

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

Dear Membes of the Surface Transportation Board

The proposed Millennium Bulk Terminals (MBT) coal export facility in Longview would lead to a dramatic increase in coal train traffic through dozens of Montana, Wyoming, Idaho and Washington communities in order to get coal from Montana and Wyoming mines to the port for shipment to Asia.

This coal train traffic would lead to increased diesel exhaust and coal dust pollution in communities along the tracks, threatening neighbors' health. It would also lead to more traffic congestion and safety hazards, as ambulances and fire engines risk being trapped at rail crossings behind mile-long trains separating them from emergencies.

The draft Environmental Impact Statement does not assess the rail impacts the MBT would have in Wyoming, Montana, and Idaho. The document acknowledges that trains destined for the port will originate in the Powder River Basin and travel through Montana, but does not study the impacts of increased rail transportation outside of the project area. I request that this issue be addressed in the final EIS.

In addition, coal exports would create pressure for new Montana and Wyoming mines, in a region where coal seams are aquifers and increased mining threatens the land, water, and climate. These impacts must be taken into account.

The impacts of building a coal port in Longview would be significant. I urge you to deny the permit for the proposed coal port in Longview.

Sincerely,

David Lehnherr  
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