

13:47:19 12 But New Castle is a city that is more than
13:47:20 13 coal and port-related activities. New Castle is a
13:47:26 14 thriving city full of people, industry, business,
13:47:31 15 schools, colleges, universities, sports clubs, beaches
13:47:33 16 where you can swim in the water, restaurants, and a
13:47:37 17 diversity of arts and cultural activities. People are
13:47:41 18 not leaving the city because it has a coal export
13:47:44 19 terminal.

13:47:46 20 I know it has been suggested that there are
13:47:48 21 concerns about the health aspects of a coal terminal,
13:47:51 22 I worked inside a coal terminal for nearly 30 years.
13:47:55 23 I am the 30-year health impact study. If there is no
13:47:59 24 damaging health effects working inside the coal
13:48:01 25 terminal, then the effects must be even less away from

13:48:05 1 the coal terminal. My experience in New Castle tells

13:48:09 2 me Longview can be encouraged by Millennium's proposal

13:48:12 3 to build a coal export terminal.

13:48:15 4 All the hard work has been done preparing the

13:48:18 5 EIS. I now encourage you to publish the final

13:48:22 6 document in a timely manner so that the permits can be

13:48:24 7 issued. Thank you.

13:48:26 8 EVENT HOST: Next speaker, please.

13:48:32 9 SPEAKER 12: Hello, and thank you for taking

13:48:39 10 our comments. My name is Mona McNeal. I live in

13:48:43 11 Clark County about a mile from here in the Mt. Vista

13:48:43 12 neighborhood.

13:48:49 13 I'm a grandmother, I'm a widow. I care very

13:48:52 14 much about this environment and I think you've done a

13:48:55 15 good job to a point. However, I would, like the

13:48:58 16 gentleman who spoke earlier, like to see the bigger

13:49:02 17 environment in the study because this kind of project

13:49:06 18 of this magnitude does not just affect the immediate

13:49:11 19 area. We're talking about everything along that line

13:49:15 20 from where the coal is taken out of the Earth to when

13:49:19 21 it's put onto the ships in the ocean. I don't see how

13:49:24 22 an environmental impact statement could look at the

13:49:28 23 environment which is comprehensive, not just a very

13:49:31 24 small thing.

13:49:32 25 So I don't have a lot of things to add to

13:49:35 1 that. I thank you very much for all your comments.

13:49:40 2 SPEAKER 13: Hi. My name is Caroline

13:49:53 3 Ceravolo, and I live here in Ridgefield.

13:49:54 4 There is no doubt that the burning of fossil

13:49:57 5 fuels is the major driver of climate change. Exxon's

13:50:01 6 own scientists confirmed this back in the early '80s.

13:50:01 7 Unfortunately Exxon ultimately chose profit over

13:50:04 8 consideration for future generations like mine and

13:50:07 9 decided to spend millions covering up the inconvenient

13:50:07 10 truth.

13:50:10 11 This coal terminal would contribute to our

13:50:12 12 heating climate. The Department of Ecology's DEIS

13:50:17 13 show this. How can you possibly look at young people

13:50:18 14 like me and tell me that you didn't do everything

13:50:21 15 possible to give me a livable planet?

13:50:21 16 I am growing up in a world that is smaller

13:50:26 17 than ever. Globalization is not only about importing

13:50:28 18 and exporting. It is about caring for everyone.

13:50:33 19 Hurricanes like Matthew that killed over

13:50:35 20 1,000 human beings and devastated Haiti will only

13:50:36 21 become stronger and more frequent, yet this poor

13:50:40 22 nation did almost nothing to contribute to climate

13:50:41 23 change.

13:50:41 24 In our own country along the Alaskan coast,

13:50:44 25 sea ice no longer forms to protect indigenous

13:50:47 1 communities from raging winter storms. They're
13:50:50 2 literally losing their homeland and villages to the
13:50:53 3 sea that once sustained them.

13:50:55 4 In Africa, wars rage due to lack of resources
13:50:57 5 caused by desertification. How have these poorest
13:51:02 6 people benefitted from our industrialized society that
13:51:03 7 is causing this problem?

13:51:05 8 You have a legal obligation under the Public
13:51:08 9 Trust Doctrine to preserve a stable, livable climate
13:51:11 10 for our future generations.

13:51:13 11 Do coal companies have to pay for the
13:51:15 12 desertification of vast areas of our planet? Do they
13:51:18 13 pay for rising sea levels and flooding? What is the
13:51:21 14 price for making the ocean acidic? Do they
13:51:24 15 financially compensate for wildfires which burn
13:51:27 16 millions and millions of acres annually in the US
13:51:27 17 alone?

13:51:30 18 If fossil fuels were priced to reflect the
13:51:32 19 actual damage they do, they would stay in the ground
13:51:34 20 where they belong. Thank you.

13:51:37 21 EVENT HOST: Thank you.

13:51:39 22 Five additional lottery numbers, and then
13:51:42 23 we'll hear the next speaker.

13:51:44 24 EMMA: 2038, 2082, 2029, 1905, 2074.

13:51:57 25 SPEAKER 14: Hi. Patty Gillihan. I've lived

13:52:06 1 in the Longview area my whole life.

13:52:10 2 When I was 12 years old, the river was always
13:52:11 3 full of ships, always. I mean, you would look outside
13:52:15 4 from our porch and you would see ships sitting there
13:52:18 5 waiting to be unloaded, loaded, even sitting in the
13:52:21 6 river waiting. People never complained about traffic
13:52:28 7 was too busy on the river because that was jobs, it
13:52:30 8 was work. No one complained about it.

13:52:34 9 As for the coal trains, they've been coming
13:52:36 10 into Longview for years, and nobody has ever
13:52:41 11 complained about the coal dust ever until this
13:52:43 12 started. It's kind of crazy to me so why not?

13:52:46 13 You say it's killing our salmon, get real.
13:52:48 14 Sea lions are the problem in the river and are more
13:52:52 15 damaging than the coal is. I googled river damage to
13:52:57 16 fish and guess what fish were brought up, swordfish,
13:52:59 17 sharks, and no salmon was even brought up. Also the
13:53:04 18 coal mines were blamed on the poisons in the river
13:53:04 19 (inaudible).

13:53:14 20 The dredging has been going on since I was a
13:53:16 21 little girl and it's done to keep our channels deep
13:53:21 22 and open for the ships. So I really don't think
13:53:24 23 dredging has helped deplete the salmon, the sea lions
13:53:29 24 have much more.

13:53:29 25 I hope the Corps can find its way to complete

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13:53:32 1 all of the permits so this business can get started

13:53:35 2 and help more people not worrying about losing their

13:53:39 3 homes and supporting their families and keeping

13:53:42 4 themselves off the streets. Taxable income will come

13:53:45 5 to our town and schools, and many other things will be

13:53:47 6 helped. Thank you.

13:53:54 7 EVENT HOST: Sir, if you will approach the

13:53:56 8 podium.

13:54:02 9 SPEAKER 15: My name is Cliff Davis. I live

13:54:05 10 in Fairview, Oregon right along the Columbia Gorge

13:54:08 11 there, so what happens to this river is near to my

13:54:12 12 heart.

13:54:13 13 I've spent almost my entire life fishing this

13:54:14 14 river from the Snake River out to the mouth, a lot of

13:54:18 15 time on the mouth of the Columbia.

13:54:20 16 But I'm not here just on a personal matter.

13:54:22 17 I'm here as I work for the IBEW, International

13:54:28 18 Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, and up until 2013,

13:54:30 19 I was the business manager for Local 48. Now I work

13:54:35 20 and I represent the workers on the entire West Coast.

13:54:40 21 Why I want to point that out is on November

13:54:44 22 1, 2011, I was in the unfortunate position of watching

13:54:47 23 a merger of two locals. Prior to that date, Local 48
13:54:54 24 covered Southwest Washington which included Clark
13:54:57 25 County, Skamania, and Klickitat Counties, but on

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13:55:00 1 November 1, 2011, the local that represented Cowlitz
13:55:06 2 and Wahkiakum was forced to merge with Local 48. So
13:55:10 3 at 100 years of proud history in Longview ended on
13:55:14 4 that day.

13:55:15 5 Now, prior to this date, there had been up to
13:55:18 6 750 electricians that were members in Longview. They
13:55:22 7 had jobs they could go to every day, they could
13:55:24 8 provide for families. By November of 2011, there were
13:55:29 9 less than 100 electricians working in the Longview
13:55:33 10 area. So anybody who remained a member of Longview,
13:55:38 11 for the most part, was forced to cross the Columbia
13:55:41 12 River every day to get a job, and that remains true
13:55:44 13 today. Without Local 48 helping out, they would not
13:55:48 14 have had the financial ability to even exist and
13:55:53 15 remain a local.

13:55:53 16 So that was tough on me, as the business
13:55:55 17 manager, to watch all of this history go away, but more
13:55:59 18 importantly to see that there were people who love
13:56:03 19 Longview, they want to work in Longview, but they're
13:56:05 20 unable to.

13:56:09 21 Is that my time limit? I'll wrap it up.

13:56:10 22 If you want to see what happens if you
13:56:12 23 continue to export your jobs to another city
13:56:18 24 (inaudible), drive through Williams, California or any
13:56:18 25 other cities out there that no longer have jobs but

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13:56:23 1 they have buildings that are empty, disappeared.
13:56:28 2 Motels empty mile after mile.
13:56:33 3 We don't want to see this happen in Longview.
13:56:36 4 These people are dedicated, they love their city, but
13:56:38 5 we need jobs as well. Thank you.
13:56:41 6 EVENT HOST: Thank you.
13:56:43 7 I'm going to ask that the existing lottery
13:56:48 8 numbers come forward. We have light attendance this
13:56:53 9 afternoon so we'd like to take some breaks and that
13:56:56 10 may be coming up. So, for now, if you do have a
13:56:59 11 number, please come forward.
13:57:02 12 EMMA: 2124, 2117, 2120, 2069, 2109, 2106,
13:57:30 13 2068, 2062, 2069, 2074, 1905.
13:57:32 14 EVENT HOST: We have no speakers at this
13:57:37 15 time. I've checked in with the Corps, well have a
13:57:40 16 20-minute recess and the hearing will resume at 2:15.
13:57:43 17 Thank you.
13:57:44 18 (A recess was taken from 1:57 p.m. to
13:57:44 19 2:15 p.m.)

