

RECEIVED

NOV 26 2016

Millennium Bulk Terminals NEPA EIS c/o ICF International
710 Second Avenue
Suite 550
Seattle, WA 98104

RE: Millennium Bulk Terminal NEPA EIS

Gentlemen:

I live in Portland, Oregon and often visit the Columbia River Gorge. We hike and visit wineries, restaurants and museums, and do a little birdwatching. When out of town visitors come to visit, the first place we head for is the Gorge which truly has a bit of everything. A couple of years ago, we were fortunate in having some visitors from Japan who wanted to see wind- and kite-surfing. The Gorge, one of the world's premier spots for that sport, left them thrilled and eager to see more.

As a result of that experience and my years of visiting the Gorge, I feel very concerned about the huge, new coal terminal proposed for Longview. The plan is to ship up to 8 full trainloads of coal through the Gorge every day. In many places, the RR tracks run right along the river bank very, very close to the water. If there were any kind of derailment leading to a coal spill, the coal would spill into the river affecting water quality and the pristine environment that is so important to the Northwest. The result is hard on wildlife, fishermen, nearby residents and small businesses. In addition, coal dust flies off the rail cars as they travel down the Gorge occasionally creating hazardous driving conditions by limiting vision.

The tourist trade in the Columbia River Gorge supports thousands of jobs and many, many small businesses. Coal train traffic through the Gorge puts many of those jobs in jeopardy. One or two mishaps will be enough to discourage tourists and could seriously derail a whole wind-surfing season.

I am further concerned about the greenhouse gases that will be produced by burning this coal once it reaches its destination in Asia. We know that some of the pollution and toxic effects will come right back here to the Pacific Northwest. The United States is right to start phasing out this outdated source of energy. Encouraging others to use it is hypocritical at best - is their health any less important than our own?

A coal terminal will of course provide some jobs, but will put many other jobs, people, and our National Scenic Area at risk. A coal terminal is not a good fit for this area. We all have too much at stake.

The problems of tourism and impacts on related businesses are not adequately addressed in the NEPA DEIS; however, they are important problems that affect many people.

The No Action alternative is the only choice for this terminal until these problems are addressed.

Sincerely,



Stephanie Masson
4075 North Castle
Portland, OR 97227
November 25, 2016

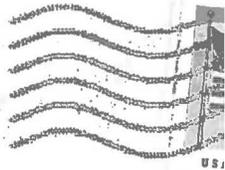
Please save our beautiful
Columbia River Gorge from any possible
destruction. We deeply value nature.

W

Stephanie Walker-Masson
4075 N Castle Ave
Portland, OR 97227

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Millennium Bulb Terminals
NEPA EIS
40 ICF International
710 Second Ave.
Suite 550
Seattle WA 98104

98104-1754