

1 MILLENNIUM BULK TERMINALS - LONGVIEW
2 SEPA DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT
3 PUBLIC MEETING - MAIN ROOM

4 * * *

5 MAY 26, 2016

6 5:00 P.M. to 9:00 P.M.

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8 SPOKANE CONVENTION CENTER
9 334 W. Spokane Falls Blvd.
10 Spokane, WA 99201

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19 Cheryl L. Vorhees, CSR, CCR, RPR

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21 Court Reporter
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1 PROCEEDINGS

2 EVENT HOST: On behalf of Cowlitz County
3 and the Washington Department of Ecology, we
4 welcome you to this public forum designed a have
5 your input on the State Environmental Policy Act,
6 Environmental Impact Statement, SEPA Draft EIS, or
7 the Millennium Bulk Terminals Longview. This
8 project is proposed in Cowlitz County near
9 Longview, Washington.

10 My name is Scott Keillor, and I'll be
11 your facilitator and hearing officer for these
12 proceedings. The folks that are here, the
13 consulting team and the agencies, are here to
14 ensure a safer and welcoming environment for you
15 to provide your input.

16 For our agenda tonight we'll begin with a
17 little bit of housekeeping. We'll talk about some
18 ground rules for the proceedings, and then we'll
19 have an overview of the Draft EIS SEPA process and
20 the project by Linda Amato.

21 At my far right, representing Cowlitz
22 County, is Ron Malene. He's a Senior
23 Environmental Planner. Adjacent to Ron is Sally
24 Toteff with the Department of Ecology. She's the
25 Southwest Regional Director.

1 As I mentioned, we do have staff here
2 that are to welcome you and assist you in
3 understanding what's available in ways that you
4 can understand the project and get answers from
5 the welcome table or the open house, and to pick
6 up a lottery ticket if you'd like to speak in the
7 main venue.

8 We have building exits. They include the
9 main corridor where you entered, and to my right
10 and your left we have the men's restroom, and the
11 ladies restroom on the right. We have a secondary
12 exit at the far end of that corridor and one here
13 within this main venue room to my right. And
14 several doors behind us that lead to a corridor
15 behind me that will take you outside as well.

16 As I mentioned, there's an open house
17 that's running the duration of today's hearings,
18 and it's just beyond the partition wall to your
19 right. There are materials there and professional
20 staff to help with your questions, fact sheets, et
21 cetera.

22 I mentioned the lottery system. If you
23 would ensure that you have that ticket if you'd
24 like to speak, and as we call numbers, if yours
25 appears on the screen on the back wall, where you

1 hear that number you can check in with Kim. And
2 she is, as you can see, getting folks ready to
3 speak in the order that their lottery ticket was
4 selected. You'll have two minutes.

5 I'll also mention that at the conclusion
6 of this presentation Millennium will have two
7 minutes. And at the top of each hour, those
8 elected public and tribal officials that have
9 already signed in, we've got a representative to
10 check them in in the lobby, those folks will also
11 have two minutes to speak.

12 Now for the ground rules. The ground
13 rules are very important. They are in place for
14 your safety and keep an orderly proceeding.

15 We do have a topic on a proposal to build
16 a facility to export coal to overseas markets and
17 seeks viewpoints on all sides of the issue.

18 So we're going to strictly enforce the
19 following ground rules, and appreciate your
20 cooperation. You'll have two minutes. We'll use
21 a lottery system, public and tribal officials at
22 the top of each hour. No intimidate behavior, and
23 please avoid clapping, cheering, or audible
24 disruptions.

25 And we want to ensure that if you're

1 going to identify with this speaker you're just
2 using the allowed ten-by-ten inch square sign or
3 flag. I will give warnings if the ground rules
4 are not followed, and it can suspend or cancel the
5 hearing, again, for your safety.

6 Thank you again. I'd now like to
7 introduce Linda Amato to give a brief
8 presentation.

9 MS. AMATO: Thank you, Scott. Good
10 evening. As Scott mentioned, my name is Linda
11 Amato. I'm the project manager for the
12 environmental review processes, and I'm a
13 consultant with ICF International.

14 What I'm going to do in the next few
15 minutes is provide an overview of the proposed
16 project, and then also go over the SEPA direct
17 Environmental Impact Statement process as well as
18 the areas that were studied within that EIS.

19 And I'd ask you to bear with me, we have
20 a little pointer that doesn't reach this far, so I
21 would like to also, after we speak and if you get
22 up and mingle around, please do go next door.
23 This graphic is available on a poster board, and
24 we have team members there that can walk you
25 through the proposed project and point at the

1 different elements on the graphic. But for now
2 I'm just going to read through them.

3 So Millennium proposes to construct and
4 operate a coal export terminal. The terminal will
5 receive coal by rail from the Powder River Basin
6 in Wyoming and Montana, and the Uintah Basin in
7 Colorado and Utah. The coal will be stored on
8 site into stockpiles, then loaded and transported
9 by vessels through the Columbia River and Pacific
10 Ocean to be shipped overseas to Asian markets. At
11 full operation the proposed project will transport
12 up to 44 million metric tons of coal per year.

13 Some elements of the proposed project on
14 the site, which is shown right there, include a
15 rail loop to move trains onto the site. The rail
16 loop would have one operating track to move trains
17 and eight loop tracks where trains would be
18 parked. It will also include coal stockpiles
19 inside the rail loop area. The coal stockpile
20 area will cover about 75 acres of the 190-acre
21 site.

22 In addition, a network of conveyors,
23 transfer stations, and buffer bins to move coal
24 around site from the stockpiles and trains onto
25 the vessels, which will also be constructed. Two

1 new docks in the Columbia River, and each dock
2 would include equipment called ship loaders to
3 load coil onto vessels.

4 The site would have a new water treatment
5 facility to treat surface runoff and process
6 water. And in terms of operations, there would be
7 16 trains per day, eight trains coming into the
8 site loaded with coal and eight unloaded trains
9 leaving the site.

10 In addition, there would be 840 new
11 vessels per year. That would equal 1,680 one-way
12 vessel transits.

13 So the State Environmental Policy Act
14 Draft Environmental Impact Statement is being
15 managed by two co-lead agencies; Cowlitz County and
16 Washington State Department of Ecology. As the
17 co-lead agencies, the County and Department of
18 Ecology ensure that the SEPA Draft Environmental
19 Impact Statement, or SEPA Draft EIS, was objective
20 and contains factual information, and the SEPA
21 process is appropriately followed.

22 Like SEPA on State levels, there's also a
23 National Environmental Policy Act called NEPA. A
24 separate NEPA Draft Environmental Impact Statement
25 is also being prepared by the U.S. Army Corps of

1 Engineers.

2 A little overview of the EIS process.

3 The co-lead agencies hired a third-party
4 consultant, ICF International, my employer, to
5 prepare the Draft SEPA Environmental Impact
6 Statement. ICF international also as other firms
7 working with us. A team of consultants that we
8 have analyze the project's potential impacts, the
9 potential mitigation, and prepare a preliminary
10 Draft Environmental Impact Statement, as well as
11 all of the analyses. And the two technical
12 studies were reviewed by the co-lead agencies as
13 well as their sister state and local agencies that
14 have areas of relevant expertise.

15 The Environmental Impact Statement, in
16 addition to identifying potential impacts and ways
17 to mitigate those impacts also identifies
18 unavoidable significant impacts that cannot be
19 completely mitigated.

20 The EIS is a prerequisite to the permit
21 process by local and state and federal agencies
22 will later use the Final Environmental Impact
23 Statement to make permit decisions about the
24 proposed project.

25 The Environmental Impact Statement itself

1 does not recommend whether the project should be
2 built or not.

3 So the project took off in the summer of
4 2013, and a SEPA determination of significance was
5 issued in August 2013. That determination of
6 significance triggered the beginning of the SEPA
7 process.

8 A public comments period called scoping
9 was held August 19 through November 15, 2013.
10 During that period the co-leads accepted scoping
11 comments from the public and agencies.

12 Over 215,000 comments were received, and
13 the co-lead agencies read those comments and used
14 them as a basis to form the scope of work for the
15 Environmental Impact Statement.

16 From June 2014 through April 2016, field
17 work, site visits, modeling, and analyses were
18 done, as well as technical reports. And then on
19 April 29, 2016, the SEPA Draft Environmental
20 Impact Statement was released.

21 The Draft EIS comment period runs from
22 April 29 through June 13, 2016. And following
23 this comment period all comments will be reviewed
24 and responses to the comments will be developed.
25 If it is determined that new studies need to be

1 prepared, they will be identified and performed.

2 The Final EIS is planned to be published
3 in 2017, at which point the permit processes and
4 decisions will occur. Approximately 20 local,
5 state, and federal permits will be required for
6 the proposed project.

7 The Draft EIS will have approximately 23
8 resource areas, and to make it easier for everyone
9 to find the area that they're most interested in,
10 it breaks up the topics into three categories:
11 Build environment, natural environment, and
12 operations.

13 As part of the build environment, that
14 includes such topics as land and shoreline use and
15 social and community resources.

16 The natural environment includes things
17 like geology and soils, wetlands, fish, and
18 wildlife.

19 And operations includes all the
20 transportation elements; rail, vessel, and
21 vehicle, as well as rail safety, greenhouse gas,
22 climate change, and coal dust.

23 Within the Draft EIS, once you look it
24 you'll notice there are certain elements for each
25 resource area. So what we did was he asked, what

1 are the conditions now for that particular
2 resource? And then we identified the types of
3 studies that need to be performed in order to
4 identify any potential impacts.

5 Those studies are also explained in the
6 Draft EIS and any methods and models that we use
7 are also explained within the EIS.

8 We also identify how the proposed project
9 would impact the resource area and what would
10 happen if the project was not built.

11 And, finally, if impacts are identified
12 for each resource area, mitigation measures that
13 could potentially reduce the impacts are also
14 discussed.

15 There are various ways you can review the
16 Draft EIS. One is obviously coming to this
17 hearing and speaking in public and giving an oral
18 comment. If you want to give an oral but do not
19 speak be in front of a large audience, we also
20 have two court reporters next door in the open
21 house area where you can sit and give oral
22 comments.

23 You can also comment next door in writing
24 and also online. And prior to commenting you may
25 want to review the material that's next door. We

1 have fact sheets for each resource area with
2 technical reports that can be downloaded from our
3 website, and we also have the Draft Environmental
4 Impact Statement that is on our website.

5 We also a copy next door that you can
6 look at, and we also have technical reports that
7 we prepared. They're also next door, as well as
8 available online.

9 So what's next? We currently in the
10 middle of a 45-day comment period, which runs
11 through June 13, 2016. We had our first public
12 hearing in Longview two days ago, May 24th; we
13 have this public hearing, May 26; and then on June
14 2nd we'll be in Pasco at the TRAC Center.

15 So from now on through to June 13, as I
16 mentioned earlier, you can comment a number of
17 ways; online, orally here in person, or in
18 writing. You can send comments in writing through
19 an address which is on the material next door, or
20 we also comment forms next door.

21 Once the comment period ends on June
22 13th, the co-leads, that's the County and Ecology,
23 will review the comments and decide whether
24 additional studies are needed.

25 Then the co-leads will work with the

1 consultant to respond to comments, do additional
2 studies as necessary, and prepare a Final
3 Environmental Impact Statement.

4 If you'd like more information, please do
5 visit our open house next door and go to our
6 website, which is www.Millenniumbulkeiswa.gov.
7 And don't worry about writing it down, it's on I
8 think almost every piece of paper we have
9 available for you next door.

10 And so now I'll turn it over to Scott to
11 facilitate the formal hearing.

12 EVENT HOST: Thank you, Linda. Again,
13 thank you all for coming. We're going to start
14 the public hearing process.

15 Remember, you'll need your lottery
16 ticket, you'll be given two minutes. As you're
17 preparing remarks, you may want to comment on the
18 accuracy of the information, the methodologies,
19 reasons, reasonableness, alternatives, or
20 mitigation measures. I'm going to ask Cesar to
21 read the first ten lottery numbers.

22 CESAR: 7440, 7445, 7514, 7616, 7510,
23 7721, 7755, 7573, 7444, 7518.

24 EVENT HOST: As we continue we'll call
25 out additional numbers, so check in at the large

1 chart packs with Kim. She'll check your ticket
2 and we'll have you line up in order, as you see
3 these folks. You'll come up to the podium.
4 Please give your name and your city or county of
5 residence.

6 And you'll see these lights right in
7 front of you. This green light will flash. This
8 will go at one minute. At 90 seconds the yellow
9 light will come on. It will give you 30 seconds
10 to wrap up. The red light means you'll need to
11 yield to the next speaker.

12 And you'll need to speak clearly, and
13 address the court reporter. We have this
14 particular skill that requires lip reading to get
15 your statements down clearly. If you would like
16 your name in the record clearly, write it on the
17 back of the ticket.

18 We're also, under the ground rules,
19 requiring no group displays. We really don't need
20 you turning towards the audience. If you can
21 identify and speak to the co-leads, they'd like to
22 take your comments.

23 It you'd like to further comment, you
24 have more to say after two minutes, please see the
25 court reporters in the quiet room or provide

1 comments in other ways. And I'll just explain,
2 all comments are given equal weight.

3 For the formal hearing, I'll have to read
4 some information. I'm Scott Keillor, the hearings
5 officer for this hearing.

6 This evening we're conducting a hearing
7 on the SEPA Draft EIS for the Millennium Bulk
8 Terminals Longview project.

9 Let the record show that it is 5:20 on
10 May 26, 2016, and this hearing is being held at
11 the Spokane Convention Center, 344 Southwest
12 Spokane Falls Boulevard, Spokane, Washington.

13 Legal notice of this hearing was
14 published in the Washington State Register on
15 April 29, 2016, Register Number 2016-03-266.

16 In addition, notice was provided via mail
17 to 5,070 interested people; by email to 440
18 interested parties on the List Serve email list;
19 and news release on April 29; publication in the
20 following newspapers: The Daily News, Longview,
21 April 29 and May 10; The Spokesman Review,
22 Spokane, April 29 and May 12; The Tri-City Herald,
23 Pasco, April 29 and May 19, 2016.

24 I'll call people up. And just before we
25 start that process, our first speaker will be

1 Wendy Hutchinson with Millennium. She'll have two
2 minutes. Thank you.

3 MS. HUTCHINSON: Good evening. I'm Wendy
4 Hutchinson with Millennium Bulk Terminals in
5 Longview, Washington. We're located at 4029
6 Industrial Way.

7 First, we're celebrating that the DRAFT
8 Environmental Impact Statement is complete we're
9 grateful for all of the work of the regulatory
10 agencies to bring this together so that we could
11 have this great party in Spokane tonight.

12 And we're especially pleased with two
13 significant findings in the draft. That coal dust
14 is not a significant impact, and most importantly
15 that the project will be all of Washington's
16 strict and normal standards.

17 Opponents have asked some questions and
18 you have answered them in this Environmental
19 Impact Statement. If disparaging remarks continue
20 on the project about coal dust, certainly those
21 people who say those things have not read the
22 Environmental Impact Statement.

23 Second, the Draft EIS finds that
24 operations of the site won't cause significant
25 impact to climate. There were four scenarios

1 modeled. Two of the scenarios actually did show
2 that there actually a net positive in global
3 greenhouse gases due to our project.

4 We certainly believe that these
5 environmental findings are important, and we are
6 excited to move forward. There are many voices
7 across the state. We certainly believe that this
8 team is capable of building this right, and we
9 will build it right and we will comply with the
10 laws of the state, and we are happy that we are
11 moving forward on this process. And I thank you
12 for your kind words, and I hopefully also thank
13 you for a fast and speedy Final Environmental
14 Impact Statement. Thank you.

