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MAY 19 2016



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May 19, 2016

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

RE: Millennium Bulk Terminals-Longview Proposed Action – Public Comment

Dear ICF International:

The Wyoming Business Alliance supports the Millennium Bulk Terminals-Longview, LLC (Millennium) proposal to construct and operate a marine terminal for export of coal in Cowlitz County, Washington.

As Wyoming's premier business advocate, the Wyoming Business Alliance promotes a sustained and growing economy by connecting 6000 business leaders from across Wyoming. We represent business interests and issues, and partner with key business organizations and trade associations. A lasting voice for business which facilitates a growing, proactive, and inclusive business environment is essential to thoughtful public discussion.

Wyoming coal mines produced about 375 million tons of coal last year. The financial contribution to state and local governments in the form of taxes, royalties and fees is enormous -- approximately \$1 billion for a state of only 570,000 people. Wyoming's share of federal mineral royalties – royalties paid to mine the leased coal - was over \$200 million. In the last 10 years, 90% plus of K-12 school construction totaling \$3 billion has come from coal taxes.

The coal industry has been a mainstay to Wyoming's economy. Despite layoffs, the industry is still employing nearly 6,000 individuals directly with a payroll of nearly \$700 million, and over 2,000 contractors. The average coal mining job pays over \$83,000 per year, well above the state average. And every coal mining job supports another 2-3 jobs in the service and supply industry.

Safety to the employees and environment remains a top priority and core cultural value for Wyoming's coal mining industry. In fact, Wyoming coal mines and railways are recognized as some of the safest mining operations in the nation.

The Millennium proposal should be allowed to proceed due to its positive outcomes at every level:

- Affordable electricity, safe jobs, and secure homes for families;
- Robust economic opportunity to improve blighted community areas such as the former terminal site;

Leadership, education, advocacy. Build your success.

- For Wyoming and Washington, increased revenues to build highways, schools and human services funding;
- Regarding the federal government, revenues and environmentally sensitive development of our country's strategic coal resources; and
- Lastly, a way for under privileged nations in Asia to have access to clean Wyoming coal as they seek secure, reliable and affordable sources of energy to strengthen and build their economies.

Thank you for considering our thoughts on the Millennium project. We are more than happy to provide additional information or answer questions you may have.

Very sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "B. Schilling". The signature is stylized with a large initial "B" and a long, sweeping underline.

Bill Schilling
President

Wyoming
Business Alliance

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Wyoming
Business Alliance

Wyoming
Heritage Foundation

BILL SCHILLING, PRESIDENT

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