

MILLENNIUM BULK TERMINALS - LONGVIEW  
NEPA DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

PUBLIC COMMENTS - QUIET ROOM

12:00 P.M. to 4:00 P.M.

\* \* \*

CLARK COUNTY EVENT CENTER

17402 N.E. Delfel Road

Vancouver, Washington 98642

October 25, 2016

Cheryl L. Vorhees, CSR, CCR, RPR

Court Reporter

1 VANCOUVER, WASHINGTON, TUESDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2016

2 12:00 p.m.

3 \* \* \*

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

5 SPEAKER 1: My name is Elvin Spence, I

6 live in Longview, Washington, close to the

7 Millennium plant. Go by there every day.

8 Anyway, I was raised around coal. My dad,

9 my brother and I used to walk the railroad tracks in

10 Yakima picking up coal for heating in our house, and

11 never ever had any issues. That's been 65 years ago

12 and I'm still alive. I've never had black lung

13 disease or nothing.

14 But, anyway, Longview needs the work more

15 than they need the rhetoric. There's a certain --

16 any kind of industry that you have, there's going to

17 be downsides to it. The workforce in Longview is

18 comprised of people that have worked hard most of

19 their lives, they are -- manual labor is in their

20 DNA. Millennium will keep their DNA going because

21 it's fuel that needs to be used. Coal is so clean

22 anymore, it is not a health issue.

23 I see these railcars coming down the road.

24 Even in summertime you don't see any dust coming off

25 the them. And at the point of origin they spray

3

1 these cars with a tacky substance that will keep the  
2 dust down. It appears to work, because I don't see  
3 any coal along any of the highway signs, or anywhere  
4 along any of the -- along the Industrial Way where  
5 the Millennium plant is at.

6 If there was an issue with coal, we'd see  
7 wind storms with coal dust in the air. You don't  
8 see it. Even in the summertime when it's breezy  
9 along the river, there's always a breeze there, and  
10 you see absolutely nothing, with the minimal amount  
11 of coal that they have on site now.

12 Anyway, I guess that's about all I've got  
13 to say, is we just need to have some jobs in  
14 Longview. We're not going to get any high-tech.  
15 Apple isn't going to be building a plant there. We  
16 just need to have some kind of work for people to be  
17 able to raise their families in a comfortable way.  
18 Thank you.

19 SPEAKER 2: My name is David Konz, K-O-N-Z  
20 is the last name. I am a Clark County resident, and  
21 I'm reading a statement on behalf of Tide Water  
22 Barge Lines.

23 Tide Water Barge Lines supports the  
24 proposed Millennium Bulk export facility in Longview  
25 that is currently undergoing environmental review.

4

1 Tide Water is a marine transportation and terminal  
2 company based in the Northwest and employs  
3 proximately 27 people. Tide Water has been in  
4 business since 1932 and operates a fleet of towboats  
5 and barges and marine terminals on the Columbia and  
6 Snake River system. Tidewater is committed to  
7 environmental stewardship in the Pacific Northwest  
8 and its waterways.

9 That being said, we have reviewed the  
10 Draft EIS and support the conclusion that the  
11 Millennium Bulk Terminal can be constructed and  
12 operated in a safe and environmentally responsible  
13 manner. We did not identify any major cumulative  
14 impacts from the project. Most impacts noted in the  
15 Draft EIS are either negligible or minor, and can be  
16 mitigated.

17 A few potential major impacts have very  
18 low probability of occurring and planning prevention  
19 response and mitigation activities can reduce or  
20 eliminate the impacts.

21 We now want to comment on the economic

22 impacts of the Millennium Bulk Terminal project.  
23 Tidewater is one of the many companies that account  
24 for nearly 40 percent of all Washington jobs that  
25 are tied to trade activity. With our state's

5

1 economy tied so closely to trade, it is worth noting  
2 that nearly 90 percent of Washington's exports come  
3 from small to medium size business markets with less  
4 than 500 employees.

5 With growing demand for U.S. domestic  
6 goods in the global market, the Millennium Bulk  
7 Terminal project represents an infrastructure  
8 opportunity in which Washington businesses and  
9 workers across the state will significantly benefit.

10 In conclusion, the proposed Millennium  
11 Bulk Terminal project offers an opportunity to  
12 expand our ports, ensure that jobs are created and  
13 preserved, stimulate growth in the local and  
14 regional my economy, and provided our state with a  
15 world class project that will insure environmental  
16 standards are maintained. Higher standards of  
17 living and long-term security for families of  
18 Washington are sure to accompany this project.  
19 Thank you for your consideration and the opportunity

20 to comment on this important matter.

21 SPEAKER 3: My name is Frank Patterson.

22 I'm a resident of Longview, Washington. Moved there  
23 in '78.

24 I've noticed employment going up and down  
25 my whole life as an adult. I believe Millennium

6

1 Bulk will be a great asset to Cowlitz County.

2 Please help us bring Millennium into this area for a  
3 full-time coal export. That's it.

4 SPEAKER 4: Dorethea Simone. I just  
5 wanted to say that as a Registered Nurse in the  
6 past, in my work I have appreciated the fact that  
7 it's even -- even hospitals are cutting back on  
8 staff. So the world is becoming more dangerous  
9 because there is not enough work in some areas. But  
10 I want people to have clean jobs.

11 I met a man yesterday who screamed and  
12 yelled at me and told me to go back where I  
13 belong -- I live in Camas, Washington -- and don't  
14 bother them because they need jobs very badly.

15 But I need you to know that Camas,  
16 Washington, those people need jobs. There are many  
17 people there in poverty. I give to the food bank  
18 all the time. But we have to have safe clean jobs.

19 We can't kill the children by coal dust and all  
20 that -- the pollution in the air. Too many children  
21 have asthma. Any kind of explosion will kill  
22 children, you know, if they're in Camas and  
23 Washougal.

24       So I just wanted to add, I've seen people  
25 devastated with asthma when I worked in the

7

1 hospital, I've seen people broken and injured from  
2 all kinds of disease. But in the coal burning and  
3 coal places where there's lots of coal, people  
4 breathe that in. It doesn't come out of your lungs.  
5 Once you get a tiny particle of coal in the lungs  
6 you're going to have scar tissue. So that needs to  
7 be part of the study, the impacts need to be studies  
8 on the health of our children.

9       And, also, we know that there are -- there  
10 is a problem with lead in the school waters and all  
11 across the country, and in Washington state, too.  
12 So we may have gotten there from coal particles or,  
13 again, pollution from these trains. So that needs  
14 to be studied. So thank you very much.

15       (Concluded at 9:00 p.m.)

16

17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25

8

1           C E R T I F I C A T E

2     I, Cheryl L. Vorhees, Certified Shorthand  
3 Reporter for Oregon and Washington, certify that, at  
4 the time and place set forth in the caption hereof,  
5 I reported in stenotype all testimony adduced and  
6 other oral proceedings had in the foregoing matter,  
7 that thereafter my notes were reduced to typewriting  
8 under my direction; and the foregoing transcript,  
9 Page 1 to 7, both inclusive, constitutes a full,  
10 true and correct record of such testimony adduced  
11 and oral proceedings had and of the whole thereof.

12     Witness my hand and seal at Portland, Oregon,  
13 this 7th day of November, 2016.

14  
15

16

17

Cheryl L. Vorhees

18

Certified Shorthand Reporter

19

CSR No. 08-0409

20

Exp. 09-30-2018

21

22

23

24

25