13:57:44 20 EVENT HOST: We will bring the Millennium
14:15:50 21 Bulk Terminal DEIS public hearing, public meeting back
14:15:55 22 to order.
14:15:55 23 Remind you of the ground rules, we appreciate
14:15:59 24 your attention. What we'll do here is we have some
14:16:02 25 low attendance and the numbers that are reflected on

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14:16:07 1 this screen to the right of the stage are the first
14:16:10 2 order of business. After that, we'll go with the show
14:16:14 3 of hands and start to suspend the lottery system to be
14:16:18 4 a little more efficient with the time.
14:16:21 5 Just before the next speaker, can I have a
14:16:25 6 show of hands of folks that are waiting to speak
14:16:28 7 today. Raise those real high. It looks like ten, 12,
14:16:36 8 okay. Thank you.
14:16:37 9 Our next speaker, please.
14:16:43 10 SPEAKER 16: Hi. My name is Caleb Ceravolo.
14:16:48 11 I live in Ridgefield.
14:16:50 12 According to the NSA, each of the first six
14:16:50 13 months of 2016 set a record as the warmest respective
14:16:50 14 month globally in the modern temperature record. The
14:17:01 15 six-month period was from January to June was also the
14:17:03 16 planet's warmest half year on record with an average
14:17:09 17 temperature 1.3 degrees celsius warmer than the late
14:17:11 18 19th century. This means we are hitting the 1.5

14:17:15 19 degree celsius mark set by the Paris Climate
14:17:15 20 Agreement.
14:17:19 21 Burning fossil fuels drives climate change.
14:17:22 22 We are devastating our planet and our own future
14:17:26 23 security through our addiction to fossil fuels.
14:17:30 24 Unfortunately, most of the world has joined in our
14:17:32 25 fossil fuel addiction. Do you know any addicts? If

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14:17:36 1 your mom was addicted to drugs, would you offer her
14:17:38 2 some opium because you are worried about poppy farmers
14:17:41 3 staying employed? You know that lots of people are
14:17:43 4 employed by the drug trade, should we use jobs as an
14:17:47 5 excuse to continue doing something that is proven by
14:17:52 6 scientists to be dangerous and 100 percent harmful to
14:17:52 7 the environment? By continuing to promote fossil
14:17:57 8 fuels, you are absolutely voting in favor of business
14:18:00 9 as usual and adding to the addiction problem. You are
14:18:05 10 adding one more nail in our coffin.
14:18:08 11 Maybe you think that 44 million tons of coal
14:18:12 12 annually won't make or break the climate. I'll ask
14:18:15 13 you if you would like to place a bet on it because, if
14:18:18 14 you are wrong, we all lose. Thank you.
14:18:26 15 EVENT HOST: Thank you for your comments.
14:18:30 16 At this time with the Corps' permission, we

14:18:35 17 will suspend the lottery system. All of those folks
14:18:44 18 who wish to speak and have not had an opportunity to
14:18:47 19 do so, check in with Kim, and we'll organize you in
14:18:50 20 the speaker cue and give you your two minutes. Thank
14:18:54 21 you.

14:18:55 22 Just a reminder that you are welcome to leave
14:19:34 23 comments at the end of the speaker lineup on the
14:19:39 24 table, and those will go into the record. Thank you.

14:19:53 25 We're ready for our next speaker.

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14:19:59 1 SPEAKER 17: Greetings. As one retired nurse
14:20:12 2 who wants a full health and safety impact study, I
14:20:16 3 ask -- this is a speech I wrote yesterday for today.

14:20:21 4 It is absolutely astounding that we are here
14:20:24 5 on United Nations Day, again, begging, pleading and,
14:20:29 6 yes, crying at times for the safety of the world's
14:20:34 7 children.

14:20:35 8 This dirty cargo should not come here nor be
14:20:38 9 shipped across the seas to pollute any child's land.
14:20:42 10 Coal burned into air causes cancer, lung disease, and
14:20:46 11 brain damage.

14:20:46 12 This transport plan is happening near the
14:20:52 13 onset of a 9.0 earthquake PBS says is soon to arrive.
14:20:54 14 How does that affect health? The Army Corps must
14:21:00 15 protect American health and safety rather than protect

14:21:04 16 coal corporations that ruin America to make money. Do
14:21:08 17 a better study.
14:21:12 18 Senator Annie Rivers has a husband whose
14:21:15 19 associates work with big coal. She is not impartial
14:21:17 20 nor fair when planning for big coal. Vote her out.
14:21:20 21 Lead is in our children's school waters now,
14:21:24 22 Liz Pike and Ann Rivers, so how can you claim to help
14:21:28 23 Washington children? Ancient outdated laws and their
14:21:32 24 lawmakers need to leave office.
14:21:34 25 Coal particles contain mercury, lead, now in

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14:21:34 1 school waters, chromium, vanadium, nickel, and copper.
14:21:42 2 The ignorance of even thinking of allowing polluters
14:21:44 3 to destroy the health of more children is criminal
14:21:44 4 thinking in my book.
14:21:49 5 I gave you part of an article to show you
14:21:55 6 what Appalachian University scientists know about coal
14:22:00 7 ash spilled in one river. Stop this coal. We need
14:22:02 8 clean jobs now, clean energy jobs now. Thank you for
14:22:08 9 listening.
14:22:11 10 EVENT HOST: Thank you.
14:22:13 11 Our next speaker, please.
14:22:14 12 SPEAKER 18: Thank you for this opportunity
14:22:21 13 to comment. My name is Linda Gibson. I grew up in

14:22:26 14 Longview. I've raised my family there and I want it
14:22:29 15 always to be a safe place for my grandchildren.
14:22:32 16 This Draft EIS fails for a number of reasons.
14:22:34 17 Number one, the scope and analysis of this Draft EIS
14:22:37 18 is too limited. It failed to provide Longview
14:22:41 19 residents a real assessment of how this project will
14:22:44 20 change our everyday lives. We'll experience long and
14:22:48 21 frustrating delays while we sit waiting for 16 long
14:22:49 22 and noisy trains to pass each and every day even while
14:22:53 23 getting to the hospital where I work. These delays
14:22:57 24 will not be (inaudible). Are we thinking that medical
14:23:01 25 emergencies will just have to wait? We know that

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14:23:04 1 seconds and minutes make a difference between life and
14:23:06 2 death. These delays will be unacceptable when the
14:23:10 3 emergency vehicles are stuck on the wrong side of the
14:23:12 4 tracks.

14:23:12 5 Number two, the Draft EIS minimizes the
14:23:15 6 health impacts of diesel particles and coal dust
14:23:20 7 blowing off the trains and blowing from the terminal
14:23:22 8 where coal will be piled 85 feet high.

14:23:26 9 According to the World Health Organization,
14:23:27 10 there is no safe level of diesel pollution and there
14:23:31 11 is no safe level of mercury, a toxic component of coal
14:23:38 12 dust.

14:23:38 13 Are we going to allow this to happen to our
14:23:41 14 families, our grandchildren, and to Longview? Will we
14:23:42 15 ask ourselves how did this happen? This is what coal
14:23:46 16 towns like Newport, Virginia and Mobile, Alabama are
14:23:51 17 asking now after it's too late.

14:23:53 18 Please acknowledge in the Final EIS that
14:23:58 19 there are no safe levels of diesel pollution and there
14:24:01 20 are no safe levels of mercury. I ask that you keep
14:24:02 21 Longview safe and keep our families safe. Deny this
14:24:06 22 application. Thank you.

14:24:09 23 EVENT HOST: Thank you.

14:24:11 24 Next speaker, please.

14:24:15 25 SPEAKER 19: I didn't really plan on speaking

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14:24:25 1 today. I'm against the coal thing but what really
14:24:31 2 bothers me is I had a phone call this morning. It was
14:24:34 3 a robocall, and it was supporting the coal industry,
14:24:38 4 and then there was supposed to be a meal at four
14:24:41 5 o'clock in Room C. It's bad enough to get the
14:24:46 6 robocall for the political time of year, but it just
14:24:49 7 kind of threw me that it would be from that particular
14:24:55 8 group at this time.

14:24:56 9 So best of luck folks. Thank you.

14:25:10 10 SPEAKER 20: Hi there. I'm here representing

14:25:13 11 Washington and Oregon Physicians for Social
14:25:13 12 Responsibility.
14:25:17 13 Three quick things. Number one, I believe
14:25:18 14 that the estimate of the particle pollution from the
14:25:23 15 trains is a poor estimate because it's based on the
14:25:27 16 assumption that there is going to be three locomotives
14:25:30 17 for every coal train. Every coal train I've seen has
14:25:32 18 had four or five locomotives, so I would reassess the
14:25:37 19 contribution of the air pollution which can be deadly
14:25:39 20 from these locomotives.

14:25:43 21 Secondly, there is a new assessment on health
14:25:45 22 and safety implications of coal transport done by an
14:25:48 23 incredible panel that was put together through Oakland
14:25:52 24 who was considering a much smaller enclosed terminal
14:25:57 25 with coal trains that were going to be coming. They

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14:26:01 1 claim they would be covered trains. So, even with a
14:26:06 2 closed terminal and covered trains, the public health
14:26:10 3 panel thought this would be a very bad idea. All of
14:26:12 4 the best literature is here and it's referenced, and I
14:26:17 5 leave it for you to enjoy.