15 EVENT HOST: And thank you. We'll move
16 to the next speaker. If you do have materials
17 you'd like to leave, I'm going to provide this
18 table for you, and you're welcome to leave your
19 written statements.

20 We'll go ahead and proceed. We'll take
21 the first speaker. And you'll have two minutes.
22 Thank you.

23 SPEAKER 1: My name is Caitlin Assertia
24 (phonetic) and I traveled from Missoula, Montana
25 this morning to be here.

1 The purpose of this project is to
2 facilitate more coal mining in Montana and
3 transport that coal to Asian markets.

4 However, the Draft Environmental Impact
5 Statement does not address the substantial
6 environmental and health impacts of this proposal
7 on Montana.

8 In Missoula, along with the dangers of
9 substantially increased coal traffic, we'll see an
10 increase in coal dust which contains lead, mercury
11 and arsonic, and is absolutely harmful to human
12 health. We would also see an increase in diesel
13 fumes.

14 In addition to polluting our water, these
15 pollutants would increase lung and heart issues
16 for people who, live, work, and go to school near
17 the tracks and rail yards as well as increasing
18 the severity of varying aversion events in our
19 valley.

20 Finally, this terminal will increase
21 climate change by adding millions of tons of
22 carbon dioxide into the atmosphere each year.

23 A hundred and ninety-five world leaders
24 have agreed we need rapid action on climate change
25 to ensure human survival, especially for lower

1 income people and minority communities.

2 The unusually early and severe wildfire
3 that's currently blazing through Alberta is a
4 reminder that climate change is happening now in
5 the world, in the Northwest, and it is relevant.

6 At this stage of climate change, we
7 cannot afford to divorce coal specific projects
8 from their implicit climate impacts on our region,
9 especially as we're facing increasing instability
10 due to climate change.

11 I want to see investment in regional
12 energy projects that strengthen and bolster
13 ecosystems and communities in the long term, not
14 weaken them.

15 I support the no action alternative.
16 Thank you.

17 SPEAKER 2: My name is Jason Casmeric, I
18 live in Spokane County. I'm in support of the
19 Millennium project because I have friends that are
20 personally affected by not being able to go to
21 work in the railroad industry. They're wondering
22 where their paychecks are going to come from,
23 whether they need to go out and get another job,
24 or just go out and make some money and figure out
25 how he's going to support his family and keep his

1 house.

2 So I'm in support of it. I believe
3 Spokane is a railroad town, it was built on
4 railroad land, and I think the future should also
5 be involved with the railroad. Thank you.

6 SPEAKER 3: Good evening. My name is
7 Ozzie (inaudible), Spokane County. I'm here to
8 talk about public safety because that tends to get
9 brought up in reference to those type of issues.

10 The public safety entities in Spokane
11 County have taken a hard look at the rail traffic.
12 In Spokane County we have talked with the
13 railroads, we have taken a look at the possible
14 traffic that will come through, and we see no
15 significant danger due to rail traffic, especially
16 this side of the rail traffic because coal is a
17 rock. If it derails, falls on the ground, you can
18 pick it up with a shovel and put it back.

19 The aspect that I think is important for
20 you to realize is in 2006, Spokane County had its
21 highest rail traffic. That's ten years ago. That
22 rail traffic has never come back to that level
23 since 2006.

24 Even when the coal trains come through
25 Spokane, it will not match the 2006 levels. So

1 this is not a significant risk because we already
2 have our high points in reference to that.

3 The other aspect is it comes down to
4 jobs. It really is very much jobs. Jobs in
5 Washington, jobs in Wyoming, jobs in Montana.

6 I grew up in a coal family. My
7 great-grandfather, my grandmother, my dad, my
8 cousins were coal miners. I went to college
9 because of coal mining. They're good jobs.
10 America needs to protect its economic
11 infrastructures and we need to build further
12 infrastructures.

13 Those infrastructures that we will build
14 in this port will not only aid Wyoming but it will
15 aid Washington, in that Washington will be able to
16 transport the rest of its products. Thank you
17 very much.

18 EVENT HOST: Thank you. Our next
19 speaker?

20 SPEAKER 4: Hello. I'm Representative
21 Bob McCaslin from the Fourth District, Position 2.
22 And I come to you as an elementary school teacher
23 and also in favor of the Millennium Bulk Terminal.

24 The thing that I've seen and see in
25 government is often where we are very thorough,

1 and rightly so, on environmental impact
2 statements. But in this project it's -- I think
3 it's taken extra long. I think Millennium is the
4 one that's taking most of the risk here, not just
5 with the jobs that are proposed but also just in
6 their ability to stay in business.

7 So a lot of this is coming to the point
8 where we're looking at revenue to fund schools and
9 we're also looking at a hundred new teachers, four
10 million each year in tax revenue.

11 And as a life-long teacher I really
12 consider educating our children is our paramount
13 thing that we need to do. But without jobs that's
14 pretty hard to do. And those jobs are the things
15 that families need to have in order to put their
16 kids in school and have a stable home environment.

17 So this is going to put 2,000 people to
18 work during construction and almost 300 full-time
19 family wage jobs that would be permanently
20 created. And likely including railroad jobs here
21 in Spokane.

22 So I'm asking you to move quickly and
23 find a way to approve this project. We need the
24 jobs and support for schools now. Thank you.

25 SPEAKER 5: Good evening. My name is Tom

1 Melkey, from Spokane, I am the CEO of Greater
2 Spokane Incorporated, the region's Chamber of
3 Commerce, and Economic Development Organization.

4 As we think about this project and we are
5 here speaking, I'm here speaking on behalf of my
6 organization in support of this project.

7 As we look at this project, we recognize
8 that 95 percent of the consumers in this world
9 live outside the United States. We also recognize
10 that 83 percent of the world's disposable income
11 is outside the United States.

12 And because of those conditions,
13 Washington state becomes the gateway for the
14 nation. Forty-six U.S. states rely on Washington
15 ports to export their products, and 70 percent of
16 the goods coming through our ports inbound move to
17 the rest of the nation.

18 This sets stage for the importance of
19 Washington state when it comes to international
20 trade. We are the most trade-dependent state in
21 the nation.

22 We see more than a 116 billion dollars in
23 total exports. Forty percent of the jobs in
24 Washington state are tied to international trade,
25 and these jobs typically without doubt have higher

1 wages than non-trade jobs.

2 And 90 percent of the exporting companies
3 are small and medium size enterprises. We say
4 this because it sets the stage that when we talk
5 about moving these goods and moving these
6 products, we need to look at the most sufficient
7 means of moving those goods and products as
8 possible.

9 As a former legislator on the
10 Transportation Committee, we know very well that
11 roads are subject to the wear and tear and they're
12 very expensive, and we do have fuel consumed and
13 the emissions from diesel trucks. Rail is much
14 more efficient.

15 This port has the ability to set, as I
16 recognize it, not just (inaudible) on coal but to
17 also handle other product. And because of that it
18 becomes an extremely important part of our
19 infrastructure for this state.

20 So with that I do hope that you'll move
21 forward and improve this project. Thank you for
22 your time.

23 EVENT HOST: Thank you.

24 SPEAKER 6: Good afternoon. I'm Steve
25 Tribbs (phonetic), and I live in the city of

1 Spokane. Thank you for all the work that you've
2 done, the technical material, and thank everybody
3 in the office for participating in this hearing
4 process.

5 Five years seems like it's a bit long for
6 a corporation to wait for approval. I'd recommend
7 approval as quickly as we can to get the jobs back
8 into Washington state and also Wyoming and
9 Montana. It's a regional problem with jobs
10 fleeing rather than retaining or building. Thank
11 you for your time.

12 SPEAKER 7: Good evening. My name is Del
13 Eakins, and I've was born and raised and now work
14 in Spokane.

15 I'm here representing the Brotherhood of
16 Local Engineers and Trainmen, and show our support
17 for the Millennium Bulk Terminal.

18 Washington state (inaudible) seven
19 percent of U.S. exports and six percent of all
20 (inaudible) provided to our economy providing
21 living wage jobs. With this in mind, it is
22 imperative that Washington state continues to move
23 forward by supporting projects like the Millennium
24 Bulk Terminal.

25 From Boeing to agriculture trade, which

1 drives the states economy, it is imperative we
2 don't get held up on single issues that can be
3 detrimental to our economic future.

4 The Millennium Bulk Terminal is a
5 facility that will handle coal in the most
6 environmentally friendly manner, will be a driving
7 force of Washington's economy.

8 Having a modern terminal that can readily
9 ship commodities like wheat and barley, or corn
10 and soy beans from the Midwest, allowing our state
11 to compete with the new larger ships to pass
12 through the Panama Canal into the Gulf.

13 But for me the Millennium Bulk Terminal
14 is good for both our state and shows the world
15 that Washington continues to be a gateway for
16 international trade and a strong economic force.
17 Thank you.

18 SPEAKER 8: Hello. My name is Sarah
19 Rickman, and I support Millennium because it would
20 create 26,000 jobs, direct or indirect jobs during
21 construction, and 300 more direct or indirect jobs
22 during operations.

23 At a time when we have a massive amount
24 of more people out there looking for jobs than we
25 actually have jobs, the unemployment is high. And

1 the real unemployment is even far more beyond
2 that.

3 Someone brought up the coal dust. There
4 would be no unavoidable or significant adverse
5 environmental impacts from coal dust. When you
6 think of a family just trying to make ends meet,
7 trying to get out there, find a job, any job, to
8 put food on the table, what's more important, a
9 very limited probability if at all of somehow
10 polluting the environment or being able to feed
11 that family. I would choose the family.

12 We live in an economy right now where
13 people seem to think environment is more important
14 than human life. Despite what the government
15 wants us to believe, there is no proof that humans
16 are the reason for this so-called climate change.
17 Please consider this for the jobs for those
18 families that are just trying to put food on the
19 table. Thank you.

20 SPEAKER 9: Good afternoon. My name is
21 Brenda Lindenhall. I'm here on behalf of National
22 Wildlife Federation to voice opposition to the
23 proposed Millennium Bulk Terminal coal export
24 facility.

25 I'm also here to express concerns about

1 inadequacies in the EIS. All impacts from the
2 lines to the coal-fired power plant emissions
3 overseas must be addressed.

4 Coal mining occurs on some of the most
5 fragile lands in the Western United States and
6 threatens wildlife, waters, and aquatic life.
7 Those impacts must be addressed.

8 Coal trains lose hundreds of pounds of
9 coal dust en route to the Pacific coast, despite
10 the use of surfactants. That is coal dust ends up
11 in the waters, along the rail lines, and threatens
12 our already stresses aquatic life and fishing,
13 sporting, and tourism economies from the Powder
14 River Basin to Longview and the Pacific.

15 The fishing economies are probably in the
16 billions. I know Washington state is billions of
17 dollars.

18 The impacts to these facilities are not
19 confined to Longview or Washington, however, but
20 extend from the mines in the Powder River Basin to
21 the Pacific coast and beyond.

22 Burning fossil fuels is threatening our
23 fish and wildlife and our way of life due to the
24 climate change impacts. Pollution and climate
25 change know no boundaries. All of the social

1 costs occur unless we take them into account.

2 Permitting a coal export facility with
3 such disastrous consequences makes no sense. I
4 urge you to please choose the no action
5 alternative for present generations and those to
6 come. Thank you.

7 EVENT HOST: Thank you. We'll pause for
8 five more lottery ticket numbers.

9 CESAR: 7481, 7542, 7650, 7710, 7603.

10 SPEAKER 10: Good afternoon. Stan
11 Mrzygod, Spokane, Washington. I'm the president
12 of the Spokane Community Kayak Club, and we have
13 over 200 members.

14 The Spokane Community Kayak Club strongly
15 disagrees with the permitting of the Millennium
16 Bulk Coal facility. The issue of multiple
17 mile-long coal trains passing through our
18 community each day degrades lifestyle of the
19 community with the additional transportation
20 backups, noise, and pollution. This is
21 unacceptable.

22 These trains cross the Spokane River,
23 above critical spawning habitat for a threat of a
24 Spokane/Redman drought. A train accident of any
25 kind could destroy the section of the Spokane

1 River for future fish spawning.

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

6 And as the United States and the Pacific
7 Northwest region tries to tighten our
8 environmental regulations and clean up our water
9 and air, it is so illogical to send our coal to
10 China.

11 China puts out more pollution than the
12 rest of the world combined. That air pollution
13 doesn't stay in Asia. It blows right back over
14 the Pacific Northwest on us, making it more
15 difficult for us to clean up our own water and
16 air.

17 Climate change is real. Last week late
18 in the evening it dropped to its lowest levels
19 since construction the Boulder Dam in 1935. This
20 is a long-term effect.

21 Forty million people in seven states are
22 being affected. Spokane River, right outside our
23 back door here, almost ceased to flow last year.

24 This terminal is at the expense of the
25 well being of citizens and wildlife in the Pacific

1 Northwest. Please do not approve it. We endorse
2 the no action option. Thank you.

3 EVENT HOST: Thank you. Sir, please step
4 up. You have two minutes.

5 SPEAKER 11: Thank you. My name is Dave
6 Helenius (phonetic). I'm a wheat farmer in
7 Eastern Washington. I spent 45 years before that
8 as a researcher in geology, earth sciences, and I
9 actually dealt with a problem that has to do with
10 carbon dioxide and how it's sequestered naturally.

11 So the Co2 issue is this. People
12 mistakenly conflict the Millennium Bulk Terminal
13 with the environment. They mistakenly conflict
14 the project with global warming, climate change,
15 carbon dioxide, and coal and oil. But these are
16 all emulated issues.

17 This is fact it's a fact that Co2 cannot
18 cause climate change or warming of the planet.
19 Co2 (inaudible) only in the eyes of Barack Obama
20 and Al Gore and his company.

21 And by this conflation they expose the
22 subject matter illiteracy that they hold. The air
23 is not recognizing the world water vapor, as it is
24 the greenhouse substance that is 2600 times more
25 potent a detonator than carbon dioxide.

1 Washingtonians are smarter than this, and
2 there is plenty of scientific fact and experts to
3 support this.

4 First, more than 31,0 American scientists
5 petitioned the president, including 9,000 with
6 Ph.D.s, saying that eliminating greenhouse gas
7 would inhibit mankind and advancement in science
8 and technology.

9 It's first signer was physicist Edward
10 Teller, founder of Lawrence Livermore Laboratory.
11 And included there were 660 sign-ups from
12 Washington state and 350 from Oregon.

13 Two: John Coleman, founder of the
14 Weather Channel, the first meteorologist on Good
15 Morning American, says there's no such thing as
16 global warning.

17 Environmentalists realize this, too, they
18 realize that Co2 is not doing its job, and that
19 the temperature has not warmed for the last 16
20 years based on satellite records. So they changed
21 the --

22 EVENT HOST: Thank you.

23 SPEAKER 11: -- to climate change.

24 EVENT HOST: You're welcome to leave your
25 written comments for the record.

1 SPEAKER 12: Good evening. I'm John
2 Woodland. I retired in January as the Superior,
3 Montana Fire Chief. Superior is one of many small
4 towns along the rail lines this project will
5 negatively impact.

6 Emergency service access to many mine
7 districts and residential neighborhoods requires
8 crossing the tracks. This includes hauling our
9 water supply across the tracks.

10 I have personally waited at a grade
11 crossing for a train to pass while on an emergency
12 call. This proposal will add to train traffic and
13 increase the likelihood emergency services will be
14 negatively impacted in communities all along the
15 tracks.

16 The tracks through part of Mineral County
17 have places built along steep mountainsides next
18 to the Columbia River. Trains falling off these
19 tracks sometimes into the river are not uncommon.
20 In my ten years as fire chief there have been two
21 trains in the river in Mineral County. One
22 visible from my home included empty oil cars and
23 the other dumped Boeing fuselages into a
24 recreation area.

