



May 15, 2016

Department of Ecology, State of Washington

The Spokane Canoe and Kayak Club strongly disagree with the permitting of the Millennium Bulk Coal Terminal in Longview, WA for these reasons:

The issue of multiple mile-long coal trains passing through our community each day degrading the lifestyle of this community with addition transportation backups, noise and pollution is unacceptable.

These trains cross the Spokane River above critical spawning habit for the threatened Spokane Redband trout. Recent examinations of the trestles in that area show significant degradation. A train accident of any kind could destroy this section of the Spokane River for future fish spawning.

The Spokane River is an iconic symbol of our community. It is used by thousands of residents and visitors for recreational boating and fishing.

As the United States and the Pacific Northwest Region tries to tighten our environmental regulations and clean up the mercury in our water and air, it is illogically to send our coal to China. China puts out more mercury pollution than the rest of the world combined. That mercury, sulfate, ozone and black carbon doesn't stay in Asia, it blows right back over the Pacific on to us, making it more difficult for us to clean up our own water and air.

In addition, because of many factors, the coal industry is dying. This proposed terminal is a last ditch effort for the coal producers to make money. This is at the expense of the wellbeing of the citizens and wildlife of the Pacific Northwest. Please do not approve it!

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