14:26:18 6 And lastly, it's really your job to look
14:26:23 7 broadly. I live in Oregon. I live in Multnomah
14:26:23 8 County, the most populous county in the state.
14:26:29 9 There's going to be coal trains coming from the Uinta

14:26:31 10 Basin through Eastern Oregon and along the south side
14:26:34 11 of the Columbia River through our county.

14:26:37 12 You probably haven't read all of the SEPA
14:26:43 13 comments, but I wish you would look at them because
14:26:46 14 you'll find a statement from the chair of my county,
14:26:46 15 Chair Deborah Kafoury says in part, The MBT plan to
14:26:56 16 export 44 million metric tons of coal each year poses
14:26:58 17 an acute risk to the residents of Multnomah County,
14:27:01 18 and I urge you to oppose the project. I have serious
14:27:07 19 concerns of fossil fuels transferred in our state will
14:27:13 20 further exacerbate environmental injustices faced by
14:27:14 21 vulnerable communities living near the rail.

14:27:16 22 She attaches a Multnomah County Health
14:27:20 23 Department analysis from February of 2013 that finds
14:27:24 24 that almost one-third of all of the county's
14:27:27 25 population lives within two kilometers of the rail

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14:27:28 1 lines that carry coal, and that about one in nine
14:27:32 2 county residents live within 500 meters of these rail
14:27:36 3 lines. The demographics of the area for the people of
14:27:39 4 color make up a larger portion of population in areas
14:27:41 5 near rail lines than they do in the county as a whole.
14:27:46 6 Communities of color are already disproportionately
14:27:49 7 affected. So I ask you to look at those documents,

14:27:53 8 please. Thank you.

14:27:55 9 EVENT HOST: Thank you.

14:27:57 10 Our next speaker.

14:28:03 11 SPEAKER 21: Hello. My name is Therese

14:28:26 12 Livella, and I live in La Center, Washington.

14:28:29 13 Much of the information that I will be

14:28:31 14 referencing was originally reported by Ashley Ahern in

14:28:33 15 June of 2016 for EarthFix.

14:28:36 16 In 2009, a BNSF representative testified

14:28:43 17 before a federal review board. He was asked how much

14:28:43 18 coal dust escapes from each coal train car during a

14:28:48 19 400-mile trip. His answer, 645 pounds per car.

14:28:53 20 Since that time, coal companies have been

14:28:55 21 required to apply a surfactant to coal trains before

14:29:00 22 they leave the mines to reduce dust.

14:29:00 23 Courtney Wallace, a BNSF spokesperson said,

14:29:07 24 BNSF has a vested interest to ensure shippers are in

14:29:10 25 compliance with our coal-loading rule as coal dust

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14:29:13 1 poses a serious threat to the stability of our tracks.

14:29:18 2 BNSF research has shown that the surfactants

14:29:22 3 reduce the coal dust by about 85 percent. The

14:29:27 4 remaining 15 percent amounts to about 100 pounds of

14:29:29 5 dust per car or about 12,500 pounds per train.

14:29:34 6 Using statistics from the article projections

14:29:38 7 from the DEIS, a conservative estimate of 100,000
14:29:42 8 pounds of coal dust will be deposited along the rail
14:29:45 9 lines daily.

14:29:46 10 I think it is fair to assume that 100,000
14:29:49 11 pounds of coal dust will, over time, create stability
14:29:53 12 issues for the rail lines. What really scares me is
14:29:59 13 that volatile Bakken crude oil and other unknown
14:30:01 14 dangerous chemicals are also shipped on those lines.

14:30:03 15 The DEIS concludes that Millennium's coal
14:30:06 16 train traffic will result in approximately one
14:30:10 17 accident every two years. I believe this estimate to
14:30:13 18 be too low because BNSF and rail research on coal dust
14:30:17 19 and rail line stability was omitted.

14:30:18 20 Please go back and study the coal dust
14:30:20 21 effects or better yet choose the no-option
14:30:25 22 alternative. 100,000 pounds of coal dust is unstable
14:30:27 23 no matter which way the wind blows. Thank you.

14:30:36 24 SPEAKER 22: Hi. Can you hear me? My name
14:30:55 25 is Elisabeth Love.

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14:30:56 1 For about ten years, I was the Executive
14:31:00 2 Director of Children's Aid Society in Clearfield
14:31:04 3 County in Pennsylvania in the Appalachian Mountains.
14:31:08 4 We provided five daycare sites and Head Start programs

14:31:14 5 throughout the county. The children and the senior
14:31:20 6 citizens of the county experienced among the highest
14:31:24 7 ratio of asthma in Pennsylvania. This led to painful
14:31:34 8 experiences for young children frightened by not being
14:31:38 9 able to breathe and costly, traumatizing experiences
14:31:44 10 for parents dealing with midnight emergency room
14:31:44 11 visits.

14:31:51 12 I was very curious and concerned about
14:31:54 13 excessive asthma rates for sensitive populations. I
14:32:00 14 researched the issue and learned that the cause was
14:32:07 15 the mining and the transporting, and the burning of
14:32:13 16 coal. It has been claimed that this project is safe
14:32:19 17 because visual inspection didn't reveal any problems.
14:32:26 18 However, coal operations and transport generate
14:32:34 19 inhalable particulate matter between two and a half to
14:32:48 20 ten measurements from dust off the coal itself as well
14:32:52 21 as emissions from transportation, whether train or
14:32:56 22 truck. Visual inspection does not suffice for risk
14:33:01 23 assessment.

14:33:03 24 Air quality monitoring to obtain accurate
14:33:06 25 measurements of coarse and fine particulates is

14:33:11 1 necessary. Coal particulates and diesel emissions
14:33:19 2 produced along rail lines or near the Longview coal
14:33:22 3 terminal would contribute to environmental and health

14:33:26 4 problems causing more difficult costly cases of asthma
14:33:32 5 among the sensitive population, and coal operations
14:33:37 6 contribute to climate change diminishing the quality
14:33:42 7 of life and productivity.

14:33:43 8 Please reconsider the whole perspective of
14:33:47 9 mining, transporting, and processing huge amounts of
14:33:50 10 coal and support renewable energy projects. Thank
14:33:56 11 you.

14:33:59 12 SPEAKER 23: Hi. My name is Tracy
14:34:09 13 (inaudible), and I live here in Ridgefield.

14:34:11 14 Your president and commander in chief
14:34:15 15 considers climate change a greater threat than
14:34:19 16 terrorism. Why does your DEIS not address the global
14:34:21 17 impact of burning fossil fuels on climate change?

14:34:25 18 Exxon's own scientists confirmed this link
14:34:28 19 over 35 years ago.

14:34:30 20 Greenhouse gas emissions are warming the
14:34:32 21 planet which melts sea ice and glaciers. Less ice
14:34:36 22 means less white reflecting the sun's energy out of
14:34:44 23 our atmosphere. Blue oceans and brown earth warm the
14:34:46 24 planet further. This is one of the many feedback
14:34:48 25 loops which burning coal will only exacerbate.

14:34:51 1 You must consider the global impacts to

14:34:54 2 climate change that this terminal promises. Thank

14:35:05 3 you.

14:35:12 4 Speaker 24: Good afternoon. My name is

14:35:15 5 Meredith Long. I live in Vancouver, Washington.

14:35:17 6 I have lived in the Pacific Northwest for

14:35:21 7 probably 37 years. I came from the East Coast where

14:35:24 8 it is extremely polluted, and I came out anticipating

14:35:29 9 just a beautiful, natural setting. When I first moved

14:35:34 10 here, it was kind of like that. Now I'm very

14:35:39 11 disappointed that these energy projects come to an

14:35:43 12 area which is really one of the best ones in the

14:35:48 13 country.

14:35:48 14 I believe that the US Army Corps of Engineers

14:35:51 15 is probably satisfied with their study, and they

14:35:56 16 believe that the impacts will not be too (inaudible),

14:36:03 17 but the mitigations they have suggested do not seem to

14:36:06 18 be adequate for the dangers from this project.

14:36:11 19 Once the destruction of habitat occurs along

14:36:16 20 the areas where the project will be built, the species

14:36:21 21 that depend on that habitat will not come back.

14:36:27 22 In addition, the treaty rights of all of the

14:36:30 23 tribes along the river will be affected by the impacts

14:36:34 24 to the fish.

14:36:40 25 Pollution from uncovered railcars will also

14:36:43 1 add to the air pollution and water pollution. I
14:36:47 2 myself have gone along by the railroad tracks near
14:36:51 3 Stevenson and found the coal that comes off of the
14:36:55 4 trains.
14:36:57 5 BNSF Railway has been dragging its feet for
14:37:02 6 four years. They refuse to cover the coal cars, and
14:37:05 7 so I believe that if this project goes through, we
14:37:09 8 cannot rely on the railroads to do the right thing.
14:37:13 9 They probably will not cover the coal cars.
14:37:18 10 I also fear very much a derailment such as
14:37:22 11 similar in Mosier and the possible dumping of all of
14:37:29 12 that coal in the river. I also feel that the people
14:37:34 13 who live near the project will be adversely affected
14:37:38 14 by all of the fumes and the coal dust and the noise
14:37:42 15 pollution, et cetera. They deserve also to be
14:37:47 16 considered in a much better way than the US Army Corps
14:37:50 17 of Engineers has done.
14:37:51 18 I remember a long time ago my aunt and uncle
14:37:54 19 used coal to burn and keep their house warm and, when
14:37:59 20 I was a little girl, I thought that was kind of a
14:38:03 21 thing of the past. It reminded me of England and the
14:38:07 22 coal smog that invaded England during the 1800s, and I
14:38:12 23 think we need to move beyond that to clean energy to
14:38:18 24 keeping our health better by cleaner air and clean
14:38:22 25 water and to keep this beautiful area, especially the

14:38:29 1 Columbia River Gorge and the Longview area, beautiful

14:38:31 2 and pristine and as safe as possible.

14:38:35 3 Please consider not allowing this project to

14:38:39 4 go through. Thank you.

14:38:42 5 EVENT HOST: Thank you.