25 More traffic means more wrecks and more

1 pressure not to hold up trains for maintenance
2 work. For Montana, Eastern Washington, and Idaho
3 it also means less access and higher process to
4 ship agricultural products.

5 For emergency services, however, the
6 800-pound gorilla in the room is climate change.
7 And if you don't think that's an emergency service
8 issue, think about the evacuation of 88,000 people
9 from Fort McMurray in early May. This quite
10 honestly is a future for the entire intermountain
11 west unless we act decisively now.

12 We can't continue capital investments and
13 fossil fuel such as Longview proposal and have any
14 chance of limiting the Washington impacts of
15 climate change.

16 Everybody wants secure jobs. But you
17 don't get secure jobs by investing in 19th Century
18 technology associated with a dying industry. You
19 get secure jobs by investing in 21st Century
20 technology to replace it, and I would ask that you
21 say no to this proposal.

22 EVENT HOST: Thank you. Our next
23 speaker?

24 SPEAKER 12: Good afternoon. My name is
25 Patty Shadden. I'm here to remind you that coal

1 is already in our environment. It is of the
2 earth. It's one of the minerals that already
3 exists in our environment and we don't need to be
4 afraid of it.

5 Ninety-three million people have given up
6 looking for employment in this society. We need
7 the opportunities that this Millennium Bulk
8 Terminal project affords.

9 I'd like to share some personal facts of
10 the impact we talk about, and impact. Seven of my
11 seven children that were raised here in Spokane
12 sought education in states whose higher education
13 was supplemented by the coal industry.

14 The state of Wyoming, Laramie Casper,
15 both of those cities contribute to education in
16 those states. And my children were able to afford
17 education in those states.

18 I would like to see the state of
19 Washington benefit from something like this
20 Millennium Bulk Terminal project. The dine
21 dinosaurs know that cars and railcars aren't the
22 only thing that causes climate change. They can
23 attest to the fact that they're not here today.
24 That let's you know that the environment itself
25 provides changes in climate way more than human

1 beings do.

2 Beautiful America is a city that we've
3 passed through many times. We lived in Wyoming
4 for years and then moved here to Spokane. I trust
5 the technology and also the EIS studies that the
6 panel has done to keep this manageable, safe,
7 healthy and to afford our youth the opportunity
8 move back to the state of Washington for good
9 paying jobs.

10 Thank you, and I support this project
11 wholeheartedly.

12 SPEAKER 13: Hello. My name is Gloria
13 Clark. I'm from Spokane, born and raised here.
14 I'm also the secretary of CAPR, Citizens Alliance
15 for Property Rights. And we have 15 chapters in
16 Washington state and four in California. And our
17 chapter in Spokane and other chapters are taking a
18 stand in favor of the terminal -- or of the
19 Millennium Bulk Terminal there.

20 I'm kind of an interesting person because
21 I'm married to a pipefitter, and he is a union
22 pipefitter. And he went down and talked to the
23 business agent, and they were in favor of that.
24 So this is not a partisan issue. This is keeping
25 our jobs in America, keeping our kids staying here

1 in America, it's keeping our standard of living
2 up.

3 I mean, if we don't have private property
4 we don't have the means of wealth. If we don't
5 have jobs, we will not be able to support
6 ourselves. The government will have to support us
7 that's ridiculous.

8 In fact, in the Spokane Valley, the
9 median income the Spokane Valley in 2008 was
10 56,000, and now it's down to 48,000. If we don't
11 start bringing up good jobs again and standing up
12 for unions and pipefitters and all the other jobs
13 that are going to be afforded, then we're going to
14 be living in a substandard country, in a country
15 like maybe -- well, maybe a socialist country that
16 you'd want to, and maybe 30 percent of the people
17 work. I really would like to see everybody
18 working if their able to.

19 And I just think we have to also utilize
20 our natural resources. We live in a country that
21 is abundant. I think God has given us these
22 natural resources and we're sort of thumbing our
23 nose at him and saying, we're just going to sit
24 here and do nothing. We're not going to utilize
25 these resources that you've given us. And I think

1 we need to work together. This is a wonderful
2 opportunity the Republicans and Democrats to come
3 together. Thank you.

4 EVENT HOST: Thank you. And we will be
5 taking an additional lottery draw to fill up the
6 speaker lineup. And I would just remind you that
7 we can take all comments, they'll be weighted
8 equally by the co-lead agencies, or we have two
9 quiet rooms with court reporters, and comment
10 cards, and we'll do everything we can to
11 everybody's comments heard tonight.

12 Go ahead, Cesar.

13 CESAR: 7450, 7588, 7516, 7457, 7717.

14 SPEAKER 14: Hello. My name is Andrea
15 Reineki, and I'm reading this on behalf of Joe
16 Pakootas.

17 Hello, my name is Joe Pakootas, I'm the
18 former chair and CEO of the Confederate Tribes of
19 the Caulfield Nation. I'm here to let Congress in
20 Washington's Fifth Congressional District today,
21 however, I'm here as a concerned citizen of
22 Washington.

23 In 2006 I initiated a landmark lawsuit
24 against Teck Cominco, a Canadian mining
25 corporation, to force them to clean up the

1 pollution along Lake Roosevelt and the Columbia
2 River.

3 As an environmental protectionist, I have
4 numerous environmental and health concerns
5 regarding the proposed Millennium Bulk Terminal in
6 Longview. But as a businessman and CEO of a
7 multi-million dollar corporation who manages over
8 a dozen business enterprises, I also have economic
9 concerns.

10 In spite of my spokesman and guest
11 opinion, local officials theorize that hundreds of
12 millions of dollars in jobs and revenues could be
13 gained from the approval of this project. This
14 optimistic opinion is unfortunately based upon the
15 assumption that coal will remain a profitable
16 investment.

17 The truth is, investing in coal right now
18 is a very risky and unwise business decision. In
19 March of 2016, the New York Times reported that
20 neighbors are recognizing the risk and shifting
21 away from coal investments.

22 Coal companies around the world are
23 feeling the shift to cleaner energy sources. In
24 fact, of the two companies that are proposing this
25 investment, one has declared bankruptcy and the

1 other was sold to their largest competitor,
2 leaving the other investors with nothing.

3 The proponents of this project are short
4 sighted and ignore the obvious. Coal is a dead
5 man walking. You cannot ignore the simple
6 economic fact that over the last year the coal
7 demand has plummeted around the world.

8 If our city and state were to improve
9 this project we would be hitching ourselves to a
10 dead horse. This is a bad business decision and
11 Washington state can do better by investing in
12 cleaner, more economically wise sources of energy
13 that have bright futures, not with dirty king
14 coal. Thank you.

15 EVENT HOST: Thank you. Our next
16 speaker?

17 SPEAKER 15: My name is Twila Abrahamson
18 Swan. I'm the Spokane Tribal Air Quality Program
19 Manager, the Spokane Tribe that once lived upon
20 protected and respected over three million acres
21 of land in this region.

22 Throughout history, the Spokane tribal
23 community has withstood the continuous assault by
24 individuals and groups who sought exploitation and
25 degradation of our environment and culture.

1 Through litigation and negotiation the
2 Spokane Tribe has and will continue to protect and
3 preserve the living cycle of the Spokane people.
4 This proposal threatens to set back historic and
5 current efforts by the Spokane Tribe to protect
6 and restore our air and water quality and habitat
7 along the Spokane and Columbia Rivers.

8 Tribal lands and resources all along the
9 transportation route are facing increased rail
10 traffic that adds to existing pollution, toxicity
11 concerns, and also threatens the immediate safety
12 of our communities.

13 One major cultural resource that is not
14 being addressed in the EIS is the Petra Cliffs
15 along the Columbia River Basin.

16 This facility, if permitted, will
17 directly negatively intrude on downstream tribes'
18 exercise of their treaty fishing rights, which are
19 the supreme law of the land under Article 4 of the
20 U.S. Constitution.

21 Upriver tribes and communities above the
22 major hydropower dams on the Columbia River are
23 preparing and entering negotiations with the
24 United States and Canada regarding the Columbia
25 River Treaty.

1 We are asking that ecological health of
2 the river be included into the treaty and we're
3 preparing our rivers for the return of salmon,
4 we're preparing our people, and we're preparing
5 our children for their return.

6 The Spokane Tribe stands today in
7 protection of the waters and resources we depend
8 on, and also to develop a more sustainable and
9 responsible approach to meeting our present and
10 future energy needs, that analysis and findings
11 are significant, and environmental impacts that
12 cannot be mitigated should be used to reject this
13 massive shipping terminal.

14 EVENT HOST: Thank you. Just a quick
15 reminder, if we do have any elected officials,
16 tribal officials signing up at the top of the
17 hour, we're five minutes outside of that. And
18 next speaker, please.

19 SPEAKER 16: My name is Laverne Beale. I
20 live in Spokane. I am for the Millennium Bulk
21 Terminal project. Washington ports have given us
22 commerce, culture, and several of our citizens.

23 Millennium Bulk Terminals is aptly named
24 because Millennium will employ over 2,650
25 construction jobs today and will benefit in the

1 future of employing 300 operational jobs.

2 We Washingtonians should relish private
3 company's smart investing in our environment and
4 committing their time and resources to uphold our
5 state. I believe we have proven that new jobs can
6 be achieved by using the highest environmental
7 standards.

8 The Millennium Bulk Terminal Project has
9 been nearly five years in the making, and they've
10 achieved this by following the rules and
11 regulations set forth in front of them.

12 My husband and I were youth group
13 workers, and we were giving a lesson on rules and
14 regulations, and so we played a game with our
15 youth.

16 It started out we gave them the
17 instructions. We changed the rules after three
18 minutes. We changed the rules after an additional
19 three minutes. In 15 minutes we changed the rules
20 five times.

21 Thirty of the youth were angry and very
22 loud in our faces. A third of the youth gave up.
23 And a third of our youth, one, were disheartened
24 because they knew the rules didn't make any
25 difference.

1 It is time that we level the playing
2 field and we let other entities know that when you
3 follow the rules Washington is open for business.
4 Thank you.

5 EVENT HOST: Thank you. Our next
6 speaker, please?

7 SPEAKER 17: Hi. My name is Andy Field,
8 from Spokane, Washington. And I'm here because I
9 believe we need to create jobs and opportunity
10 here in Eastern Washington. That means we need to
11 be able to export.

12 Our farmers and producers need to be able
13 to send their goods to market. Recently port
14 closures and slow downs in Portland have hurt us
15 here in Eastern Washington. We can find smart
16 ways to protect our environment without stifling
17 our economy. We should expand our ability to
18 export so we can have good paying jobs here in
19 Spokane.

20 EVENT HOST: Thank you. If we could,
21 after this next speaker we'll do a lottery draw
22 and we'll hear from our elected officials.

23 SPEAKER 18: Good afternoon. My name is
24 John Roskell. I'm a former County Commissioner
25 here in Spokane from 1995 to 2004. And I'm going

1 to talk about this regionally, locally, and
2 internationally. So I'll start with locally.

3 Locally, some of my calls, and a lot of
4 my calls as a County Commissioner were from people
5 who were irritated about the inadequate grade
6 crossings here in Spokane.

7 If we have 16 more trains, 1.3 miles
8 long, every day coming through here, this is going
9 to be a tremendous gridlock for Spokane and
10 Spokane Valley. We have too many at-grade
11 crossings and BNSF wants to get busy and pay for
12 either to go underneath those tracks or over them,
13 well then it might work.

14 Regionally, I paddled the Columbia from
15 source to mouth a couple years back, and I didn't
16 start hitting a lot of trains until I got to
17 McNary Dam. But I encourage every one of you to
18 visit Horse Thief park -- or campground in
19 Columbia Plateau Park right across from The
20 Dalles, and you can pick up as much coal along
21 that railroad right there as you want to see and
22 work at.

23 All of these railroads going through that
24 area are right -- they go through Ballast, right
25 on the river, and it's not a hundred feet from the

1 water, it's right on the water. And all that coal
2 dust is coming of those loads they put surfactant
3 on is going in that water. I can tell you that
4 right now. And you can pick up as much coal as
5 you want.

6 Internationally, I've been to China many
7 times. I took the train from Beijing down to
8 Zhengzhou, the Sichuan Province. It's a long,
9 long train, and there's nothing but pollution --
10 coal pollution all along in China.

11 Once you're out of Beijing -- you know,
12 it's polluted from automobiles, but once you're
13 out of Beijing there's very few regulations on
14 those. So thank you very much.

15 EVENT HOST: We'll take a pause and do
16 several lottery numbers and then we'll have Laura
17 Ackerman, proxy for Amber Waldref.

18 Go ahead, Cesar.

19 CESAR: 7572, 7731, 7564, 7602, 7468.

20 EVENT HOST: All right. Go ahead, Ms.
21 Ackerman.

22 MS. ACKERMAN: Good afternoon. My name
23 is Laura Ackerman. I am proxy for Spokane City
24 Council Member Amber Waldref.

25 In my review of the Draft Environmental

1 Impact Statement of the Longview terminal, one of
2 the most significant impacts to the Spokane
3 community is rail safety.

4 When people say that coal has been coming
5 through Washington for years they are leaving out
6 the biggest point, scale. The proposed Millennium
7 Terminal would be the largest coal export facility
8 in North America, with mile long trains traveling
9 through population areas at a scale we've never
10 experienced before.

11 The conservative estimates in the DEIS
12 predict there will be 11 additional rail accidents
13 per year as a direct result of this project,
14 bringing the total accident baseline up to 61.81
15 accidents per year, a 22 percent increase. And
16 this is just the conservative estimates.

17 Improvements to the rail line
18 infrastructure to improve safety and reliability
19 are planned but not permitted and definitely not
20 funded. This is a huge concern to me and many of
21 my constituents. Also, emergency response to
22 accidents has a huge cost at a local level. At
23 the City of Spokane we are already at a deficit of
24 the number of firefighters and paramedics we need
25 and the cost of training and additional emergency

1 responder personnel cannot and should not be
2 placed on local government for this project.

3 In addition to the cost of infrastructure
4 upgrades and emergency responses to address rail
5 safety deficiencies, there are documented,
6 significant rush hour delays and backups of trains
7 that prevent emergency responders from getting to
8 other emergencies, let alone train accidents.

9 I hope you will consider these
10 significant impacts to public safety. Thank you.

11 EVENT HOST: Thank you. And Mike
12 Pederson, proxy for Lori Kinnear, Spokane City
13 Council.

14 MR. PEDERSON: I'm reading this for Lori
15 Kinnear, who is a Spokane City Council member,
16 representing District 2, home to about 65,000
17 people, as well as the city as a whole that houses
18 over 210,000 people.

19 Council members were recently briefed by
20 the Washington State Department of Ecology on the
21 Draft Environmental Impact Statement regarding the
22 Millennium Bulk Terminal at Longview and the
23 impacts to Spokane and our region.

24 Sixteen additional coal trains are
25 expected to travel through Spokane daily on their

1 journey to Longview. The burden to the community
2 includes but is not limited to rail line segments
3 over capacity, rail safety, rush hour delays,
4 emergency vehicle delays, and greenhouse gas
5 emissions increasage.

6 This includes coal trains, and oil train
7 traffic would add to the existing rail congestion
8 that is forcing Washington agriculture and
9 manufacturing to close down or source their
10 product from outside the state.

11 In 2013, the daily news reported that
12 Woodland-based Columbia River Carbonates will no
13 longer source materials locally due to rail
14 congestion.

15 In addition, coal dust may impact the
16 sulfurous aquifer and continue to assert water
17 pollution. A recent UW health study confirmed
18 that coal trains release twice as much diesel
19 pollution as freight trains, rail route
20 communities living closer to the track would
21 experience increased pollution.

