

I am a long-time Longview resident who has very deep concerns about the proposed coal facility in Longview. I am very, very strongly opposed and will mainly address my concerns about the severe health and quality of life impacts in Longview and along the transportation route.

First, train noise and horns from an average of sixteen lengthy trains around the clock would be unbearable. People deserve the right to sleep, eat, read, study, work, relax, enjoy family time, and enjoy their homes and yards in peace and quiet--not be blasted and disturbed around the clock. This would be a very unhealthy, stressful situation with a low quality of life. The draft EIS states it perfectly: "An increase in noise and vibration can affect the peacefulness, serenity, and sacredness of residential, commercial, recreational, and cultural locations".

The approximately sixty residences that would be severely noise impacted and approximately 229 residences moderately noise impacted by the Reynolds Lead crossing house a large population. My home is not counted but is included in the indirectly impacted study area in Figure 5.5-1. I currently hear trains and train horns at my residence. There are also churches and businesses that would be affected. Those who are ill, and who are students and working people would particularly suffer. Populations in Spokane and other cities would also suffer.

I don't believe the Quiet Zones would satisfactorily eliminate enough noise. I do hear train noise here at Florida Street near the lake during day and night times. Also, what are the chances of Quiet Zones meeting the required calculations and being established? And would that be permanent, as I know some require an annual review and all a periodic review. I have read several confusing statements in the EIS:

"To reduce rail noise along the Reynolds Lead, the Applicant will work with LVSW and other stakeholders TO CONVERT the Oregon Way and Industrial Way crossings to "quiet crossings".

"To avoid moderate and severe noise impacts along the Reynolds Lead due to rail traffic, before beginning FULL operations-- The applicant WILL ASSIST interested parties in the preparation and submission of the Quiet Zone application to the FRA." (What is meant by FULL OPERATIONS and what year would that be?)

"To address noise from rail traffic on the Reynolds Lead, the City of Longview, LVSW, and interested parties should work with the Applicant to EXPLORE a Quiet Zone along the Reynolds Lead." Explore??

"If the Quiet Zone for the Reynolds Lead is not implemented, the Applicant will fund a sound reduction study to identify ways to mitigate the MODERATE and SEVERE impacts from train noise from the Proposed Action along the Reynolds Lead." I would be interested in knowing now what these ideas might include. Many people's health, quality of life, and property values would all be strongly affected by this Proposed Action.

Next, I have read the coal dust information and believe the dust would impact a very large area in Longview, as well as be a risk for the Columbia River. This is a very windy area and the winds are quite changeable. The EIS is using very old wind records. This area has experienced very strong wind storms,

including last December when more than 200 trees at Lake Sacajawea were blown down. Having an uncovered 85 foot stack of coal (despite being sprayed) and conveyors would put this area at risk of unhealthy, unpleasant, dirty particles. Residents should not have to breathe these toxic particles with trace metals which can enter their lungs, and this area has enough children and adults diagnosed with asthma. I especially fear for the health of the many young children living in the Longview Highlands area. Human ingestion via agricultural products, water, fish, and other methods is also a big concern. What about nearby residents (including low income) who like to raise a garden?

My residence is included in Figure 5.7-4 within the Estimated Maximum Annual Coal Deposition. The EIS states, "Deposited coal dust could also cause nuisance impacts. Airborne coal dust may be deposited on houses, automobiles, boats, outdoor furniture, and other property." The EIS also states, "Residents who live along the main line could experience nuisance levels which may visible soiling on window sills, outdoor furniture, and other property." This would be more than a nuisance and how would elderly and ill people handle cleaning of this issue? Also, the City of Longview changed it's water source over three years ago and as a result, many, many residents do not use city water for drinking, cooking, and cleaning. This water leaves orange stains and permanent spots. I currently use bottled water when washing my car now and then. How would Longview residents clean their homes, cars, and property, with NO usable city water? I would not be able to hose my house or car at all, and should not have to.

Another important issue is the reporting system for the community re coal dust issues. To quote the EIS, "Millennium would operate the system or provide funding for SW Clean Air Agency to operate the system." I think it is critical that the receiving of complaints, investigation, and response be handled by SW Clean Air and NOT Millennium.

Also, it is stated that Millennium would "conduct monthly reviews of the emissions data and maintain a record of data for at least five years after full operations." Instances where emissions exceeded air quality standards would be reported. Monthly reviews and a record of data should be a permanent activity, from the beginning of any operations throughout any full operations.

Another huge concern is the delay of traffic, including emergency response vehicles. Estimated passing times of 5-10 minutes listed would be very disruptive to countless people and also during the peak hour. A very important factor is stated in the EIS, "Unlike passenger trains, freight trains do not run on a schedule." The average driver would have no opportunity to somewhat plan their day around commonly running train times, and could very often be delayed for important work/school/appointments/children pickup—even multiple times a day. Businesses in these areas would lose customers and homes would lose property values. What happens when an emergency vehicle is waiting at a crossing?

There are many other concerns and items to mention. River congestion with seventy ships a month and three tugs per, the risk of accidents and pollution, and the sound of foghorns heard occasionally now. The risk of train accidents, and diesel pollution. The conditions placed upon low income residents who live nearby. Again, the loss of property values. And what type of city do we want our children and grandchildren to inherit and live with.

Also, Longview's climate was described as having an average of seven days a year over ninety degrees. In 2015 there were 18 days over ninety degrees from June through September. The air quality is described as good, but there are very often daily emissions/odors from the two mills. It is not good at all, noticeable in various parts of town, and offensive and sickening. Adding pollution from another operation is bad and unhealthy.

Thank you for your consideration of my public comment. I hope you will consider, would you want your own children living here next to a coal facility--breathing coal dust and diesel--and unable to sleep.

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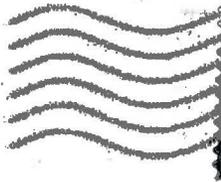
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