14:38:43 6 Our next speaker.

14:38:46 7 SPEAKER 25: Good evening. I'm a retired

14:39:04 8 physician, and I have an interesting perspective.

14:39:09 9 I grew up in coal country back in Western

14:39:13 10 Pennsylvania and then went to medical school in

14:39:18 11 Philadelphia when they were making the pioneer studies

14:39:21 12 on silicosis, which is one of the worst kind of lung

14:39:28 13 damage that you can get.

14:39:30 14 Now everybody has been so earnest here and I

14:39:34 15 think, as a physician, I need to say Mark Twain once

14:39:38 16 said that the two things that you needed to be a

14:39:42 17 successful physician were ignorance and confidence.

14:39:48 18 So I have a little bit more experience. I don't have

14:39:52 19 to deal with total ignorance.

14:39:55 20 I have lived along the Columbia River for

14:39:57 21 about 50 years and I'd say when the coal dust, it's a

14:40:03 22 local phenomenon, that there are some places where the

14:40:09 23 wind currents will really strip the coal from the

14:40:11 24 cars, but taking -- going other places where there was

14:40:16 25 no coal dust. And so it's been which way the wind is

14:40:22 1 blowing at that time.

14:40:23 2 And so then the other thing that I wanted to

14:40:26 3 comment on was that are we not likely to be back here

14:40:32 4 30 years from now saying nobody wants to buy our coal?

14:40:38 5 Because how many of you people live in a house that is

14:40:41 6 heated by coal now? It used to be common. Before

14:40:46 7 that, it was sawdust.

14:40:48 8 So, anyhow, I wanted to -- the other thing

14:40:50 9 that I wanted to mention was that just as the name of

14:40:56 10 the town here, we need to take the long view of where

14:41:02 11 this is going.

14:41:04 12 Thank you very much for your time.

14:41:21 13 SPEAKER 26: Good afternoon. My name is

14:41:24 14 Catherine (inaudible), and I live in Clark County.

14:41:27 15 I was in Longview yesterday, and I was

14:41:31 16 dismayed and offended to be told by Millennium job

14:41:35 17 supporters to go home, that what is being proposed in

14:41:39 18 their community is none of my business.

14:41:42 19 Actually it is my business and the business

14:41:46 20 of all of us in the wider community of the Pacific

14:41:50 21 Northwest to make sure that the Army Corps hears loud

14:41:54 22 and clear that the DEIS for this terminal has left us

14:41:59 23 out.

14:42:01 24 Despite the positive spin by Millennium, the

14:42:04 25 terminal has negative impacts not addressed in the

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14:42:09 1 DEIS. Particularly related to the rail communities

14:42:12 2 and to the tribes whose livelihoods, cultural

14:42:17 3 traditions, present and future, depend on the health

14:42:20 4 and wellbeing of the Columbia River.

14:42:22 5 I understand the motive of the Washington

14:42:25 6 jobs campaign promoted locally, but driven by far away

14:42:30 7 investors who knowingly and deliberately are

14:42:35 8 exploiting local economic hardship for short-term

14:42:39 9 invested profits.

14:42:42 10 There is no way that the Army Corps can

14:42:47 11 faithfully fulfill its mission statement of using,

14:42:49 12 quote, sustainability as a guiding principle, unquote,

14:42:52 13 without taking into account the environmental

14:42:56 14 protection and justice issues currently minimized or

14:43:00 15 ignored by the current DEIS.

14:43:04 16 Please widen your scope to include negative

14:43:06 17 impacts to health, safety, and environmental

14:43:07 18 protection in rail communities and to the tribes in

14:43:10 19 particular. When you do that, I am confident you will

14:43:15 20 have to decide no action on this proposal. Thank you

14:43:19 21 for your time.

14:43:30 22 SPEAKER 27: Good afternoon. My name is Edie

14:43:33 23 Cotton. I'm a 40-year resident of Clark County.

14:43:38 24 Prior to that, I'm from the Chicago area.

14:43:43 25 I now know what permanent industrialization

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14:43:46 1 looks like. I don't think that permanent

14:43:51 2 industrialization promises permanent jobs. So I would

14:43:56 3 like to dust off the history books for just a couple

14:44:01 4 of moments and ask you if you remember the name of

14:44:09 5 Edgar Yip Harberg. He is the man who put the rainbow

14:44:13 6 in the Wizard of Oz. He wrote a song and it was a

14:44:20 7 social justice song, and it goes something like this.

14:44:25 8 Bear with me.

14:44:28 9 Once I built a railroad, made it run, made it

14:44:36 10 race against time. Once I built a railroad, now it's

14:44:44 11 done but can you spare a dime?

14:44:50 12 So what I'm saying is that the industrial

14:44:56 13 role of production is what has gotten us into the

14:44:59 14 problem of global warming and climate change, and we

14:45:04 15 do not serve ourselves, our nations, the world if we

14:45:10 16 forget history.

14:45:12 17 We need permanent jobs, ones that are

14:45:18 18 attached to a green way of thinking, one that protects

14:45:23 19 our beautiful world, and promises our children and

14:45:30 20 grandchildren and great-grandchildren a future. Thank

14:45:33 21 you.

14:45:41 22 SPEAKER 28: Good afternoon. My name is
14:45:48 23 Peter Frothingham.
14:45:48 24 I come before you today opposing granting any
14:45:50 25 and all permits for the Millennium Bulk coal facility.

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14:45:55 1 The Corps of Engineers' responsibility for
14:45:59 2 pollution prevention of the nation's waterways may be
14:46:03 3 more focused on military installations. That same
14:46:08 4 responsibility must be exercised in considering the
14:46:10 5 permits for the Millennium coal facility.
14:46:14 6 Studies, now nearly ten years old,
14:46:19 7 unequivocally establish that the leaching from outdoor
14:46:21 8 coal piles carries toxic minerals and other toxins
14:46:27 9 into groundwater and nearby waterways. Those studies
14:46:31 10 were carried out in eastern and midwestern states
14:46:35 11 where the amount of rainfall fueling that leaching is
14:46:39 12 typically less than the 46 inches of rainfall in
14:46:42 13 Longview. Climate change is likely to further
14:46:46 14 increase the annual rainfall in Longview. No means
14:46:50 15 have been found to prevent the pollution of the
14:46:55 16 groundwater and nearby waterways.
14:46:58 17 The Corps must deny any and all permits for
14:47:03 18 this facility in order to meet its responsibility for
14:47:08 19 preventing pollution and protecting the nation's water

14:47:10 20 resources. Thank you.

14:47:14 21 EVENT HOST: Thank you.

14:47:15 22 We'll have the next speaker. If anyone

14:47:24 23 wishes to speak, please come to the speaker lineup.

14:47:29 24 SPEAKER 29: Good afternoon. My name is

14:47:38 25 Alona Steinke. I'm a retired RN from Vancouver.

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14:47:41 1 I'm here to remind you that allowing the coal

14:47:45 2 terminal in Longview does not just affect the people

14:47:47 3 living there. It greatly affects everyone along the

14:47:50 4 train route from Montana to Longview. It is not right

14:47:55 5 to limit your scope to the immediate area of the

14:47:59 6 terminal.

14:47:59 7 The uncovered coal cars are seriously

14:48:02 8 detrimental to our air quality. Daniel Jaffe, a

14:48:05 9 professor of Atmospheric and Environment Chemistry at

14:48:08 10 the University of Washington measured diesel

14:48:13 11 particulate matter and coal dust released by the coal

14:48:15 12 trains that currently travel the railways along the

14:48:15 13 Columbia River Gorge.

14:48:21 14 After measuring emissions from 367 trains

14:48:25 15 over a two-month period, the scientists found that

14:48:30 16 diesel-powered coal trains emit twice as much

14:48:34 17 particulate matter as diesel-powered freight trains

14:48:37 18 and coal dust made up approximately half of the coal

14:48:37 19 train emissions.
14:48:43 20 BNSF claims that applying surfactant to the
14:48:47 21 top of the coal results in an 85 percent decrease in
14:48:51 22 coal train dust. Nearly all of the coal trains in the
14:48:54 23 Jaffe study emitted coal dust even though they had
14:48:58 24 already traveled more than 900 miles from the Powder
14:49:02 25 River Basin. Four of the coal trains that served in

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14:49:04 1 the study emitted such large plumes of dust that they
14:49:06 2 were called Super Dusters. At that rate, over the
14:49:10 3 course of a year we could expect 24 Super Duster
14:49:13 4 trains passing through the region.

14:49:17 5 Jo-Ellen Darcy, Assistant Secretary of the
14:49:18 6 Army for Civil Works, says regarding the 2016 budget,
14:49:23 7 The budget enables the Corps to carry out its
14:49:29 8 important missions while advancing key administration
14:49:30 9 initiatives, to increase renewable energy production,
14:49:34 10 and reduce greenhouse gas impacts.

14:49:37 11 How can you obtain these objectives by
14:49:41 12 allowing this project to go forward?

14:49:44 13 SPEAKER 30: Thank you. My name is Melvin
14:49:59 14 Stents. I live in Longview, Washington.

14:50:02 15 I come here just armed with a sign and a blue
14:50:06 16 T-shirt and just a little bit of common sense and

14:50:13 17 logic. We need jobs up there. The place has turned
14:50:19 18 into a third world country. I hate to say it. I come
14:50:24 19 from Vancouver to Longview. It's a beautiful town,
14:50:28 20 but they need jobs. It's gone downhill since I've
14:50:30 21 been there. I don't work anymore so I don't need a
14:50:31 22 job, I don't have a dog in this fight. Just we need
14:50:35 23 some jobs, and we need some people getting back to
14:50:38 24 work so they can support their families. Thank you.
14:50:50 25 SPEAKER 31: Thank you. My name is Sheryl

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14:51:04 1 Crooks, and right now I live in Portland, Oregon.
14:51:06 2 I have spent much time in and have lived in
14:51:10 3 several places in Washington and the Gorge and always
14:51:15 4 returned. That is why I call it the Gorgeous. I have
14:51:19 5 also spent much time in Eastern Washington and Oregon
14:51:29 6 hiking, climbing, rafting, wildcrafting herbs, and
14:51:29 7 camping. The reason why I'm sharing this story is
14:51:33 8 because of another story.
14:51:35 9 I have felt the power of the wind and have
14:51:40 10 felt this during a raging fire several times. It is
14:51:45 11 absolutely amazing and terrifying, especially if you
14:51:50 12 have children in your car, how fast fire can travel.
14:51:56 13 Even when I and other trucks were flooring it, the
14:52:01 14 flames hopped and flew all the way toward the Columbia
14:52:05 15 River.