22 This project would increase carbon
23 dioxide issues by 37.6 million tons, the
24 equivalent of building at least five coal fired
25 plants or adding eight million passenger eight

1 passenger vehicles to the road.

2 Dwindling snow pack and dramatic increase
3 in wildflowers in our state are also linked to
4 climate pollution. These effects are not
5 conducive to construction of a major new fossil
6 infrastructure project.

7 I urge the decision makers to deny this
8 project and ask that we rethink the long-term
9 strategy for energy production. Washington state
10 and Spokane don't need one more oil or coal train
11 passing through our community and endangering the
12 lives of our citizens. Thank you.

13 EVENT HOST: Thank you. Last up, Shelly
14 Short, Washington State Representative.

15 MS. SHORT: Good evening everyone. I'm
16 Shelly Short, State Representative for the 7th
17 District in Longview. I'm speaking here tonight
18 in favor and support of the Millennium Bulk
19 Terminal.

20 You look at the EIS and I am confident
21 that this project will meet all the stringent
22 environmental laws we have in the state.

23 I think of the local jobs. Their
24 community is much like mine. We need those family
25 wages jobs. There are working class families that

1 are struggling, minorities that are struggling,
2 and certainly this project will help that.

3 The one thing I am going to point to in
4 the DEIS, I handle a lot of the climate changes
5 for my caucus and the legislature, and what I'm
6 really going to take umbrage with is this life
7 cycle type of analysis that really requires, you
8 know, Millennium to deal with emissions that have
9 kind of cradled the grave of this project. I
10 don't believe there's legal authority to do that
11 frankly.

12 And there are no other companies in
13 Washington state that have been dealt with this
14 way, and I think it's, you know, picking winners
15 and losers. I think it's using an assessment to
16 really basically punish the company because they
17 happen to actually be transporting coal.

18 I think if it were any other product they
19 wouldn't be getting this level of scrutiny,
20 frankly.

21 What I really would like to see in the
22 EIS is, is that being looked at and really just
23 strictly just deal with the emissions that deal
24 are associated with Washington state.

25 I think that would meet the intent of the

1 legislation, you know, and the laws that we have
2 in the state of Washington. But we've got to
3 stop, you know, dealing with the impacts to China.
4 Again, no other company in Washington state has
5 had to live under that kind of, you know,
6 stringent, really a precedent setting mood. And I
7 just really look forward to this project moving
8 forward. Thank you very much.

9 EVENT HOST: And thank you. We'll take
10 the next speaker, please.

11 SPEAKER 19: Good afternoon. My name is
12 Andrew (inaudible), I live in Spokane County. I'm
13 a local attorney and candidate for Spokane County
14 Commissioner, as well as a former Assistant U.S.
15 Attorney who worked and litigated on EIS-type
16 issues. And thank you for your hard work on the
17 Draft EIS, and encourage you to include with
18 that work a health analysis.

19 I think the reason why this issue is so
20 contentious is because both sides can point to
21 benefits for their proposal.

22 Certainly there are going to be jobs
23 created by this port as well as (inaudible) train.
24 No one can deny that.

25 At the same time, no one can also deny

1 that there are going to be health impacts,
2 negative health impacts on many, many people at
3 every single stage of this project, from the
4 people mining it to those living along the track
5 who are not getting emergency services to those
6 breathing in the coal dust to those breathing in
7 the coal fumes that are burning at the other end.
8 There will be health impacts.

9 So the question we have, the public would
10 benefit on both sides is to weigh one value
11 against the other. And I would submit to you that
12 when any of us are sick or dying or have a loved
13 one or a child who is sick, we will give up every
14 last penny we own to bring back that person's
15 health or our own health.

16 We all know instinctly that people are
17 more important than profits, that health is more
18 important than a dollar. So when we weigh the
19 goods on both sides, I ask that we go back to our
20 core value, which is that there's nothing that's
21 irreplaceable about a human life but we can find
22 other ways to make money. And I urge you to have
23 the no action plan. Thank you.

24 SPEAKER 20: Hello. My name is Susan
25 Macon, and I'm from Spokane County. And I'm here

1 to voice my support for the Millennium Bulk
2 Terminal project in Longview, Washington.

3 I'm a very optimistic person and I looked
4 at the fact that the pie does not have to get
5 smaller, it does not have to stay the same. It
6 gets bigger and we can all share in a bigger piece
7 of the pie.

8 As far as people getting ill, we have
9 scientists, we have people making discoveries
10 every day. I don't think that we should get
11 caught up in the negativity because if we did we
12 would never go anywhere.

13 Also think about the fact that so many of
14 us are retiring now, and we need that money. We
15 need that money from this project to be brought in
16 to the state of Washington to help the elderly and
17 to help the sick, to help the poor, to help the
18 mentally ill. And this will help them.

19 Now, supporting developments like the
20 project will provide critical economic
21 opportunities for local communities throughout the
22 state. It will create thousands of new jobs and
23 generate millions in economic revenue.

24 As one of the most trade-dependent states
25 in the nation, this project is also an investment

1 that will ensure that Washington can maintain its
2 legacy. Overall it's a real opportunity to
3 improve our state's infrastructure, bolster the
4 economy for generations to come, all the while
5 protecting the environmental integrity of our
6 state. Olympia needs to let this project move
7 forward.

8 As far as the infrastructure, I would
9 think that it would create more jobs. If we have
10 problems with the railways here in Spokane, that
11 would create more jobs. Improve it. Be positive.
12 Thank you.

13 EVENT HOST: Thank you. Next speaker,
14 please, and then we'll draw five lottery numbers.

15 SPEAKER 21: My name is Joella Robinson,
16 but I'm speaking on behalf of Dr. Ethan Angel. As
17 a primary care physician at a local community
18 health center here in Spokane, my primary concerns
19 about the proposed coal trains related to human
20 health and social justice. The damage to human
21 health resulting from this increase in train
22 traffic, particularly trains transporting coal, is
23 not hypothetical or abstract. It is real based in
24 science, and it will be suffered by people all
25 along the rail lines every day.

1 Diesel exhaust is a known carcinogen, and
2 the particulate from coal dust combined with that
3 from the trains' exhaust will impact lung health.
4 Those with asthma and other chronic lung diseases
5 will be most impacted, potentially fatally.

6 This is a social justice issue as well
7 because low income and other vulnerable
8 populations are concentrated most closely along
9 the rail lines.

10 In addition to the chronic daily impact
11 on health there will be catastrophic events that
12 will occur more randomly. Wait times to cross the
13 rails as trains pass will increase dramatically.
14 This will delay emergency vehicles that cross
15 their every day.

16 Imagine if your loved one were the one on
17 the wrong side of the tracks in this emergency
18 situation. And of course there will be
19 derailments. These will obviously impact more
20 than the passengers on the train, especially
21 considering numerous major population centers and
22 the large rivers carrying drinking water that are
23 crossed by these rail lines.

24 As this project is projected to provide a
25 small amount of jobs, most of which will be

1 temporary and low wage, then that economic impact
2 of those trains will be detrimental.

3 This is also a social justice issue since
4 these most vulnerable populations are most
5 impacted by this economic damage, and because
6 human health is intimately connected to economic
7 health. Thank you.

8 EVENT HOST: Five additional numbers,
9 please?

10 CESAR: 7478, 7718, 7539, 7703, 7628.

11 SPEAKER 22: Hello. My name is Jay
12 Speilega (phonetic), and I work for the Sierra
13 Club as an organizer. But I just couldn't sit
14 idly in the crowd and listen any longer without
15 really calling this jobs issue out for what it is,
16 which is a lie.

17 Where are the jobs for Spokane? I do not
18 know where any of these jobs are. And I've been
19 working with the labor council here locally. The
20 labor council is not here today. They know there
21 aren't jobs for the Spokane region for this
22 project. We want to work with them to create good
23 jobs locally in the clean energy industry, and we
24 can create a heck of a lot more jobs locally with
25 solar power, wind power, energy efficiency for our

1 buildings and homes especially as opposed to
2 relying on the dirty 19th Century fossil fuel
3 that's going to harm us.

4 And if anything it's going to create jobs
5 for our medical profession, and we don't want
6 that.

7 So thank you for your time and just
8 remember also -- one point that I almost forgot to
9 make, that when Millennium first proposed this
10 project, they lied. They said they were going to
11 build a five-million ton a year coal facility.
12 And through; public records it was shown that they
13 really wanted ramp it up to what would be the
14 largest terminal in the continent. So they lied.
15 So I don't believe a word they're saying. Thank
16 you.

17 EVENT HOST: Thank you. Our next
18 speaker?

19 SPEAKER 23: Hi. I'm Mike Lewis, former
20 researcher and educator for Washington State
21 Energy Office, Spokane Regional Council, among
22 others.

23 And I want to say that coal and oil have
24 delivered an enormous benefit to humanity. They
25 have begun to free us from physical Toil, but they

1 cannot deliver energy abundance for all of us.

2 Furthermore they now threaten to destroy
3 us. For the first time in human history we face
4 two self-created imminent and urgent threats to
5 our survival on earth. And one is today's scale
6 of fossil fuel combustion generating atmospheric
7 carbon and creating climate turbulence.

8 For years the pentagon has said it's our
9 greatest security threat. And now, cautious
10 climate scientists are alarmed as climate change
11 grows much faster than they had predicted,
12 accelerating exponentially towards our
13 destruction.

14 Fortunately we have an extraordinary
15 solution. Counter-accelerating exponentially
16 towards our salvation. Solar and wind,
17 geothermal, and a sprinkling of other truly
18 renewable energy technologies. The only ones that
19 can deliver global abundance, clean environments,
20 and durable peace.

21 Despite half a trillion a year in
22 taxpayer subsidies skewed against them, they grow
23 exponentially in both productions and capital
24 investment. Cheaper now, and delivering more new
25 generation capacity than all fossil and nuclear

1 generation combined.

2 We must take that half a trillion and
3 instead subsidize the transition of these coal
4 workers to better, cleaner, safer, and more
5 abundant jobs in regionally-based renewable energy
6 industries, providing them income support, health
7 care, and pension security and training. They're
8 skilled people and they can do this. We must
9 invest in them.

10 We must also welcome the more than 300
11 billion a year in private renewables investment
12 and back it up to public investment. We must
13 immediately terminate coal and oil generation,
14 leaving it in the ground as it threatens our
15 survival.

16 EVENT HOST: Thank you. Our next
17 speaker, please.

18 SPEAKER 24: Good evening. My name is
19 Rick Isaid. I'm an adjunct professor at the
20 Gonzaga School of Law and also the executive
21 director and an attorney at the Center for Justice
22 here in Spokane.

23 I'd like to raise four points. First,
24 coal is a bad investment for our community. It's
25 no secret that coal's future is bleak, and a major

1 driver is economics.

2 Over the past five years U.S. coal
3 production has plummeted by more than 40 percent
4 as power plants have been shuttered around the
5 country and utilities move to cheaper and cleaner
6 energy alternatives, including solar and wind
7 power.

8 Arch, one of Millennium's partners, filed
9 for bankruptcy in January. Arch has also
10 abandoned several huge mining and infrastructure
11 projects that are closely tied to its export
12 plants, a giant mine and Otter Creek, Montana, and
13 the controversial Tongue Creek Railroad.

14 Both of these projects were explicitly
15 tied to its plans for this proposed terminal in
16 Longview. And in fact today Arch pulled out of
17 the Millennium export terminal project.

18 Second, Millennium has been a
19 less-than-honest business partner to this state,
20 resulting in delays and frankly lies to the
21 community.

22 As we've previously heard, in 2010, after
23 applying to export five million tons per year,
24 internal emails from Millennium investors revealed
25 secret plans to export up to 60 million tons each

1 year. Twelve times what they publicly claimed.
2 That discovery led to a change in the project and
3 forced them to start over.

4 Lastly, despite what we've heard,
5 increase in coal trains will impact public safety.
6 This is well illustrated by a delay that -- or an
7 incident that happened last May where two died as
8 a result of delayed rescue when a plane crashed
9 into the Spokane River. A direct cause was a
10 ten-minute delay that resulted from train traffic.
11 Thank you.

12 THE WITNESS: Next speaker please?
13 You'll have two minutes.

14 SPEAKER 25: Hi. I'm Cindy Zapotocky,
15 I'm a resident of Spokane, Washington. I was born
16 in Salem, Washington. I want to say, I welcome
17 this very clean modern plant. Just like the
18 trained companies have spent billions of dollars
19 do make their trains fast, efficient, and safe, so
20 have the plants of the United States jumped
21 through environmental hoops to satisfy regulators.

22 We're seeing huge efficient, safe plants
23 and we need more of them. Millennium has jumped
24 through the hoops that you've put in front of
25 them. And, frankly, as a housewife and a mother

1 of four sons, I welcome that attitude of filling
2 out all of your paperwork and satisfying every
3 question that you had.

4 I'm convinced that they are responsible,
5 and I welcome their business and their industry in
6 our state.

7 We need that in our state. Even though
8 what Rick said about coal plants being shuttered,
9 that's because of regulations under the Obama
10 administration. This is frightening to me. We're
11 losing thousands of jobs due to these regulations,
12 and I am concerned.

13 Eighty percent of the energy in the
14 Eastern U.S. is provided by coal. We have the
15 cleanest coal energy on the face of the earth.
16 And so, again, I question that this is a dirty,
17 antiquated thing.

18 It's modern, it's been updated, and we
19 need to look at the truth of those statements.

20 I'm not afraid of the trains. I think
21 that as Americans have always overcome obstacles
22 and we're ready to move forward. And so we will
23 meet the challenges as the people. Thank you very
24 much.

25 SPEAKER 26: Good evening. Thank you for

1 making this forum available. My name is Dennis
2 (inaudible). I'm a vice president at an
3 investment bank.

4 I want to name some names. Peabody
5 Energy, Arch Coal, Alpha Natural Resources, James
6 River Coal, Massey Energy. What do these names
7 all have in common? They have all recently
8 declared bankruptcy. This is not due to
9 regulation. This is the market. It is supply and
10 demand. This is cheap natural gas, it is
11 alternative energy which has made coal obsolete.

12 One of these names, however, is unique,
13 and that is Massey Energy. Last week their former
14 CEO, Don Blankenship was sentenced to prison for
15 disabling safety equipment and ignoring safety
16 procedures. This resulted in the death of 37
17 miners because of the coal dust explosion.

18 I've heard how Millennium is going to be
19 so safe, but these procedures and devices are only
20 safe when they are properly implemented and
21 monitored.

22 The 37 miners cannot testify here tonight
23 to talk about how safe coal dust is, because
24 they've heard about that, too.

25 Coal is dirty where it's mined, where

1 it's transported, where it's burned, and it leaves
2 toxic wast.

3 Global warming is recognized by the
4 scientific community, the business community,
5 ensures the military, it's real, and people are
6 preparing for it. It's time to move on. Building
7 this project is a mistake. Thank you.

8 SPEAKER 27: Hello. My name is De De
9 McAuliffe, and I'm from Moon Lake, Washington.
10 There are many reasons to oppose the Millennium
11 terminal, but I'm going to speak from a personal
12 point of view.

13 I grew up in the pristine wilderness in
14 Alaska. When I was 12 we moved to Butte, Montana,
15 where my father was a mining engineer. It was
16 like moving from a beautiful place to a superfund
17 site. It was a toxic wasteland. It was
18 appalling. Even as a 12-year-old I could feel how
19 wrong it was.

20 We live in an environmental paradise.
21 The Pacific Northwest is a jewel in this nation's
22 geography.

23 From all along the rivers are the rail
24 lines. And every time a train goes by, coal dust
25 comes off and there's a possibility of accidents.

1 We need to preserve our rivers, our scenic
2 waterways, we need to preserve our way of life.

3 Coal is a disaster from Wyoming to where
4 it's delivered, in China. Thank you for your
5 time.

6 EVENT HOST: Thank you. If we could
7 pause for a moment for some additional lottery
8 numbers.

9 CESAR: 7740, 7454, 7460, 7507, 7694.

10 EVENT HOST: Thank you. Next speaker,
11 please.

12 SPEAKER 28: Good evening. Mike Elliott.
13 Tacoma, Washington. I just want to express my
14 concerns on the process in terms of the balance of
15 the EIS, and I would like to see and hope that
16 this process can be fair.

17 I think there's been an undue scrutiny on
18 the commodities of this product. And just letting
19 you know, the products that we haul in the
20 railroad industry, I think it sets a bad precedent
21 for future products.

22 I think if when you look at permitting
23 and the EIS and that type of thing, there ought to
24 be a fair, balanced, neutral process for all
25 comers.

1 And last September I was invited to the
2 Chinese delegation reception in Seattle when they
3 were here, and they're interested in doing
4 business here and investing here in Washington
5 state, and can be trading items with us in very
6 serious. And, you know, before anyone will invest
7 they want to know, is the process in place? Is it
8 a timely process? And that keeps coming to the
9 forefront in this.

10 So, for me, that's personally one of the
11 main things that I look at is when you take a look
12 at this thing, just make sure it's fair and
13 balanced for everyone, regardless the commodity.

14 And if it is, then great. And, you know,
15 I'm not bashing any of the other groups that have
16 issues to talk about here, and we all have valid
17 concerns in our own area. But I think for the EIS
18 process it's got to be balanced, it's got to be
19 fair, it's got to be even across the board
20 regardless of the commodity thank you.

21 SPEAKER 29: My name is Robin Simmons,
22 and I live in Longview. And I feel compelled to
23 speak of my experience.

24 I'm no one special, but I've raised my
25 three children in the Hunter Valley, a coal mining

1 district in East South Wales, Australia. We lived
2 a half mile from the main rail line that runs
3 30-plus coal trains every day from the Hunter
4 Valley coal mines to the Port of New Castle for
5 export.

6 Our family did not experience air quality
7 issues, coal dust problems, or any of the
8 health-related concerns that have been raised here
9 today. In fact, I never even knew about coal dust
10 being a problem until coming to these public
11 hearings.

12 My family still lives within a half-mile
13 radius of the New Castle coal loading facility
14 that exports a hundred million tons of coal a
15 year.

16 We must stick to the facts and not be
17 swayed by the fear factor that surrounds coal.

18 I have also had first-hand experience of
19 how a coal terminal operates successfully, as my
20 house, who is still very healthy, worked at one
21 for 28 years. I fully support Millennium building
22 it right, and that finally the Draft EIS has come
23 to the conclusion that the operation of the
24 proposed terminal will comply with all of
25 Washington's strict environmental requirements,

1 allowing it to operate effectively alongside a
2 thriving Longview community. Thank you.

3 SPEAKER 30: My name is David Hunt. I'm
4 Spokane born and raised. I support a no action
5 alternative and denial of all permits.

6 Talk is cheap. And you know why?
7 Because it's simple economics. Supply is so much
8 greater than demand. I want to shed a little
9 light on the argument we've heard today and we'll
10 heard more about, and that being the economic
11 benefits from the proposal and the rail transport
12 of coal through our community.

13 These industries do not account for, pay
14 for, or even take responsibility for very real
15 costs and liabilities that we will all incur so
16 that they can create their profits.

17 Costs involving our health, our safety,
18 our environment, decreased home values, and
19 community costs from emergency responses and
20 planning, traffic impacts, and infrastructure.

21 Regarding health and increased health
22 costs for many of us who will suffer from
23 increased coal dust and coal burning and DPM.

24 The industries try to obscure or shift
25 the focus away from the cost, but it's very real.

1 It's well researched, and I've addressed this in
2 my written DEIS comments and included the
3 excellent research that has been done by the
4 medical and scientific community.

5 The industry wants you to pay these costs
6 and liabilities with your dollars and your
7 sacrifices while Warren Buffet and Burlington
8 Northern refuse to even pay to cover their rail
9 cars to prevent spewing of toxic coal dust that
10 the rest of us breathe.

11 In reality, how arrogant is that? The
12 industry wants the profits and assets from coal
13 mining and transport and burning to be private
14 profits, but they want the very real costs and
15 liabilities from their actions to be socialized,
16 endured and paid for by the rest of us.

17 They got away with it in the past by
18 promising the economic benefits, which we now know
19 were false broken promises that put the cost and
20 liabilities on the rest of us. It's
21 irresponsible, unacceptable, and we're not going
22 to buy it anymore, their promises or their cheap
23 talk.

24 SPEAKER 31: My name is Dave (inaudible.)
25 I'm a resident here in the city of Spokane. We

1 live down wind from the railroad tracks, about
2 three blocks away, a little less. We are exposed
3 directly, and I can tell you first hand that coal
4 is dirty and that diesel engines put out a lot of
5 soot.

6 We can see it with our naked eye. We can
7 also go out on our balcony on a daily basis and
8 clean our picnic table off, the glass top, clean
9 it off with a white rag that turns black. That's
10 not pollen, that's not the kind of pollution dust
11 that we had on the south hill when we lived there,
12 that's soot. That's diesel.

13 So why, why are we going to sell our soul
14 for a few jobs. Because the people that really
15 want the coal are on the other side of the ocean
16 in a planned economy that many of the proponents
17 believe is the height of, you know, the most
18 reported economic system there is. They want the
19 coal so they can burn our coal and add value and
20 produce steel and other products and sell it back
21 to us. That's what the jobs really will be.

22 The few jobs we will have here will be
23 minor compared to what they will be enjoying,
24 doing what they want to do, which is build their
25 economy.

1 SPEAKER 32: Good evening. My name is
2 Alfredo Romero, and I'm a social worker. And I
3 want to talk about intersectionality. There seems
4 to be a lot of intersectionality related to this
5 terminal: Health-wise, jobs-wise, people-wise,
6 local emergency issues.

7 But the one thing, you know, that we're
8 failing to recognize is the other
9 intersectionality factor that it's all about
10 money. And it's not about American money. It's
11 not about money in Spokane. It's not about money
12 in the state of Washington. It's about money in
13 China. It's about money in other markets. It's
14 about putting the people of our state at risk for
15 someone else's money.

16 I don't know, as a social worker we tend
17 not to put value on life. But I think that's
18 what's happening here. I think that we have a
19 group of people that are supporting this based on
20 a pie in the sky promise that it's going to
21 generate a lot of jobs, when in effect what it's
22 going to generate is a lot of jobs in the health
23 care industry but not the kind of jobs that we
24 want.

25 Jobs that are going to have to be taking

1 care of people with respiratory issues. Jobs that
2 are going to have to be taking care of people that
3 can't get to the hospitals in time because they're
4 held up by a train.

5 The intersectionality of this issue is a
6 negative one, and I ask you to take no action on
7 this terminal. Thank you.

8 EVENT HOST: Another lottery draw?

9 CESAR: 7737, 7773, 7497, 7447, 7441.

10 SPEAKER 33: Good afternoon. Thank you
11 for your patience and long suffering. My name is
12 George Taylor. I live in the lower south hill of
13 Spokane. I'm a granddad and my two children, age
14 14 and 10 live with me.

15 We live about a mile from the train
16 tracks, and I just want to echo the previous
17 speaker who said we wipe coal dust from our porch
18 on a daily basis.

19 I'm testifying against the proposed
20 environmental disaster known as the Millennium
21 Bulk Terminal in Longview that proposes to send 44
22 million tons of dirty coal through Spokane.

23 So, to me, it is clearly in the public
24 interest and public health to deny this permit for
25 Millennium.

1 Recently, U.S. Senator Jeff Merkley from
2 our neighboring state of Oregon introduced federal
3 legislation in Washington called Keep It in the
4 Ground, referring to the important issue of
5 keeping coal and oil, fossil fuels in the ground
6 in Wyoming, Montana, and North Dakota, where they
7 should be, and not extracting it from the ground
8 and putting in mile-long trains to pollute the
9 communities it passes through, including Spokane.

10 It risks increased diesel particulates,
11 which have been referred here before, from the
12 diesel engines pulling the trains, which are
13 carcinogens, the hazards from the spilled coal
14 dust and spilled coal on the tracks and
15 environment.

16 But the biggest reason for preventing
17 these trains is the danger to mother earth. The
18 mother earth we all inhabit. By exporting coal
19 and oil overseas to China and other countries --
20 oh, we're done. We're done. Please use the no
21 action alternative.

22 EVENT HOST: Thank you. Our next
23 speaker, please?

24 SPEAKER 34: Ladies and gentlemen, I'm a
25 member OF the citizenship of Spokane, and I'm here

1 to present my views.

2 I had the opportunity to go out and see
3 all of the information that was presented right by
4 the Department of Ecology. I read all of it very
5 carefully.

6 And I noticed that basically, as far as
7 the state of Washington goes, the standards have
8 all been met. Now there may be areas where you
9 might have to make a few adjustments. But,
10 please, don't let emotionalism run the show. You
11 have the facts, you already have experts that are
12 your beck and call. You can separate fiction from
13 fact and then make your judgment based on that.

14 As far as where the coal is going to go,
15 I hear it's going to China. Well, that's not
16 true, you know that. It's going to go to Japan
17 and South Korea.

18 What will happen with it is it will be a
19 lot cleaner burning coal than what we presently
20 have, that they have now. And they have other
21 reasons for doing it. The nuclear meltdown that
22 took place in Japan, the fallout from that.

23 So don't let the facts get buried by
24 emotionalism. I'm not picking on the people that
25 say don't do it, but I'm hearing things that I

1 know are patently not accurate, not even true.
2 But they have a right to their say. Thank you
3 very much.

4 SPEAKER 35: My name is Dave Johnson.
5 I'm a resident here in Spokane. And what to just
6 voice my opinion about this coal terminal that's
7 supposed to be coming out. And, well, I just want
8 to say, you know, that we should destroy the
9 planet. I think that we should totally give a
10 couple jobs and then murder all the fish. But
11 it's China's air. It's not like we live in a big
12 bubble, right?

13 We should give some people some money and
14 then poison the rest of us. It seems like it's a
15 great idea. Right?

16 I tell my daughter that somebody needs
17 some jobs and that's why he can't drink from the
18 rivers anymore, that's why there's no more fish
19 anymore, TAZ why everybody has to wear respirators
20 all the time, because a couple people want some
21 jobs.

22 It's not like we're earthlings caring
23 about the rest of humanity, because we're all part
24 of this planet and we're trying to protect the
25 planet for the future, for our children, and not

1 for the present satisfaction of a few rich people
2 who were just destroying the planet.

3 Selfish ways will not succeed in the
4 future. And we need to united together to protect
5 the planet, and if a couple of people who are so
6 starving for jobs that they can feed each other
7 and pay for everyone to out here, well, that's not
8 really a whole lot of sadness. Because everybody
9 here in red is not being paid to be here.

10 You know, can people in blue say the same
11 thing? Probably not. But let's destroy the
12 planet and give them some jobs. Seems like a
13 really good plan. Let's perpetuate the idea that
14 we are all separate, that Chinese air is not our
15 air. Thank you.

16 SPEAKER 36: Hello, I'd like to yield my
17 time to Dr. James Whalen.

18 (Appearing via Skype): Hello. My name
19 is James Whalen, I'm speaking to you from New
20 Castle, Australia.

21 I live in the world's largest coal export
22 city. We export three-quarters of a million --
23 sorry, 150 million tons of coal each year.

24 As long as coal is being exported through
25 New Castle, we have been concerned about the

1 health effects, especially the air pollution
2 impact. Over 3,000 Australians (inaudible) from
3 the health effects of the air pollution each year.
4 And (inaudible) to fine particle pollution will
5 (inaudible) as proposed, most likely the coal
6 dust.

7 And so as part of the pollution
8 (inaudible) from Montana coal trains. And I did
9 the math very quickly on the eight trains each day
10 that will come through your city, and that's
11 three-quarters of a million tons going in and out
12 of your city each day -- I'm sorry, each year.

13 And BNSF, the railroad company in the
14 U.S., it's making between one and three percent of
15 the coal that's being transported is loss in
16 transit, I'm (inaudible) between 100 and 100 tons
17 of fine particulate pollutants here that can be
18 deeply (inaudible).

19 And we in New Castle strongly urge you to
20 think carefully about the health impact that might
21 come (inaudible) and at the very least
22 (inaudible).

23 SPEAKER 37: My name is Matthew Hepner,
24 and I'm the Executive Director of the Certified
25 Electrical Workers of Washington state. And I

1 live in East Wenatchee, Washington. And I'm here
2 in support of the Millennium Bulk Terminal. And
3 I'm here in support of it for practical reasons.

4 First of all, the Draft EIS, it checks
5 out. It came out okay, it's neutral for
6 Washington state.

7 Secondly, Washington state is an
8 export-driven state. Four to ten jobs here
9 revolve around exports. These are good jobs,
10 family wage jobs, jobs which contribute
11 meaningfully so we can fund things like education,
12 ecology, and the parks system.

13 Now, this approval process has taken five
14 years. That's ridiculous. This function like
15 this threatens all of us in Washington state.
16 Nobody will want to invest here in Washington if
17 investors are continually attacked like this.

18 I'm an electrician, I drive an electric
19 car, I am a huge advocate for green energy, and
20 also I'm a big advocate for jobs.

21 When battery technologies, semi-conductor
22 technologies, and green energy matures and they
23 start mass producing and creating good 21st
24 Century jobs, they're not going to be building
25 here in Washington. And who can blame them.

1 Thank you.

2 SPEAKER 38: Good evening. I'm Herb
3 Crohn, the State Legislative Director for SMART
4 Transportation, a division representing 2,000
5 railroad workers in our state. There is no free
6 lunch. All our energy sources have negative
7 environmental impacts. Nuclear waste, dams, flood
8 lands that kill fish, wind mills kill birds.
9 Making solar panels and wind mill motors generate
10 very toxic residues.

11 Every energy source used in the world
12 have grave environmental consequences. We need
13 world-wide solutions to global warming instead of
14 vilifying commodities at each other. We are all
15 responsible for global warming.

16 Many of us sit here using cell phones,
17 laptops, other electronic devices, and guess what,
18 these products are all made in factories in Asia,
19 using electricity generated from coal.

20 Many of us will leave today in vehicles
21 burning fossil fuels. Even our bicycles made in
22 Asian factories powered by electricity are
23 generated by coal.

24 Most of our possessions; food and
25 manufactured goods are transported by ships,

1 trains, and trucks powered by fossil fuels. It's
2 hypocritical to claim the morale high ground by
3 opposing this project while each and every person
4 here benefits from electricity from coal and
5 burning fossil fuels as a consumer. No one is
6 without it. There are more people in Asia and
7 India today who still have no electricity in their
8 homes than the entire populations the United
9 States.

10 Oposing this project amounts to
11 supporting the U.S. policy of radical,
12 environmental, and economic imperialism by denying
13 the lights of emerging nations to improve their
14 families' lives while we here enjoy our modern
15 conveniences.

16 Let's get past trying to solve a local
17 problem at the local level, reduce acid rain in
18 the United States, grant these permits and let's
19 work to address global warming nationally and
20 globally, like the world did with freon and ozone
21 damage in the 1980s. Thank you.