14:52:06 16 In my mind, I'm looking at the situation of
14:52:10 17 odds and chances. The more railcars of coal there
14:52:16 18 are, the more chances for derailments, accidents, and
14:52:18 19 spills. The more inevitable fires in the west along
14:52:23 20 with the powerful winds, the more chances for a
14:52:26 21 collision of destructive forces and a release of toxic
14:52:29 22 fumes into the environment affecting all life around.

14:52:33 23 When a fast moving fire, which I have been
14:52:36 24 sandwiched in between one time, descends upon one or a
14:52:41 25 group, it happens quickly with little time to decide

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14:52:44 1 an escape route. How can these slower moving long
14:52:49 2 trains deal with a disaster like this? They just
14:52:51 3 can't turn around and run home. This might sound like
14:52:56 4 a nightmare scenario, but it is not completely out of
14:53:02 5 the range of possibility. What a nightmare it would
14:53:05 6 be for every living being including animals and the
14:53:09 7 fire department if they had to deal with a catastrophe
14:53:10 8 like this.

14:53:14 9 This may sound like a small brick in the wall
14:53:16 10 of all the reasons why this project should not
14:53:19 11 proceed, but it is another brick in the wall. Please
14:53:22 12 consider all of the reasons presented from the
14:53:25 13 beginning to the end and lay this project to rest

14:53:28 14 before the nightmare happens.

14:53:43 15 EVENT HOST: Once again we're calling anyone

14:53:44 16 that has not had an opportunity to take their two

14:53:47 17 minutes and speak on the issue.

14:54:06 18 SPEAKER 32: Thank you for being here. My

14:54:13 19 name is Doug Stevens. I grew up in Washington. I

14:54:13 20 currently live in Portland, Oregon.

14:54:17 21 My stepgrandfather was a coal miner and he

14:54:22 22 died from black lung sucking on an oxygen tank, so I'm

14:54:23 23 very aware of the impact that this has on individual

14:54:26 24 lives. I'm absolutely opposed to the project, all

14:54:28 25 permits should be denied.

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14:54:30 1 The thing that comes up for me is that I'm

14:54:31 2 outraged at how these projects pits neighbor against

14:54:34 3 neighbor and ask so little of the companies trying to

14:54:37 4 force the projects on us.

14:54:39 5 I want the people in blue to have jobs. I'm

14:54:41 6 with them in that regard. I'm also with the people in

14:54:41 7 red because you really have to pay attention to the

14:54:45 8 impact that this has. I think that we should all be

14:54:48 9 in this together and not against each other when we're

14:54:52 10 trying to get something that's actually beneficial for

14:54:53 11 everyone and at the same time not sacrificing things

14:54:55 12 that are important such as the environment, the beauty

14:54:59 13 of the Gorge, the fish, you name it. All of the
14:55:01 14 things that coal dust and the coal trains would
14:55:04 15 impact.

14:55:04 16 And the travesty here is that the terminal is
14:55:07 17 not just a terminal. The terminal is part of a larger
14:55:10 18 project but, once again, we've broken it down into
14:55:12 19 little pieces, and you've got a situation where you
14:55:15 20 feel, well, that's the terminal, that's what they do.
14:55:18 21 Well, you know what, it's the guys in the red, that's
14:55:18 22 their problem.

14:55:19 23 No, the whole thing is a whole project. We
14:55:23 24 have to stop treating it like it's one individual
14:55:25 25 piece, it all comes together. And we have to pay

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14:55:28 1 attention to the fact that, yeah, I see you cite that
14:55:31 2 coal dust is down 50 percent, but that's still coal
14:55:34 3 dust. Let's not minimize it saying it's a cup of coal
14:55:36 4 that's going to be alongside the road. That is
14:55:39 5 disingenuous. There's a lot of coal dust over a lot
14:55:41 6 of time. Sixteen cars a day down the entire track
14:55:45 7 length through the Gorge.

14:55:47 8 Let's stop pretending like that's doesn't
14:55:50 9 have an impact, and let's stop pretending like we
14:55:52 10 should be put in a position where we have to choose

14:55:56 11 jobs over our health or we have to choose jobs over
14:56:00 12 our environment. Why can't we have both?
14:56:02 13 That's where you guys come into play. You're
14:56:04 14 there people that have to be the ones that act on
14:56:11 15 behalf of the people, of both of these people. Help
14:56:11 16 us to understand that we're actually together and that
14:56:14 17 we have to act as one so the corporations don't get to
14:56:17 18 do whatever they want, whenever they want, and dictate
14:56:19 19 to us how this all goes. Thank you.

14:56:24 20 EVENT HOST: Thank you. Please hold the
14:56:27 21 applause. One moment please. Thank you again. We
14:57:02 22 appreciate your attention to the ground rules and your
14:57:05 23 participation today. We are experiencing a lack in
14:57:11 24 speakers on the project.

14:57:12 25 At this time, we will take a 20-minute break,

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14:57:15 1 and we are going to continue this public hearing until
14:57:20 2 nine o'clock tonight. You will get the one
14:57:24 3 opportunity to address the Corps today, but certainly
14:57:26 4 you're welcome to spread the word, and we'll reconvene
14:57:31 5 at 3:15. Thank you.

14:57:35 6 (A recess was taken from 2:57 p.m. to
14:57:35 7 3:16 p.m.)

15:17:00 8 EVENT HOST: It's 3:15. We will reconvene
15:17:04 9 the public hearing. If you would like to speak,

15:17:09 10 please come to the front speaker lineup and you'll
15:17:12 11 have two minutes per speaker. State your name and
15:17:20 12 your county of residence. Thank you.

15:17:24 13 SPEAKER 33: Good afternoon, Commission.
15:17:46 14 Thank you very much for having me. My name is Ty
15:17:51 15 Stober of Vancouver City Council. I'm here on behalf
15:17:51 16 of the Council.

15:17:57 17 Vancouver City Council first raised some
15:17:59 18 concern about the terminal in 2012 and asking for
15:18:04 19 those concerns to be brought into the process. With
15:18:09 20 this now coming to fruition two weeks ago or a week
15:18:15 21 ago at our council meeting, we increased our position
15:18:21 22 from concern to one of opposition. We have a concern
15:18:29 23 that adding 16 unit trains to our rail system in
15:18:36 24 Vancouver creates a pretty significant impact that's
15:18:40 25 not being addressed through mitigation.

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15:18:43 1 We have 27 at-grade crossings, 13 of which
15:18:49 2 provides sole access to properties on the other side
15:18:53 3 and therefore, you know, mile, mile-and-a-half long
15:19:00 4 trains pose an emergency response concern to our
15:19:04 5 community.

15:19:05 6 We are very much aware that we are a rail
15:19:08 7 community but, at the same time, we have to make sure

15:19:12 8 that we are properly addressing the concerns of our
15:19:17 9 citizens through this process.

15:19:19 10 So, again, thank you very much. If it hasn't
15:19:24 11 been already, our resolution will be submitted as part
15:19:28 12 of your documentation. Thank you. Have a great day.

15:19:34 13 EVENT HOST: Thank you.

15:19:35 14 Next speaker, please.

15:19:38 15 SPEAKER 32: Hello. My name is Dell
15:19:50 16 Goldsmith. Do you need my full address? I live in
15:19:57 17 Portland, Oregon, and I have for many years.

15:20:01 18 Do you want to say your name? This is my
15:20:04 19 moral support.

15:20:09 20 I want to say, first of all, as a worker
15:20:12 21 myself and my husband and my children, I support jobs.
15:20:17 22 I support jobs all along the rail lines. Many towns
15:20:22 23 will negatively be affected by this project. These
15:20:26 24 are often jobs that have been in the community and in
15:20:29 25 families for years and have years more life left in

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15:20:34 1 them, but who wants to eat in a cafe or spend time in
15:20:38 2 a hardware store or a grocery store or other business
15:20:42 3 near these mines, facilities, and rail lines,
15:20:46 4 facilities that are in danger of spreading dust and
15:20:51 5 particulates and pollution of many kinds? Who wants
15:20:55 6 to send their children or grandchildren to school or

15:21:00 7 playgrounds bathed in coal dust, diesel fumes, and
15:21:02 8 particulates? Who wants to eat fish, should there be
15:21:07 9 any left, from water polluted by these industries,
15:21:10 10 from sea bottoms and bay bottoms churned up by the
15:21:16 11 huge ships needed to carry this coal to Asia or
15:21:20 12 wherever it is being sold with the majority of the
15:21:23 13 profits going to the top? Who wants to cause damage
15:21:27 14 to tribal lands and waters that have been home to
15:21:30 15 people for thousands of years?

15:21:33 16 We must take care of the Earth, the whole
15:21:36 17 Earth. Coal burned in Asia damages the worldwide
15:21:40 18 climate, worldwide water and fish and people, not just
15:21:46 19 for us but for or Asian brothers and sisters.

15:21:50 20 Devote our resources to preservation of the
15:21:55 21 Earth and its climate, programs of job creation in
15:21:59 22 clean energy with a future, not a dying industry like
15:22:03 23 coal.

15:22:04 24 EVENT HOST: Thank you.

15:22:07 25 Our next speaker, please.

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15:22:16 1 SPEAKER 33: Would you be so kind as to tell
15:22:35 2 me when I have 30 seconds left?

15:22:38 3 EVENT HOST: Sure.

15:22:39 4 SPEAKER 33: Thank you. My name is Anita

15:22:42 5 Thomas. I live in Vancouver just down the road.
15:22:46 6 Distinguished Corps of Engineers, Hearing
15:22:50 7 Officers, I would like to point out to you that you
15:22:54 8 are holding this hearing in Clark County which is some
15:22:59 9 distance from the area that you have designated for
15:23:05 10 the scope of your EIS. I think the very fact that
15:23:10 11 you're having this hearing here already concedes that
15:23:16 12 the impact of this proposed coal terminal extends far
15:23:22 13 beyond that very limited area that you have
15:23:27 14 designated, and I hope you will expand it because in
15:23:31 15 Vancouver, I too will be affected.

15:23:33 16 I live close to the rails, and I'm
15:23:38 17 particularly worried about what the coal dust does to
15:23:42 18 clog up the rail beds and make them less reliable,
15:23:48 19 that makes them hold more water, and makes the rails
15:23:53 20 more prone to derailment. Not just to the coal trains
15:23:57 21 but to the oil trains and the Amtrak trains that
15:24:00 22 follow them.

15:24:01 23 I would also ask for the port at Longview
15:24:07 24 that you are looking at most specifically that you
15:24:14 25 consider, again, the problem of drafting of these very

15:24:21 1 heavily laden ships that often the Columbia,
15:24:25 2 particularly in dryer years, will not be deep enough
15:24:27 3 to accommodate them.

15:24:29 4 So I hope, with all due consideration, you
15:24:34 5 will eventually conclude that this project is not to
15:24:38 6 be recommended. Thank you.

15:24:56 7 SPEAKER 34: Hello. My name is Don Mark.
15:24:56 8 This is my county also. I live in the Hough
15:25:00 9 neighborhood, one of the historic neighborhoods in
15:25:06 10 Clark County.

15:25:07 11 We are in spitting distance of the rails, and
15:25:11 12 we feel that the benefits to Longview that might
15:25:19 13 accrue from a coal terminal, while not offsetting the
15:25:25 14 negatives for Cowlitz County and Longview, we have to
15:25:31 15 point out that there are no benefits whatsoever,
15:25:35 16 economic, jobs, any benefits at all for Clark County.
15:25:38 17 And yet miles and miles and miles, 12 miles per day of
15:25:44 18 coal trains, open cars, expelling their dust all over
15:25:50 19 and the diesel fumes, we have to put up with that
15:25:54 20 forever, theoretically every day, 12 miles of coal
15:26:00 21 trains?

15:26:01 22 That's not the vision we have for Vancouver
15:26:04 23 or Clark County or really for Southwest Washington or
15:26:09 24 the State or for the world. We don't have any
15:26:12 25 benefits but yet we have to take all of the risks and

15:26:16 1 all of the negative aspects to our health and

15:26:20 2 aesthetics and just our identity, Vancouver, the

15:26:23 3 oldest city in the Pacific Northwest.

15:26:27 4 Lewis and Clark, if they were to come through

15:26:30 5 now, I don't think they would like to see 12, 14, 16

15:26:35 6 miles of coal trains every single day, nor would the

15:26:38 7 original inhabitants, the Chinook people.

15:26:43 8 We must protect this stuff. We don't need

15:26:47 9 the coal trains in Clark County. Thank you.

15:26:52 10 EVENT HOST: Thank you.

15:27:08 11 We do have an additional speaker. If there's

15:27:10 12 anybody in the audience who has not had an opportunity

15:27:14 13 to speak to the Corps, step forward.

15:27:18 14 Sir, you will be next.

15:27:22 15 SPEAKER 35: Hi. How are you all doing

15:27:28 16 today? Members of the Hearing, I appreciate you being

15:27:31 17 here and listening to us all.

15:27:34 18 Franklin Roosevelt said years ago, In

15:27:38 19 politics, nothing happens by accident.

15:27:38 20 So, before we cast thousands of coal terminal

15:27:42 21 jobs to the wind, let us consider a few points.

15:27:46 22 Opposition of the coal industry stems largely from a

15:27:50 23 famous meeting in 1992 when UN people from around the

15:27:54 24 world met in Brazil and decided how people in

15:28:00 25 Southwest Washington should live. This international

15:28:02 1 treaty called the Sustainable Development Act was

15:28:05 2 adopted and signed into law by George Bush, Sr.

15:28:10 3 At first, I welcomed the young and idealistic

15:28:12 4 who were willing to dedicate themselves to saving the

15:28:17 5 Earth but, when entire industries are shut down over

15:28:20 6 an unknown bird or frog, we have to ask ourselves why.

15:28:26 7 Global warming, ozone holes, population

15:28:29 8 growth, species extinction are all new H-bombs waiting

15:28:34 9 to explode. Now we are fighting a new enemy, man the

15:28:38 10 destroyer. And what makes these movements so

15:28:43 11 appealing is the grain of truth within their

15:28:46 12 arguments.

15:28:47 13 Let these college professors in the past

15:28:51 14 extoll the virtue of everything cognizant and now have

15:28:54 15 become experts in ecology. And, just as before, they

15:28:57 16 found the enemy right here at home, middle-class

15:29:01 17 Americans with the business they built and the jobs

15:29:04 18 they created. Washington State needs to run

15:29:08 19 Washington business without the help from the United

15:29:08 20 Nations.

15:29:11 21 I hope common sense will prevail, and you

15:29:13 22 will preserve mankind's most endangered environmental

15:29:18 23 condition, and that is liberty. Thank you.

15:29:23 24 EVENT HOST: Thank you.

15:29:29 25 Again, if you hold your applause and follow

15:29:33 1 the ground rules.

15:29:34 2 Ma'am, would you like to speak? You'll be

15:29:37 3 next.

15:29:41 4 SPEAKER 36: Hello. Thank you for the

15:29:54 5 opportunity to speak. My name is Pat Fryberg

15:29:57 6 (phonetic) and, before retiring, I was an educator.

15:30:01 7 You're probably familiar with the fact that

15:30:04 8 people learn in different ways. Some are auditory,

15:30:07 9 some are visual, some are tactile. For myself, I

15:30:10 10 found that tactile learning makes the most lasting

15:30:10 11 impression.

15:30:15 12 It's one thing to hear about your neighbor's

15:30:18 13 fir tree blowing down in a windstorm. It's another to

15:30:20 14 watch your neighbor's fir tree blowing down. But,

15:30:25 15 when you look up and see that fir tree coming down

15:30:28 16 next to you, that's an unforgettable tactile

15:30:28 17 experience.

15:30:31 18 After all of the talking and endless

15:30:36 19 listening about coal and coal dust, I decided to go

15:30:38 20 the tactile route. At two o'clock this afternoon, I

15:30:43 21 drove out along the old Evergreen Highway to BNSF

15:30:46 22 Railway and the Columbia River. I stopped at the

15:30:50 23 junction where Silver Springs Lane crosses with the

15:30:54 24 railroad and the Evergreen Highway. I walked over to

15:30:59 25 the crossing and collected some coal dust for your

15:30:59 1 perusal.

15:31:02 2 Our soil is thoroughly drenched from one of
15:31:05 3 the rainiest Octobers. The soil is black, the
15:31:08 4 crossings are lined with pea gravel that is black from
15:31:12 5 rain. There's surrounding black asphalt, and there's
15:31:17 6 also coal dust. It's all the same color and it's
15:31:20 7 mixed in together.

15:31:21 8 I would like you to feel free to touch and
15:31:24 9 smell, but I don't recommend tasting. This isn't a
15:31:28 10 powdery dust. It's granular, the shape and color of
15:31:31 11 poppy seeds. It leaches into our soil and our rivers
15:31:35 12 and our groundwater as well as our air. It carries
15:31:39 13 with it a cocktail of nasty toxins. We want less of
15:31:43 14 it, not more.

15:31:45 15 Part of your mission is to protect the
15:31:47 16 environment, and we are asking you to do so. Thank
15:31:52 17 you.

15:31:58 18 EVENT HOST: Thank you.

15:31:58 19 Mr. Senator.

15:32:07 20 SPEAKER 37: Good afternoon. I'm State
15:32:11 21 Senator Dean Takko from the 19th Legislative District
15:32:13 22 which encompasses Longview. That's where I live. I'm
15:32:18 23 happy to be here. I do support the Millennium
15:32:21 24 project. I wish I had more than two minutes because I

15:32:24 25 do have a lot of comments that I'd like to make on it.

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15:32:27 1 But two of them that I'm really interested in
15:32:28 2 saying is that in one respect, I'm disappointed in
15:32:31 3 this whole process and that it's put restrictions and
15:32:35 4 conditions on this project that you would never see on
15:32:39 5 another project only because of what the product is,
15:32:42 6 and I don't think that that's really fair and part of
15:32:45 7 what we should be doing in this state when we permit
15:32:45 8 things.

15:32:46 9 The other thing I really want to address,
15:32:49 10 I've talked about it a lot lately and, of course, it's
15:32:50 11 campaign season and I'm getting around more than ever,
15:32:54 12 is I'm really disappointed in this state and our
15:32:56 13 permitting system. This project has been --
15:33:00 14 permitting and all has been going on for close to five
15:33:02 15 years, and I can tell you other projects have drug on
15:33:07 16 like this, and I really have a problem as a state
15:33:10 17 senator that should be promoting business and economic
15:33:13 18 activity in the state, I struggle at how I tell
15:33:16 19 somebody to come to the state of Washington and
15:33:19 20 develop a project when you're going to sit there,
15:33:22 21 perhaps, years and years investing money, not having
15:33:26 22 any idea of when you're going to get an answer. It's

15:33:29 23 not that the answer is yes, the answer is no, just
15:33:29 24 give us an answer so we can move forward. That's what
15:33:33 25 business wants.