22 EVENT HOST: Thank you. Just a quick
23 announcement. In about five minutes, at 6:55,
24 we're proposing a five-minute break, a recess from
25 testimony. Our hard working captioner and court

1 reporter don't have others to give them a break,
2 so we'll do that. We'll still hear from two more
3 speakers. I'd like to hear five more lottery
4 numbers at this time.

5 CESAR: 7591, 7535, 7547, 7756, 7486.

6 SPEAKER 39: Hi there. My name is Steven
7 (inaudible). I'm here representing BNSF Railroad.
8 I have three sons who have worked for BNSF for all
9 of those years. I'm here to voice my support for
10 this project, for union jobs.

11 This country, if you look around the
12 county, you see that middle class is shrinking
13 everywhere. And we need these jobs, we need the
14 tax base.

15 (Inaudible) informed me that laid off
16 co-workers, probably 80 right here in Spokane.
17 They all need to come back and support their
18 families. These are jobs that every city that
19 these trains would be running through, they run
20 them very efficiently, the engines have gotten way
21 more fuel efficient, and like I say, the
22 longshoremen that run the facility, lots of union
23 labor will be involved in this. And I'm here to
24 support that.

25 And, like I say, we run our trains and

1 we've been shipping coal through here. I've been
2 working for the railroad for 27 years. We run
3 coal through here for a long time. We ran coal
4 through here probably today. And I've never had
5 dust on me. Like I say, I'm worried about other
6 things that we're shipping that we're not talking
7 about today. So I've run trains, I've ran them --
8 as they say, that's a hot topic, and I don't know
9 what the next one is going to be. But this is
10 good jobs. And this city, this state, we need
11 these jobs.

12 What kind of message are we sending to
13 people who are in business to our export
14 facilities in this state? We're going to tell
15 them that no, we don't want your business? Where
16 do you draw the line when you decide what we will
17 and won't ship? That's all I have to say. Thank
18 you.

19 SPEAKER 40: Hello. My name is Matthew
20 Lovesack (phonetic). I'm a locomotive engineer
21 for Union Pacific Railroad. I've been employed
22 for Union Pacific Railroad for 18 years now.

23 I'm here representing Smart engine men
24 and conductors on the Union Pacific Railroad. I
25 think it's, this fight, this battle for bulk

1 commodity export terminals is focused on coal and
2 oil, and I've ran every one of them. What's
3 getting lost and what this fight is really about
4 is grain, soy bean, pot ash, your everyday farmer.
5 The farmer who harvest wheat, barley. Your
6 everyday farmer from the Midwest that harvests
7 corn, soy beans. We run all that.

8 On the Union Pacific Railroad it's
9 probably eight or nine soy bean and corn trains
10 and wheat trains for every coal train we get, or
11 oil train we get.

12 Everybody is losing sight, everybody is
13 focusing on coal, oil. We as a nation have to
14 export our goods and service overseas, and without
15 these terminals we won't be able to do that. The
16 Panama Canal is going to be up and running to let
17 every ship on the face of the earth to go through.
18 And if we don't act now and get these terminals up
19 and running, those terminals will go to the Gulf
20 states, Texas, Louisiana. And then they'll export
21 all our goods and services through the Gulf
22 states. And we'll just dry up and all our jobs
23 will go away.

24 Like I said, I've been a railroader for
25 18 years. I'm a proud railroader. Union Pacific

1 Railroad is on pace to spend three and a half
2 billion dollars this year -- three and a half
3 billion dollars on infrastructure. That's not tax
4 money that comes from everybody sitting here.
5 That's the Union Pacific Railroad funding their
6 own train infrastructures.

7 As everybody knows, this nation is on an
8 infrastructure crisis. Bridges, freeways,
9 waterways. Thank you.

10 THE WITNESS: Thank you. Again, we'll
11 take a five minute recess for the proceedings and
12 everyone can stretch, take a quick break, and
13 we'll commence promptly at 7:01, we'll take the
14 sign-in elected officials and the top of the hour.
15 Thank you very much.

16 (Break taken 6:56 p.m. to 7:01 p.m.)

17 EVENT HOST: Folks, I'd like to call the
18 next speaker. You'll have two minutes.

19 SPEAKER 41: Good evening. My name is
20 Carol Ellis. I'm a life-long Spokane resident.
21 When the dust has settled, we will not have said
22 all that needs to be said about the dust.

23 In 2012, Burlington Northern/Santa Fe
24 issued a dust warning when they had 31 cars derail
25 in Pasco, possibly the same coal you saw here this

1 evening. And Burlington Northern said that the
2 dust does create a hazard on the rails.

3 So I have some proposals of what's not
4 seen in the EIS. The first is a health section.
5 We've heard nurses testify to the need for a
6 health section. This is totally omitted, but we
7 still haven't addressed the entire route from the
8 Powder River. At least address the route starting
9 at the state line.

10 From the Draft EIS, besides looking at
11 health, and we need to look at waterways. Really
12 only the Columbia is closely looked at in the EIS.
13 I ask you to start with Lake Ponderay, where the
14 Spokane aquifer begins. I ask you to examine the
15 number of trestles that cross Lake Ponderay. I
16 ask you to address the Snake River because trains
17 will come up from the Snake. The Spokane River,
18 the Columbia River, and to do a better job for the
19 tribes and the fish populations at Longview.

20 I found that section totally inadequate,
21 lacking scientific detail, lacking the names of
22 the fisheries, locations of the fisheries, the
23 names of the tribes.

24 I ask you to create an environmental
25 infrastructure section where you look at the

1 transport at least from the Washington/Idaho line,
2 but really you need to start in Montana and go all
3 the way through all the rivers and waterway, look
4 at the number of trestles and the number of
5 bridges over water.

6 The frequency of other users and
7 derailments. I will provide derailment
8 information.

9 EVENT HOST: Thank you very much. Our
10 next speaker, please?

11 SPEAKER 42: Hi. My name is Michael
12 Zookoski (phonetic). I teach anthropology at a
13 local university. I'm a Ph.D. I've done some
14 research with the National Science Foundation,
15 which is social science issues mostly.

16 But my interests also deal with the
17 environment, and I'm very concerned and strongly
18 oppose the development of this facility for
19 general reasons.

20 The first reason is the issue of global
21 climate change that we've heard about. In the
22 context of global climate change which the
23 majority of the scientific community now supports,
24 and it's essential that we stay within that two to
25 three degrees of warming.

1 This is just simply the wrong kind of
2 development for Washington state and for the
3 United States more generally. The U.S. has
4 recently signed the international Paris agreement
5 and we're committed to -- in the future, right --
6 reducing our fossil fuel use and carbon emissions.

7 The Draft EIS itself states clearly that
8 it's going to increase carbon emissions by 37
9 million metric tons. Yet we're clear at this
10 point in the scientific community within many
11 federal and state agencies that we need to
12 regulate and limit our existing carbon emissions.

13 So this strikes me as completely wrong.
14 It goes a totally wrong direction for our state.
15 But we've heard a lot about the dynamic of jobs,
16 right, versus the climate. Yet we do need to
17 transition to renewable energy sources, cleaner
18 energy sources. And that transition can give huge
19 boom for our.

20 Economy but we're still dealing with,
21 right, the impact of the concentration of power
22 and capital in fossil fuel companies, and we
23 really need to move beyond that. So I really
24 support you. Thank you.

25 EVENT HOST: Thank you for your comments.

1 We'll go ahead and take the next speaker now.

2 SPEAKER 43: Good evening. My name is
3 Elizabeth Guick (phonetic). I'm a student of
4 ecology and I was raised in Spokane. I'm here to
5 object to the proposed coal export terminal in
6 Longview. In no way do I want 16 more coal trains
7 a day passing through my town. There are no jobs
8 in it for Spokane. It simply poses a threat to
9 public and environmental safety.

10 On the issues of coal dust pollution, I
11 do not trust the EIS statement when it says coal
12 dust has no effect. I believe that is delusional
13 and false.

14 You have heard the already testimonies of
15 the coal. Now add 16 more trains on top of them.
16 BNSF and other studies show that as much as three
17 percent of a coal's car load can blow away in
18 transit. And this pollution is nasty. It
19 consists obviously of carbon but also arsenic,
20 mercury, lead. And the surfactant flame retardant
21 that's sprayed on the coal to prevent combustion,
22 this is toxic. It's nasty and it's dangerous.

23 The trains follow rivers and waterways
24 from Montana to the coast. There is no
25 justification for polluting the air, water, and

1 lands along the tracks.

2 There is no justification to contaminate
3 the streams where fish hatch their sensitive eggs,
4 or the air of the people who reside in towns and
5 cities all along the tracks.

6 Coal profits and a mere 300 permanent
7 jobs do not come before a clean environment, clean
8 rivers and streams, clean soil and clean air, and
9 a livable future.

10 I understand jobs are very important.
11 There's plenty of jobs awaiting in the green
12 energy industry. There is an abundance of
13 opportunity to grow our economy without harming
14 the health of our environment. Solar, wind, bio
15 adjustors, low causing food system, recycling, to
16 name a few. Thank you.

17 EVENT HOST: Thank you. We'll take five
18 more lottery numbers.

19 CESAR: 7696, 7439, 7766, 7781, 7747.

20 SPEAKER 44: I'm Patty Ratliff. I'm a
21 school teacher in Spokane, have been for more than
22 ten years here. And I'm very, very well aware of
23 the impact, the negative economic and health
24 impact of a lack of jobs. Because Spokane has
25 many families that struggle with the impact of a

1 lack of jobs, a lack of good jobs, a lack of jobs
2 that have dignity and meaning and that jobs that
3 are contributing to a healthier world, a healthier
4 Spokane community.

5 Children who have poor health and the
6 health that goes with the economic challenges are
7 at risk in the face of increasing coal trains
8 coming through Spokane. I see that this is not a
9 job versus no jobs issue.

10 Also, somebody earlier mentioned be
11 positive. I am positive that sustainable clean
12 energies are going to be the really truly positive
13 way to make it into the future.

14 We have so many possibilities for
15 developing clean energy, and if we focus on the
16 terminal at Longview we're focusing in a backwards
17 direction. We are putting our hopes, pinning our
18 hopes on something that is really dying and death
19 causing, unhealthful.

20 Also, the developing nations, China,
21 India, many developing nations are building their
22 ability to develop and produce clean energies and
23 renewable energies cheaply, and they are going to
24 be beat us to it if we keep looking back.

25 EVENT HOST: Thank you for wrapping up.

1 We'll take the next speaker.

2 SPEAKER 45: Hi. My name is Lori
3 Lacander (phonetic). I've lived in Spokane a
4 long, long time. And I'm here in support of the
5 Millennium Terminal.

6 I'm no expert on coal, and what I've
7 heard here since coming here, I -- the gentleman
8 who spoke about all of things that we use in our
9 daily life, let alone our computers, cell phones,
10 our cars, televisions. All of these things, in
11 order to operate them take energy and a great
12 portion of the country's energy. We cannot
13 survive without coal in this country.

14 Yes, we have a president who really
15 basically told that he's going to put the coal
16 business out of business, but I don't think it
17 will totally go out of business because we have a
18 long span between from the time coal is no more to
19 the time that we have other sources in this
20 country to drive our cars, to everything we do in
21 our homes, to provide electricity, just the list
22 goes on and on. And I'm not an expert.

23 But I didn't want to say one thing -- or
24 several things here. One, I don't know anybody
25 who has come here and is paid to be here. The

1 gentleman made reference that we were paid to be
2 here. No, we're here because we're concerned
3 about the future of Washington state and our
4 country as a whole.

5 And the gentleman who also mentioned, the
6 man from Oregon, I think a State Legislator who
7 says let's keep it in the ground. Okay. Then
8 don't drive your car, bicycle to work if you have
9 a job, and basically don't ever get on an airplane
10 again, because all these things take energy. And
11 I think that this Millennium program is a good
12 one. Thank you.

13 EVENT HOST: Thank you.

14 SPEAKER 46: Hello. My name is Carol
15 Bryan, I'm a 40-year Spokane resident, and I have
16 asthma.

17 Two days ago I returned from a trip from
18 Pennsylvania to St. Louis, from the Atlantic Ocean
19 to the Mississippi River, following and studying
20 the eastern part of Lewis and Clark's journey and
21 voyage of discovery.

22 On this trip I learned more than I wanted
23 to learn about American history and about our
24 patterns of connection and power and resource use
25 in America's past and present.

1 Four repeating patterns are relevant in
2 this discussion about coal terminals in my
3 opinion. The first pattern is displacement of the
4 Americans and anyone or anything that stands in
5 the way of the rich getting richer, corporations
6 seem determined to expand their wealth and control
7 regardless of the impact on people and our planet.

8 The second repeating pattern is I notice
9 people can be driven to desperate or violent means
10 when government is not responsive to our need for
11 personal or planetary survival.

12 Your decision affects our daily lives and
13 affects the health of our planet.

14 The third repeating pattern, many of
15 today's current social ails are a direct results
16 of manifest destiny and westward expansion. And
17 now we are expanding ownership even into the
18 earth, into the air, into the water, into our
19 oceans, and across the oceans at considerable cost
20 to our health and our planet's sustainability.

21 The fourth repeating pattern I notice is
22 we've always had in our country an (inaudible)
23 ruled by the few. We are increasingly ruled by
24 the powerful landowners, land grabbers, companies
25 who control the natural resources. Thank you.

1 EVENT HOST: We'll take the next speaker
2 and just remind the group, we do have additional
3 opportunities for you to speak at this venue.
4 Adjacent room to this one are two other court
5 reporters or online.

6 SPEAKER 47: Hi. I'm Margaret
7 (inaudible). I live up in Mead. Have you heard
8 the really good paying jobs in the (inaudible) in
9 North Dakota? They could not keep up with the
10 housing demand. And now apartments are lying
11 empty, advertising free rent for up to three
12 months.

13 The state of North Dakota was swimming in
14 oil revenue that they cut. That they cut by
15 three-fourths because they had so much money. Now
16 they have none.

17 They had to build new schools, which now
18 have a fourth -- less than a fourth of what they
19 were built for in those schools. And we know
20 what's happened to the land. It's unfit for crops
21 and the water is bad.

22 Short-term policies provide short-term
23 jobs and huge corporate profits that they'll
24 probably squirrel away in Panama or someplace
25 else. The people of the world will end up paying

1 the cost. We already do the. Coal is taken from
2 public lands which we own.

3 We will pay in sickness, death, and the
4 poisoning of our environment. Coal being burned
5 in China does land in Washington state. Your
6 children will be ashamed of you if you vote for
7 the short term. Think long term. Thank you.

8 EVENT HOST: Thank you. Our next
9 speaker, please.

10 SPEAKER 48: It is short sighted and a
11 selfish act of the current generation to continue
12 to consume and export with a ravaging appetite the
13 earth's natural resources and fossil fuels.

14 We all have to think about the global
15 implications of our actions and business. And
16 Millennium is no exception. Everything is
17 connected. Coal is a dirty business, and if you
18 do dirty business you have to take responsibility
19 for the implications. The commodity is relevant.

20 We've seen again and again how these
21 companies protect their assets and abandon their
22 projects without talking responsibility for the
23 devastation they cause to the water, earth, and
24 humans.

25 We are struggling for jobs partially

1 because our middle class is disappearing. And the
2 design of this project contributes to this mass
3 descent into poverty and lack of work. It makes a
4 few folks rich while degrading our resources,
5 exploiting our workers, disrespecting our
6 communities, and hurting our health.

7 Who benefits from this? A few. Who
8 suffers? Everyone. Whether they realize it yet
9 or not. We can do better and we must. The
10 suggested benefits of this project are
11 misrepresented, inflated, and do not outweigh the
12 costs.