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15:33:34 1 So that's the thing that I really want to say
15:33:37 2 is let's get this thing going, get an answer whether
15:33:41 3 it's yes, whether it's no. I think Millennium has
15:33:45 4 spent enough time on this project the way it was. As
15:33:46 5 I say, I wish I had a lot more time because I do have
15:33:50 6 a lot of individual things about the EIS that I would
15:33:53 7 like to comment on, but that's for another day I
15:33:57 8 suppose. So thank you very much.

15:34:01 9 EVENT HOST: Thank you for your comments.

15:34:02 10 Again, just to remind folks, we take
15:34:07 11 additional written comments, you can comment online,
15:34:08 12 mail in, through the 29th.

15:34:10 13 Do we have folks that would like to come
15:34:13 14 forward and speak? It looks like we have.

15:34:15 15 Sir, you have two minutes.

15:34:21 16 SPEAKER 38: Hi. My name is Ken Bailey. I
15:34:27 17 live in Longview, Washington, and I work at
15:34:29 18 Millennium.

15:34:30 19 I would like to speak a little bit about the
15:34:33 20 coal dust. I myself live a quarter mile from the rail
15:34:36 21 tracks, and I see the coal trains go by every day. I

15:34:40 22 have a koi fishpond, I have animals, a cat and dog,
15:34:44 23 and I have grandchildren that play on our property
15:34:47 24 every day. I grow tomatoes, potatoes, and the ground
15:34:51 25 at my house is as good as it is anywhere in

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15:34:51 1 Washington.

15:34:57 2 I support Millennium, and I just hope that
15:35:00 3 you get the permits finalized so we can proceed with
15:35:06 4 our project. Thank you.

15:35:09 5 EVENT HOST: Is there anyone else who wishes
15:35:23 6 to speak?

15:35:23 7 You have two minutes.

15:35:26 8 SPEAKER 39: Greetings. My name is Patricia
15:35:26 9 Fulbright (phonetic).

15:35:30 10 I was a teacher for 20 years in Clark County.
15:35:34 11 I'm a concerned community member objecting to this
15:35:39 12 proposal and objecting to the coal trains that will by
15:35:46 13 means of the proposal travel through Clark County.

15:35:50 14 My first concern and objection is that the
15:35:52 15 scope of the Environmental Impact Study is the
15:35:55 16 Longview industrial area only. This is too
15:36:00 17 restrictive because coal doesn't stay there. In fact,
15:36:06 18 the proposal for the export terminal, coal transport
15:36:10 19 trains will travel through the Columbia River Gorge

15:36:15 20 scenic area.

15:36:16 21 Next, my concern is coal dust. Coal dust is
15:36:22 22 airborne and waterborne. It doesn't stay where it
15:36:27 23 falls. My concern is that it not only travels but it
15:36:33 24 accumulates and has an impact on human health. The
15:36:38 25 effect of coal dust on human health as well as on

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15:36:42 1 other living things is harmful, dangerous, pernicious.
15:36:47 2 It's a respiratory risk and a cancer risk. This
15:36:52 3 concerns me especially since coal dust travels. It
15:36:55 4 doesn't stay at the Longview terminal.

15:36:59 5 I have been assured that there is surfactant
15:37:03 6 material sprayed on the coal that will help prevent it
15:37:08 7 from moving away from the train cars and any other
15:37:14 8 area where coal is handled, but there are no
15:37:19 9 guarantees how much or how effective that will be.

15:37:23 10 I want to say again, I am opposed to this
15:37:26 11 project. Thank you for taking my comments.

15:37:32 12 EVENT HOST: Thank you.

15:37:36 13 Our next speaker.

15:37:36 14 SPEAKER 40: Hi. My name is Eric Rosellini.

15:37:47 15 I'm a resident of Longview.

15:37:49 16 Allow me to voice my strong support for the
15:37:51 17 proposed port at Longview. We need to move on as
15:37:57 18 quickly as possible. The Draft EIS is efficient and

15:38:01 19 complete. It's time for progress. Thank you.

15:38:05 20 EVENT HOST: Do we have additional speakers?

15:38:22 21 I believe we have one speaker coming forward, so

15:38:29 22 please step forward.

15:38:48 23 SPEAKER 41: Good afternoon. Thanks for this

15:38:54 24 opportunity to give my testimony. My name is Judy

15:38:58 25 (inaudible), and I live in Portland, Oregon.

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15:39:00 1 I'm here because I care about our area and

15:39:02 2 the potential negative impact to my community.

15:39:06 3 One question I have is why the Corps of

15:39:12 4 Engineers is not taking a broader look as to who the

15:39:13 5 community is that is impacted by this project. Some

15:39:17 6 of the train lines feeding this project go through

15:39:18 7 Oregon and, for that reason, environmental impacts

15:39:23 8 need to be considered for those larger communities

15:39:25 9 that are beyond Longview.

15:39:28 10 It is well known that the coal trains leave

15:39:29 11 coal dust from the open coal cars and toxins in its

15:39:35 12 wake. The coal dust negatively affect the integrity

15:39:38 13 of the rail line and accidents, such as we saw in

15:39:40 14 Mosier, will occur.

15:39:41 15 And besides just those issues, there's the

15:39:45 16 health issues and quality of life issues living along

15:39:52 17 the track and the impact of long train cars that will
15:39:57 18 have an impact on communities as well.
15:40:00 19 I strongly urge the Corp of Engineers as a
15:40:03 20 federal agency to look at the larger regional impacts
15:40:04 21 of this project and not let it go forward. Thank you.
15:40:09 22 EVENT HOST: Thank you.
15:40:12 23 If you're just arriving and you wish to speak
15:40:17 24 and have not had an opportunity, come forward.
15:40:26 25 We'll allow two minutes for your comment.

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15:40:31 1 SPEAKER 42: I wish all lines went that
15:40:37 2 quickly. That was wonderful. My name is Mary Lyons.
15:40:43 3 I live in Longview.
15:40:45 4 I am president of Landowners and Citizens for
15:40:49 5 a Safe Community. We are the group that's locally
15:40:53 6 working to attract cleaner, safer, and more
15:40:56 7 sustainable industry to our region, not just our city
15:41:02 8 but our region.
15:41:02 9 I grew up in Northwest Indiana, a small town
15:41:05 10 30 miles south of Gary. We had many fathers, sons,
15:41:11 11 uncles, and friends go to work in the steel mills of
15:41:13 12 Gary and come back home to die of heart disease, lung
15:41:18 13 cancer, emphysema, and a multitude of other illnesses
15:41:23 14 brought on by environmental damage of industry.
15:41:26 15 In 1988, I was with my mother when she died

15:41:31 16 from what's called a bleedout from lung cancer. A
15:41:35 17 bleedout is when a blood vessel worn and damaged by
15:41:39 18 cancer or COPD bursts inside the lung and the person
15:41:46 19 drowns in their own blood. I take lungs very
15:41:51 20 seriously.

15:41:52 21 I've gone door to door in the Highlands
15:41:57 22 neighborhood, the neighborhood which will be most
15:42:00 23 damaged by the diesel exhaust, noise, and dust from
15:42:03 24 this terminal. I've watched people slowly make their
15:42:08 25 way to the door while pulling their oxygen tanks

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15:42:12 1 behind them. Oftentimes there are small children in
15:42:15 2 the room because so many grandparents, like me,
15:42:18 3 provide childcare so their adult children can work.

15:42:22 4 The low income of the most heavily impacted
15:42:26 5 communities of this project are enough to say no
15:42:30 6 action, and I urge you to step back from the facts and
15:42:36 7 acknowledge that there is human life involved here and
15:42:40 8 honor that. Thank you.

15:42:53 9 SPEAKER 43: My name is Cameron Lee. I live
15:43:04 10 in Brush Prairie, Washington.

15:43:05 11 I was employed for 25 years as US Fish and
15:43:09 12 Wildlife Service wildlife biologist specializing in
15:43:14 13 carnivores as well as the impact of toxins on wildlife

15:43:18 14 and fisheries.

15:43:21 15 I want to come out clearly against this

15:43:26 16 proposal particularly at a time when we know without a

15:43:32 17 doubt that our behavior is impacting the environment.

15:43:35 18 That coal ash contains some of the deadliest toxic

15:43:42 19 metals on Earth including arsenic, lead, mercury,

15:43:44 20 cadmium, chromium, and selenium. There are other

15:43:49 21 toxicants in coal ash that cause cancer and

15:43:53 22 neurological damage in humans. They also harm and

15:43:55 23 kill all kinds of wildlife species all the way up the

15:43:59 24 food chain to us and all the way down to the very

15:44:03 25 smallest possible life form you can imagine,

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15:44:09 1 especially water-dwelling species, that would be

15:44:09 2 impacted if and there likely will be a spill along the

15:44:14 3 water.

15:44:15 4 Coal ash is the second largest industrial

15:44:19 5 waste stream in the US after mining waste. Coal ash

15:44:23 6 is disposed in approximately 2,000 dump sites across

15:44:27 7 the United States. At least 629 wet ash farms, 311

15:44:34 8 dry land power stations, at least 100 offsite dry

15:44:39 9 landfills, and 750 inactive dumps.

15:44:42 10 In addition to hundreds of abandoned and

15:44:45 11 active mines, coal ash dumped likely exists in every

15:44:49 12 single state in the United States due to the

15:44:52 13 widespread use of coal in general. Electricity is the
15:44:58 14 nation's 495 coal-fed power plants and hundreds of
15:45:03 15 industrial borders.

15:45:09 16 After the Tennessee spill, public attention
15:45:11 17 focused at first on the possibility of more
15:45:14 18 catastrophes, but the most common threat that coal ash
15:45:17 19 poses to public health comes from a less dramatic
15:45:19 20 scenario, the slow leakage of toxic pollution from
15:45:24 21 disposal sites such as ponds and landfills. This will
15:45:26 22 impact all of us.

15:45:33 23 Thank you for the opportunity to come out
15:45:33 24 against this proposal.