13 This is our community, and this community
14 is saying no to coal. Thank you.

15 EVENT HOST: Thank you. I'd like to
16 pause for a lottery draw. And I'd just remind the
17 speakers, you're welcome to give your name and
18 your city or county of residence. You will be on
19 the record as a number. And if you'd like that
20 name spelled correctly, you can write it on the
21 back of the ticket.

22 So, Cesar, would you go ahead and draw
23 some more lottery tickets?

24 CESAR: 7472, 7593, 7585, 7569, 7772.

25 SPEAKER 49: Good evening. My name is

1 Bob Hylavich (phonetic). I live in Missoula,
2 Montana. I've spent 15 years living here in
3 Spokane. I work for the Water Keeper Alliance.

4 I'd like make a comment pulled from my
5 boss Robert Kennedy, Jr.

6 Coal (inaudible) enterprise. In nearly
7 every stage of its production many companies that
8 profit from it routinely defy safety and
9 environmental law and standards designed to
10 protect America's public health, property, and
11 prosperity.

12 In fact, Don Blankenship, who you've
13 heard here tonight, in a debate with Mr. Kennedy
14 once said that coal mining and coal exporting
15 could probably not be conducted without committing
16 violations. With a business model like that, one
17 that essentially relies on defies of the law, no
18 wonder that someone in the industry used their
19 indoor and political and other power to influence
20 government officials and capture the regulating
21 agencies.

22 That was in 2011, back when we first
23 started talking about this and when it felt like
24 those same powerful would win again.

25 Now it's 2016, and the masses have

1 spoken. I urge you to be on the right side of
2 history here and consider that a clean energy
3 future is what we want, it's what you're hearing
4 tonight, it's what you've heard for the last
5 multiple years, and it's a fact that our future
6 generation deserve. I urge you listen to the
7 people and take no action.

8 SPEAKER 50: Hello. My name is Allan
9 LeTourneau, and I'm a 73-year resident of the city
10 of Spokane.

11 Coal is disastrous to the world and the
12 chief contributor to global warming.

13 I'm hot here for my own benefit. There
14 is not enough time in my life for that. I'm here
15 for the benefit of future generations. While our
16 nation is passing laws to decrease pollution in
17 our atmosphere and adopting new technologies to
18 further protect our plane, we're losing ground in
19 this world battle because nations throughout the
20 world will not do their part to stop destroying
21 our planet.

22 Anybody who pays attention to the daily
23 events of the world has to be concerned about the
24 damage we see every day. Have we noticed the
25 extreme storms, tornadoes and flooding in the

1 Midwest, South and Southeast states? Billions of
2 dollars in damage and lost lives nearly every day.

3 Have you noticed how your insurance rates
4 are rapidly rising for your vehicles and homes due
5 to all the flooding and wildfires?

6 The scientists throughout the world are a
7 hell of a lot smarter than we are and our
8 government officials are. They are constantly
9 warning us of the danger lying ahead. China is
10 not going to stop burning coal. However, we can
11 stop providing the coal and force them to invest
12 in clean energy technologies.

13 That effort can start right here in
14 Spokane and the state of Washington. It has to
15 start somewhere, so why not here today? The
16 billionaires have made their billions in the coal
17 industry. They will not starve to death if we cut
18 off their gravy. However, our politicians may
19 suffer without the millions of dollars in
20 political campaign contributions. Numerous
21 industries have been diminished as times change in
22 the world.

23 If we've been paying attention, we would
24 have noticed that the polar caps are vanishing
25 more every year, whereas there used to be

1 stability with weather when we had low pressure
2 sitting over the polar caps most of the year. Now
3 there is no stability and the weather systems are
4 running wild throughout the world and throughout
5 the year.

6 EVENT HOST: If you'd like to leave your
7 written comments, you're welcome to. We'll take
8 our next speaker.

9 SPEAKER 51: Good evening. My name is
10 Colin Hastings. I'm here representing the Pasco
11 Chamber of Commerce. We're looking forward to
12 your hearing in Pasco next week. As part of our
13 role as Pasco Chamber I'm supposed to make sure
14 that the weather is going to be cooperative so you
15 can enjoy the nice sunshine there.

16 But on the serious note, recently our
17 board of directors passed a resolution in support
18 of the Millennium Bulk Terminal and the BNSF for
19 their efforts in making sure that we keep jobs
20 here in Washington state.

21 Pasco was built on transportation. Rail,
22 air, and through the waterways, too. And it's
23 very important to our economy. And we realize
24 this as well, too, with this project, too, how
25 important it is to our economy in Washington

1 state's economy.

2 Pasco Chamber, as also known, is the
3 local agriculture too. The economy in Franklin
4 County is primarily agriculture driven. They
5 depend on a safe, secure way of transporting their
6 goods to market. I mean, almost all the vendors
7 around Franklin County is out for export. And so
8 having the transportation infrastructure is vastly
9 important to that.

10 And on top of that, the expanded program
11 EIS on greenhouse gases I think oversteps the
12 bounds of what the Department of Ecology has done.
13 It sets a very dangerous precedent and could have
14 ramifications not only on this industry but other
15 manufacturing industries in Washington state as
16 well as agriculture, too.

17 So I'm here to raise some support for
18 Millennium Bulk Terminal. Thank you.

19 SPEAKER 52: Hi. My name is Adele Hurst,
20 and I'm from Spokane, Washington. I see a lot of
21 people here talking about temporary job
22 opportunities in Longview in the thousands and a
23 permanent job increase in the few hundred.

24 But that is only in Longview. I've seen
25 no job increases and nothing in Spokane. There's

1 no money coming to us, there's nothing that's
2 going to help support Spokane at all, and I don't
3 see why we should support them.

4 I only see an increase in water, air,
5 ground, and noise pollution, and a danger to
6 everybody who's here. I hear these people talking
7 about a much needed increase in revenue for
8 Washington state. I would say that's not true.

9 We have had recent things happen in
10 Washington state where they've been able to
11 actually increase jobs, they've increased the
12 amount of money that's coming into Spokane. And I
13 would say that there's been a huge increase in
14 revenue and jobs just raised in the past few
15 years.

16 So we don't need this. We don't need
17 coal. We're gaining jobs and revenue through this
18 green industry.

19 If this terminal is built, we will see an
20 increase in the number of trains. We already have
21 too many. From what I've learned, every car
22 transporting coal from start to finish loses
23 approximately 500 pounds of coal dust, and that's
24 just from one car. Imagine a hundred cars per day
25 per train and 100 trains per day.

1 This dust is polluting our air and
2 ground. This fine dust is working loosely to hold
3 our railroad down. This increases the chances of
4 a coal train derailling and makes me terrified
5 about what would happen if we even heavier oil
6 trains derailed.

7 These trains pass closely by three
8 hospitals on their way to Longview. One of these
9 hospitals is a children's hospital here in
10 Spokane. And these trains pass through downtown,
11 pass by a large amount of our sick and elderly.
12 We should be taking care of them, not endangering
13 them. Thank you.

14 EVENT HOST: Thank you. We'd like to
15 take an additional lottery draw before the next
16 speaker.

17 CESAR: 7651, 7563, 7722, 7589, 7520.

18 SPEAKER 53: Hi. Thanks for being here.
19 My name is Mark Stewart, and I live here in
20 Spokane. I live very close to the train tracks,
21 which are also very close to Lake Tongue Creek and
22 the Spokane River.

23 So I'm not sure how many people who are
24 for this project live really close to these train
25 tracks that, you know, are in our neighborhood,

1 but I can tell you that I definitely do. And our
2 neighbors are extremely concerned about having
3 increased train traffic, dust. We're talking
4 about more particulate matter. Just all these
5 things that can happen here in Spokane. And what
6 do we get for it?

7 Well, an increase in global warming? We
8 get an increased chance of acid rain, mercury
9 coming down in the form of acid rain.

10 I don't -- I just don't see the cost
11 benefit here for Spokane. So, since we're in
12 Spokane I think that's what's really relevant.

13 I guess in Longview we can talk about
14 jobs because that's where the jobs are going to
15 be. I don't see a lot of people working on the
16 railroad other than repairing the railroad,
17 because it's being overused as it is.

18 Coal is not the future. So Washington
19 state needs to lean forward and be part of the
20 future. Coal is the past. So what we should be
21 focused on in Washington -- and I know the
22 Department of Ecology is part of this -- as a
23 Washington state agency should be leaning forward
24 for forward-leaning technologies. Clean and
25 renewable energy, not coal, which is the past.

1 Again, you know, I mentioned I live along
2 the railway. And I just want to point out, I have
3 asthma. A lot of people have asthma, so...

4 EVENT HOST: We appreciate your comments.
5 We'll take the next speaker.

6 Again, we do have numbers up on the
7 screen and if you could check in with Kim and get
8 in the speaker line, that would be appreciated.

9 Ma'am, you'll have two minutes.

10 SPEAKER 54: Hello. My name is Jennifer
11 Calbert, and I live in the Spokane Valley. And
12 first I want to thank you for this important
13 opportunity for our community to express our
14 opinions on the building of the Millennium Bulk
15 Terminal in Longview.

16 I'm wearing red. I see an awful lot of
17 others wearing read. The significance of that
18 means stop. Let's stop this project at this point
19 if we possibly could. Because the reasons are
20 many and varied, as you've been hearing.

21 If this terminal is allowed to be built,
22 the impact on Spokane and all of the communities
23 along the train route will be huge. It's
24 projected that there will be an additional 16
25 trains per day winding their way through Spokane,

1 spewing diesel emissions and coal dust, and
2 causing them healthy air quality and all the
3 attendant health problems such as asthma,
4 emphysema, bronchitis, and other pulmonary
5 conditions, especially adversely affecting our
6 children and elderly persons.

7 And then when the coal is shipped to
8 China and overseas locations to be burned to
9 create energy, the pollution just travels around
10 the world and it impacts us again with health
11 problems.

12 I'm also concerned for the safety,
13 actually of the lack thereof, of coal trains as
14 they travel along rails that become weakened by
15 heavy use and coal dust and possible neglect until
16 a disaster happens such as a coal spill or
17 derailment. No one can guarantee that these
18 events won't happen.

19 We hear on almost a daily basis about
20 train accidents and derailments somewhere in the
21 country. And the consequences of these will be
22 borne by those of us who live in the communities
23 along the train route.

24 These events can be devastating to the
25 local communities economically and environmentally

1 and it's so unfair that coal companies are asking
2 us to bear all of the risks while reaping none of
3 the rewards.

4 We do not want coal in our communities.
5 We can do better than coal. I urge you to decide
6 on the no action alternative. Thank you.

7 SPEAKER 55: Hello. Thank you for
8 coming. My name is Dan Schaffer. I'm a retired
9 primary care physician, and I have lived in
10 Spokane since 1979.

11 What I would like to do is to just
12 encourage this group to consider the medical
13 consequences of the decision that you're going to
14 make. I think that we're dealing with issues that
15 affect a lot of different types of people in
16 different ways, and I don't know that it's been
17 addressed as well as it should be in the studies
18 that have been done.

19 I'm old enough to have lived with coal.
20 I grew up in New York state. And when I was a
21 child our house was heated with coal. It was the
22 hard anthracite coal, which is a lot cleaner in a
23 sense than the soft coal from the west. But even
24 so, our basement was nothing but coal dust. And
25 having to shovel the coal into the furnace was an

1 experience that I'd like to not have other people
2 experience.

3 I think it's important to consider what
4 the effect of coal is on the health of the
5 community. And I think there are alternatives to
6 generating energy that are cleaner and much more
7 sustainable. Thank you.

8 EVENT HOST: Thank you. We'll take
9 another five numbers on the lottery draw, please,
10 Cesar.

11 CESAR: 7763, 7495, 7567, 7609, 7485.

12 SPEAKER 56: Good evening, and thank you
13 for the opportunity to speak tonight. My name is
14 Jerry White, Jr. I'm a resident of Spokane, and
15 I'm the Spokane Riverkeeper.

16 As the Riverkeeper, I am an advocate, a
17 public advocate for a clean river. Our tag line
18 is to protect and keep the Spokane River fishable
19 and swimmable. It's important to understand that
20 the Spokane River is the center of our community,
21 and it is absolutely irreplaceable in terms of its
22 value added to our community.

23 I would urge you to please choose the no
24 action alternative. The Millennium Bulk Coal
25 Export Terminal is a poor choice for our river and

1 for our community.

2 I'm going to highlight, for multiple
3 reasons, I'm going to highlight two. For one
4 thing coal combustion does have and will have a
5 direct impact on our river.

6 The Draft Environmental Impact Statement
7 says that the Washington state greenhouse gas
8 footprint would rise by nearly 30 percent if 44
9 million tons of coal were actually combusted.
10 Climate science models have shown by actually
11 science teams like Prestiges, U of W, climate
12 science teams have had models that have shown that
13 by 2080 we would lose 50 percent of our average
14 snowpack. By the end of the century we may be
15 converting to a rain-based system. So that would
16 be a total loss of our snowpack.

17 Our snowpack is integral to maintaining a
18 healthy, vibrant river in the low flow summer
19 periods. And without it we would lose our river
20 in the summertime periods.

21 This year we got a bit of a taste with
22 our drought of what the future would have in store
23 for us if we continue. Please choose the no
24 action alternative. Than you.

25 EVENT HOST: Thank you. We're ready for

1 our next speaker. Again, if your number is up, if
2 you would check in with Kim, come to our speaker
3 lineup, we'll keep things moving. Thank you.

4 SPEAKER 57: Good evening. My name is
5 Wayne Attwood, retired physician having practiced
6 in Spokane for 31 years. I'm also a card carrying
7 member of the Washington Physicians for Social
8 Responsibility. As a physician, one of my
9 concerns with this proposed coal terminal has to
10 do with the many trainloads of coal passing
11 through our beautiful city spewing coal dust which
12 can certainly pose significant adverse health
13 effects to many of our populace, particularly the
14 elderly and the children.

15 But my greatest concern has to do with
16 potential for adding to the problem of climate
17 change and global warming. A very serious part of
18 this whole matter, but one that is rarely
19 discussed, is the feedback mechanism which
20 threatens to send the warming out of control. As
21 the frozen tundra of vast areas of Siberia thaws,
22 and the oceans warm, huge amounts of methane will
23 be released. Methane is a heat trapping gas 15 to
24 20 times more potent than Co2. Once set in
25 motion, this feedback mechanism could swing the

1 warming trend out of control.

2 We recently read that April, for the 12th
3 straight month, set new records for the average
4 temperature of the earth. And by a goodly margin.
5 We have just passed the concentration of Co2 in
6 the atmosphere of 400 parts per billion, and still
7 counting. Climate scientists have universally
8 agreed that 350 parts per billion is the upper
9 limit beyond which we can expect disastrous
10 weather events.

11 While the outlook looks daunting, indeed,
12 I do not believe that our ability to reverse this
13 trend has passed. And this is where we start,
14 locally, denying this project to proceed. This
15 may be one small step, but a very important one,
16 to keep this a livable planet for our future
17 generations. Thank you.

18 EVENT HOST: Thank you.

19 SPEAKER 58: Thank you for giving me the
20 opportunity to speak today. My name is Vlad
21 Duggan, I'm the Washington Director for Climate
22 Solutions.

23 We strongly oppose the Millennium
24 project. While we appreciate the significant
25 effort that went into the drafting this DEIS, we'd

1 like to identify some concerns.

2 Facilitating coal export to Asia will be
3 to reduce prices for coal there and increased
4 usage. We do not agree that the exports will turn
5 significantly upward pressure on domestic coal
6 prices in the United States, (inaudible) the
7 transition away from its use.

8 As we've seen in, for example, closer to
9 Montana where coal is mined and used for
10 electricity, there's a rapid transition away
11 because of the poor economics of those plants.
12 And the federal power plant will further
13 accelerate and make law that transition to other
14 parts of the country.