15:45:34 25 EVENT HOST: Feel free to leave additional

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15:45:34 1 written comments.

15:45:41 2 Our next speaker.

15:45:44 3 SPEAKER 44: I'm Bill Chapman, 4029
15:45:56 4 Industrial Way, Longview. I'm the CEO and president
15:45:58 5 at Millennium Bulk Terminal Longview.

15:46:02 6 Two comments about the Draft EIS. First,
15:46:04 7 we're just delighted that the draft is done and out
15:46:06 8 and open for public comment. We're grateful for the
15:46:06 9 tremendous work done by agencies, staff, and
15:46:14 10 consultants as represented plainly by the 3,400 pages.

15:46:16 11 We're especially pleased, of course, with two
15:46:20 12 significant findings in the Draft. Coal dust is not a
15:46:21 13 significant impact and is expected to meet all
15:46:27 14 applicable standards.

15:46:28 15 More broadly and better yet, both state and
15:46:31 16 federal documents find no significant environmental
15:46:34 17 impact anywhere at the site to the natural environment
15:46:38 18 from operations or from construction. Repeat the air
15:46:42 19 quality, water quality all good, the main business of
15:46:46 20 an EIS.

15:46:48 21 Opponents have asked the questions and now
15:46:50 22 the assessment has been done and the questions have
15:46:54 23 been answered. If complaints continue about dust, we
15:46:54 24 will all know it is just a device to deceive people.

15:46:59 25 The facts do matter. We will not be fooled

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15:47:02 1 by opponents who will not listen to facts.

15:47:05 2 Second, and also significantly addressed, the
15:47:07 3 DEIS took an objective look and find the operation of
15:47:10 4 this site will not cause adverse impacts to fish or
15:47:13 5 tribal resources.

15:47:14 6 These environmental findings are important
15:47:16 7 and particularly important to setting the stage for
15:47:19 8 better economic growth, trade, and jobs in Longview
15:47:24 9 and Cowlitz County while assuring Washington's high

15:47:24 10 environmental standards are met.
15:47:28 11 It's important in Longview that we
15:47:29 12 acknowledge our history and tradition of this
15:47:31 13 strategically designed city with six miles of working
15:47:35 14 waterfront served by dock and rail. We have a
15:47:38 15 business here willing to do the best private-funded
15:47:41 16 infrastructure. Let's not miss this opportunity.
15:47:42 17 I'll close my comments by explaining our
15:47:44 18 purpose statement, Build It Right. It came from a
15:47:50 19 gathering of Millennium employees and management and
15:47:50 20 reflects simply the commitment by our team, all of
15:47:52 21 them, to building the terminal with high efficiency,
15:47:55 22 good jobs, low environmental impacts, and meeting all
15:47:59 23 State standards. The opportunity to build this
15:48:02 24 project and provide these family-wage jobs has waited
15:48:06 25 far too long.

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15:48:07 1 Please help us get across the finish line
15:48:10 2 soon. Thank you.
15:48:12 3 SPEAKER 45: Hi. My name is Frank Patterson.
15:48:26 4 I'm from Longview, Washington.
15:48:29 5 I don't have no speech. I'm just going to
15:48:31 6 speak from the heart which is Longview, Washington is
15:48:34 7 a good little town, but it needs employment. Without

15:48:38 8 employment, we can't grow and we can't live.

15:48:42 9 Millennium Bulk is a good place to work, I

15:48:46 10 work there myself. All I can say is, please, let this

15:48:50 11 go through for us.

15:48:53 12 EVENT HOST: Again, we're open to additional

15:48:59 13 public comments. If you will check in up front, two

15:49:02 14 minutes per speaker.

15:49:07 15 SPEAKER 46: Good afternoon. My name is Liz

15:49:24 16 Pike, and I'm a member of the Washington House of

15:49:29 17 Representatives, and I represent the 18th Legislative

15:49:32 18 District, which is where you are right now.

15:49:34 19 And I just want to lend my support to this

15:49:37 20 project. Unfortunately, in this country, we've seen

15:49:42 21 for a long time there's a war on energy. And I think

15:49:46 22 we need all forms of energy in our country and also in

15:49:51 23 this state.

15:49:52 24 And, when I think about the fact that

15:49:58 25 Millennium Bulk Terminal invested a lot of private

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15:50:00 1 dollars into cleaning up a former brown field site

15:50:04 2 with the idea to bring it back into productive use and

15:50:07 3 be a job producing site, that is phenomenal. And we

15:50:12 4 should be applauding companies that make that kind of

15:50:15 5 investment in our prime industrial properties.

15:50:20 6 I look forward to the day when Millennium

15:50:23 7 Bulk Terminal is actually exporting clean coal into
15:50:26 8 Asian markets where it is a vast commodity.
15:50:30 9 I've been to the coal strip in Wyoming, I've
15:50:32 10 been to a state-of-the-art electric-fired coal plant,
15:50:37 11 and the technology is amazing. And I think we should
15:50:44 12 be embracing that in Washington State and in a county
15:50:47 13 where unemployment is so high, I think this is a good
15:50:51 14 thing. It's going to create not only construction
15:50:55 15 jobs in the short term but hundreds of jobs in the
15:50:59 16 foreseeable future.

15:51:00 17 So I just want to lend my support as a State
15:51:04 18 Representative in Washington to support the forward
15:51:07 19 progress of Millennium Bulk Terminal in Washington.
15:51:10 20 Thank you.

15:51:16 21 SPEAKER 47: Hello. My name is Chris Maitlin
15:51:30 22 (phonetic). I'm a resident in the northwest part of
15:51:30 23 Vancouver.

15:51:34 24 The railroad tracks are less than a half mile
15:51:37 25 from my house, and they would run between where the

15:51:40 1 houses are and the river and eventually Lake
15:51:45 2 Vancouver. I know that you want to focus just on the
15:51:47 3 terminal itself, but there are consequences to the
15:51:51 4 surrounding areas with the increase of the trains and

15:51:53 5 the coal dropping off of those trains all the way
15:51:57 6 along the route. Thank you.

15:51:59 7 SPEAKER 48: Hello. Thank you. I am Rob
15:52:14 8 Rich with Shaver Transportation Company and a Cowlitz
15:52:14 9 County resident.

15:52:18 10 Shaver is a fifth generation family owned tug
15:52:21 11 and barge line that has safely provided ship assist,
15:52:24 12 ship escort, and grain barging services on the
15:52:28 13 Columbia/Snake River system for the past 136 years.
15:52:31 14 We employ 100 people that rely on bulk transport of
15:52:38 15 agricultural and natural resources by ship.

15:52:40 16 Since starting on the river in 1979, I've
15:52:43 17 seen as high as 2,200 ships per year calling local
15:52:49 18 ports. That's not a limit, that's not a capacity.
15:52:50 19 That's just where it was, 2,200 ships per year. We
15:52:54 20 currently have 1,400 ships that arrive annually.
15:52:57 21 There's plenty of capacity for additional vessel
15:53:00 22 traffic associated with this and other projects on our
15:53:03 23 system. Additional ships translate to additional jobs
15:53:06 24 for mariners, tug constructors, support contractors,
15:53:08 25 and port workers.

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15:53:09 1 As a board member of both the Columbia River
15:53:13 2 Steel Ship Operators Association and the Pacific
15:53:15 3 Northwest Waterways Association, I see firsthand the

15:53:17 4 support this terminal has with regional ports,

15:53:20 5 shippers, and vessel operators.

15:53:20 6 Millennium Bulk is a well-known and respected

15:53:25 7 terminal operator on our system. They've stepped up

15:53:27 8 to restore and develop this property where others have

15:53:27 9 failed. Their proposal ships a product that has moved

15:53:32 10 safely and responsibly by rail, barge, and ship for

15:53:36 11 over 100 years in our country and on the West Coast.

15:53:40 12 The Columbia River depends on vessel traffic

15:53:42 13 to support this critical and efficient system.

15:53:42 14 Coast Guard, pilot organizations, tugs,

15:53:49 15 marine incident response, navigation aids have all

15:53:52 16 kept pace with the latest training and equipment. The

15:53:53 17 rivers' safety record reflects this ongoing

15:53:55 18 innovation.

15:53:55 19 We support the findings of the DEIS, the

15:54:00 20 Millennium Bulk project, and believe it's time to

15:54:02 21 approve their applications. Thank you for this

15:54:05 22 opportunity to share.

15:54:07 23 EVENT HOST: And thank you.

15:54:10 24 It's just about five minutes before our four

15:54:12 25 o'clock break. I would just like to remind everyone

15:54:16 1 that the open house will be open through the four

15:54:18 2 o'clock hour, and we will be here back in session from
15:54:23 3 five to nine o'clock. We will still be inviting folks
15:54:28 4 to come address this important issue, NEPA DEIS.

15:54:34 5 In these last five minutes, I would just like
15:54:36 6 to pause and ask again if we have folks present that
15:54:39 7 would like to come and spend two minutes to address
15:54:43 8 the issues?

15:54:48 9 So, at this time, we will recess until five
15:55:05 10 p.m. Thank you.

15:55:06 11 (The proceedings were adjourned at 3:55 p.m.)

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I, Heather Guevarra, a Certified Court Reporter for Washington, pursuant to RCW 5.28.010 authorized to administer oaths and affirmations in and for the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the proceedings were personally held before me at the time and place set forth in the caption hereof; that at said time and place I reported in Stenotype all testimony adduced and other oral proceedings had in the foregoing matter; that thereafter my notes were reduced to typewriting under my direction pursuant to Washington Administrative Code 308-14-135, the transcript preparation format guideline; and that the foregoing transcript, pages 1 to 89, both inclusive, constitutes a full, true and accurate record of all such testimony adduced and oral proceedings had, and of the whole thereof.

Witness my hand and CCR stamp at Vancouver, Washington, this 8th day of November 2016.

HEATHER GUEVARRA
Certified Court Reporter
Certificate No. 3123