15 That means the demand for coal is
16 collapsing due to exogenous reasons, and so it
17 would be unresponsive to coal exports out of
18 Washington.

19 This means that while there will be lower
20 prices and stimulate demand elsewhere, we will not
21 see offsetting reductions here.

22 The substantial increase in rail traffic
23 with the DEIS does an inadequate job of analyzing
24 the cost and impacts, it will also leave
25 substantial emissions from the diesel emissions

1 the trains rely on.

2 This runs contrary to the work that the
3 Department of Ecology is doing elsewhere in the
4 Clean Air Rule to reduce emissions consistent with
5 state mandated reductions rules passed in 2008,
6 increasing diesel emissions diametrically opposed
7 to those goals.

8 And while the report claims (inaudible)
9 impact from coal dust, this (inaudible) conflicts
10 with the experience that shows (inaudible) just
11 don't work over long distances.

12 In the next version of the DEIS we urge
13 you to consider not just models for coal dust but
14 also the lived experience of the communities that
15 deal with coal trains every day. Thank you very
16 much for your work and for your participation.

17 SPEAKER 59: Hi there. My name is
18 Matthew Long. And I'm a little stage shy, but
19 first of all I'd like to thank you guys for
20 hosting this meeting today. I appreciate it.

21 Everyone here in a red shirt right here,
22 we're all representing our communities as
23 community members. I just wanted to highlight the
24 integrity of what we're here for, and what we're
25 really trying to do to make sure we're protecting

1 is that continual care for the people that we care
2 about. Probably the reason why you guys are here,
3 too.

4 Now, you know, the idea that you get a
5 low amount of exports or a high amount of jobs is
6 a typical bait and switch which comes to those
7 companies. And when it is the risk of a product
8 that includes mercury, arsonic, and lead in it, it
9 loses, and it's been proven to lose lots of the
10 substance as it goes through our communities, that
11 the risks to our schools, hospitals, retirement
12 facilities, at-risk people here that we're trying
13 to maintain the livelihood for, that that is a big
14 part ever the community in the last five years,
15 and we're not stopping because it's just part of
16 our integrity.

17 So, really, I guess I have some other
18 stuff that you'll be hearing at another time, but
19 I think that list is all. Thank you guys. Thank
20 you.

21 EVENT HOST: Thank you very much. We'll
22 take one more speaker, then draw some additional
23 numbers. Thanks.

24 SPEAKER 60: Good evening, and thank you
25 for your work on the study. I'm Helen Yost,

1 Y-O-S-T. In Idaho I'm from Sandpoint and Moscow,
2 a former University of Idaho Natural Resources
3 Ph.D. student and climate activist since 2010,
4 representing over 3,000 comrades of wild Idaho
5 rising tide.

6 I'm here to ask you to prepare a
7 probiotic EIS that considers all the environmental
8 and social impacts of the proposed Millennium Bulk
9 Terminal's coal export terminal on all U.S.
10 citizens and environments along rail lines from
11 the Powder River Basin coal mines to the proposed
12 port in Longview.

13 Where in your Draft EIS do you analyze
14 the risks and effects of toxic coal dust and
15 carcinogenic diesel fumes on residents in
16 Sandpoint and North Idaho where our office is
17 located within only a few blocks of the BNSF rail
18 line?

19 Where does your 3300-page study, the
20 well-documented accumulation of coal chunks and
21 diesel soot in water's habitats and species of
22 America's fifth deepest lake, Lake Ponderay?
23 Where does it weigh the damage to rails and
24 bridges from coal trains and the clogging of that
25 ballast that causes rails to shift in saturated

1 weather. This being Idaho derailments are even
2 more hazardous freight.

3 Please issue a supplemental, programmatic
4 Draft EIS like the one initiated for the once
5 largest coal export terminal in North America,
6 Gateway Pacific, with Millennium now claiming that
7 distinction and hundreds of thousands of Idahoans
8 already enduring potential adverse health
9 environmental economic impacts of Millennium's
10 eight additional full and eight empty trains daily
11 through our panhandle, we deserve your fair and
12 equal treatment under Constitutional law, and
13 under our shared climate of which we each breathe
14 35 pounds every day.

15 We promise estimating direct action with
16 our allies throughout the region if this terminal
17 does go forward.

18 EVENT HOST: We'll go ahead and take the
19 lottery draw.

20 CESAR: 7551, 7764, 7608, 7654, 7606.

21 SPEAKER 61: Good evening, and thank you
22 so much for allowing public comment on this very
23 important project. My name is Kelly Lutz. I'm a
24 lifetime resident of Spokane. I actually live in
25 Brown's addition, just a short little drive from

1 here, just two blocks from the railroad tracks
2 that they also referenced today.

3 I was here in 2013. I didn't testify in
4 2013. I didn't feel it was quite as important.
5 But as Millennial, and as someone who's investing
6 in the generations to come behind me, I feel that
7 this project needs to move along.

8 It's served its time, and I appreciate
9 what you guys are set aside to do, the actual
10 impact statement of what this project would do to
11 the environment.

12 The one thing that some of the others
13 have talked about, that these trains would go
14 through other parts of North Idaho, et cetera,
15 Prince Rupert has already invested a lot of money
16 to take this traffic if we don't approve this
17 project. And it very rightfully could go through
18 North Idaho if we don't approve this. We'd rather
19 have the jobs here in Washington.

20 Ironic thing that was brought to my
21 notes, it may have been covered in the human
22 process, but us here in Spokane we deal with road
23 salts during the winter months. And personally I
24 feel there's way more impact that does on our
25 daily health than anything I've seen in the three

1 years I've lived right by the railroad tracks. So
2 I believe that's about all I have. Thank you guys
3 so much for this public comment time.

4 SPEAKER 62: Hi. My name is Jessica
5 Zimmerly. And I am here representing Earthy
6 Ministry. We're a faith-based organization that
7 stands up for the health of our communities all
8 across Washington state.

9 And I want to bring up Pope Frances's
10 recent encyclical in which he states, quote,
11 Environmental impact assessments should be linked
12 to a study of working conditions and possible
13 effects on people's physical and mental health, on
14 the local economy, and on public safety.

15 The Draft EIS shows that coal export in
16 Longview does not meet any of the Pope's criteria.
17 And I'll explain with some personal examples.

18 So physical health. I've myself heard
19 kids in high air pollution neighborhoods say that
20 they think asthma is just something that everybody
21 has.

22 Without solving coal dust loss from open
23 cars along the rail route, we are increasing this
24 norm of asthma for our future generations in
25 children.

1 Mental health. The DEIS states that
2 noise disruption from increased rail traffic would
3 exceed regulatory standards. I've lived close to
4 train tracks and I've experienced how this noise
5 disturbs sleep patterns and reduces quality of
6 life.

7 The local economy. The Draft EIS fails
8 to address the economic drifts to communities
9 along the train tracks like Spokane.

10 So what about tribal fishing rights,
11 property values, traffic delay, and limited
12 agricultural use of our train system? Not to
13 mention the cost borne by taxpayers to improve
14 rail Infrastructure.

15 Public safety. Eleven additional
16 rail-related accident are predicted annually in
17 the DEIS as a direct result of only this project.
18 Lord knows that one loss is too many from one of
19 these accidents.

20 I teach all across the state on this, and
21 coal trains are always coming up in all different
22 (inaudible.) People of faith know that this
23 project is a step backward. We've got the Pope to
24 back us up. It's all risk, no reward, not to
25 mention that it's my future.

1 EVENT HOST: Thank you. Our next
2 speaker. And, again, just to encourage you folks,
3 if your numbers are up on the board, if you could
4 come check in with the speaker line. Thanks.

5 SPEAKER 63: Hi. I'm Catherine Smith,
6 and I've lived in Spokane since 1989.

7 I left the environmental degradation of
8 Texas to come to the Evergreen state to live in a
9 place where I have clean air and water that was
10 drinkable, and feel safe. And I brought my
11 children here for that express purpose. And I
12 have enjoyed it here, however it is frightening to
13 have to continually deal with these environmental
14 threats, like this ongoing coal train and oil
15 train business. It's terrifying. I'm a
16 homeowner. I work here. I enjoy my life here. I
17 enjoy the good drinking water, but I fear for what
18 we're loosing and for what has happened to the
19 fish here and air quality.

20 I see the air ratings. They go --
21 sometimes they're moderate, but sometimes they
22 just go through the roof, especially as the fires
23 keep increasing every summer. What does it mean
24 when we have the coal dust in the air and we can
25 have these oil tanks and these fires that just

1 keep getting worse and worse.

2 Tragic circumstances can happen in this
3 area and I'm terrified. I hope you guys make the
4 right decision and vote for the no action
5 alternative. Thank you.

6 EVENT HOST: We'll invite our next
7 speaker to the podium.

8 SPEAKER 64: Hello. My name is Katie
9 Sheehan. I work at the Community Building
10 Foundation. I'm not here on their behalf but I'm
11 telling you that because I work at Community
12 Building, which is -- I'm totally turned around
13 here, but probably that way. It's about a block
14 or two away. And my office looks south, directly
15 onto the coal train line, which is basically what
16 it is.

17 I look out my office window and I see
18 coal trains go by hour after hour already. And,
19 you know, what's scary is that my three-year-old
20 son is also at the day care center in that
21 building. And I think about him and what his
22 future is going to look like. And I see them pass
23 through our community and they don't add anything
24 except for dust at this point.

25 They disrupted our community in short

1 term, traffic on the lines and traffic in our
2 town, and I don't see any benefits to Spokane.

3 They destroy our environment in the
4 long-term though. I do think about investments a
5 lots, and I think that we need to change what the
6 assessment -- or what the definition of risk is.
7 This is a risky investment. It is not a safe
8 investment.

9 And that's in the long term. And maybe
10 right now it seems like that, but it is not. It's
11 an investment in potential disaster and outright
12 disaster if we continue on this track of
13 greenhouse gas. Thank you.

14 EVENT HOST: And thank you. Yes. We
15 still do have a phone up here. I think the
16 individual is recording. Let's not forget that.
17 I do want to take just I moment.

18 With the evening still scheduled through
19 nine o'clock, to just ask for a show of hands so I
20 can just understand how many folks have not had an
21 opportunity to address the co-lead agencies that
22 are holding tickets who would like to speak
23 tonight. Just hold your hands up to see what we
24 have left. It looks like a dozen maybe or so.

25 Let's go ahead and continue with the

1 lottery system for the moment and we'll see if we
2 can't get everybody in. If the numbers dwindle
3 towards nine o'clock it make sense just to get
4 everyone lined up to speak.

5 For now do we have adequate numbers
6 drawn, Cesar?

7 What I encourage you to do is just --
8 because I kind of see it heading in this
9 direction -- is if you are holding a tickets, if
10 you could seat yourselves in the first two rows in
11 the corner near Kim. It looks like we have about
12 a dozen folks who would like to speak. We have
13 another hour to go. And when we get diminishing
14 returns on the lottery system, it really just
15 takes some time that we don't need to spend.

16 So the next speaker, please?

17 SPEAKER 65: Good evening. My name is
18 Brian Durheim. I'm from the Spokane area. First,
19 I'd like to thank the enormous effort and task you
20 all are doing not only here in Spokane but
21 throughout the whole state in this whole process.
22 Thank you very much for all your efforts and being
23 here and working through the process.

24 As I said, I'm from this area. I'm 53
25 years old. I've trawled these rivers my whole

1 life. I belong to Spokane Community Kayak Club,
2 I've spoke in the fly fisheries. When I speak to
3 old timers in our club they talk about how the
4 river has actually gotten better over the last few
5 decades, generations, as far as what it appears
6 to.

7 We will still have mercury advisories on
8 most of our waterways here in the Northwest,
9 especially the Spokane River, which greatly
10 affects pregnant women, young children, in
11 addition to tribal people who rely more on food --
12 or the fish food as food sources.

13 The other thing, so coal add mercury
14 along the waterways that John Roskell and others
15 have testified about, it's just, you know, we're
16 losing three percent. And it goes right into the
17 river. Not only dow we gain mercury that way,
18 there's one recent study that shows -- when you
19 think about gesturing -- coal being burned on Asia
20 that can reach the Pacific Northwest in as little
21 as six days.

22 So, you know, that's two ways that
23 mercury is going right into these fisheries. And
24 we're trying to clean up our rivers, you know, for
25 multiple reasons, but --

1 And then the other point I would like to
2 bring up is there's been a couple comments about
3 how coal is dead, it's old industry, and how we
4 need to invest in renewable energy because in the
5 future -- well, that's being done right now. When
6 you look at -- Bloomberg just gave a -- there's
7 been a 12 times increase in renewable versus --

8 EVENT HOST: I appreciate your comments.
9 Our next speaker, please?

10 SPEAKER 66: Thank you very much for
11 being here. Thanks for doing this. I had the
12 honor of growing up in Spokane and currently I'm
13 working at a lovely cemetery out in the valley,
14 where the trains go racing by at a high rate of
15 speed. And every once in a while I'm there when
16 we're having a burial, and everything is quiet,
17 it's peaceful, and the train comes roaring in.
18 And I swear they're to wake the dead.

19 It is a real impact when they come
20 through. I have the privilege of living a few
21 blocks from the train tracks and the trains, you
22 can feel sometimes the windows rattle.

23 So, I like train travel in many ways. I
24 think it's a better way of moving stuff, it's more
25 for the environment. But adding 16 more really

1 does make a difference.

2 We recently celebrated Mt. Saint Helens.
3 And I remember when that blew. And the ash came
4 up and over, and then it came back. It went all
5 the way around the world and came back. It really
6 is just one globe, one environment.

7 So, I'm here, if you haven't figured it
8 out, that I would very much like the jobs to in
9 clean energy and that we not open up a new way to
10 make it cheaper to move coal from our country to
11 another part of the world. Thank you very much
12 and God bless.

13 SPEAKER 67: My name is Rob Barkley, and
14 I'm from Sandpoint, Idaho.

15 And I appreciate the opportunity to speak
16 to you. I am opposed to this project, the
17 Millennium Bulk Terminal for many reasons.

18 I will -- I don't have a written
19 testimony but I will mail one to you.

20 I grew up -- I live in Sandpoint but I
21 grew up in Spokane, and I went to college here,
22 graduated from Eastern. And in the last 35 years
23 I've lived in North Idaho.

24 And I'm a fifth generation from this
25 area, from Spokane and North Idaho. And my

1 grandchildren are the seventh generation living
2 here. And this is the reason that I'm speaking
3 today is for my grandchildren and their children
4 and for anyone who lives in this area.

5 I think that the decision that you have
6 to make here may be one of the most important ones
7 given the size of this project, and I think that
8 what -- the weight that you carry is enormous
9 because it's going to have rippled effects all
10 over.

11 This coal, we all know, is going to China
12 and other Pacific Rim nations. That pollution is
13 coming back to us. We're going to breathing and
14 it's going to be contributing to climate change,
15 which is happening. And I believe it's happening
16 by us.

17 I guess I don't have much time left here.
18 Sandpoint is in an area where we're like Spokane.
19 We're the hourglass. So he hope you vote no.

20 EVENT HOST: Thank you. And we look
21 forward to those written comments, if you can,
22 mail in, or you can contribute online.

23 Our next speaker? Sir?

24 SPEAKER 68: Thank you for your time. My
25 name is Craig McClure, and I drove up here today

1 from Polson, Montana. This wasn't the only reason
2 I came I came to see my grandchildren in
3 Sandpoint, Idaho.

4 They go to a school that right next to
5 the railroad tracks in Sandpoint. And I've gotten
6 to know a little bit about trains since I've been
7 visiting our grandchildren. You know, there's a
8 lot of activity going through that one community.
9 I don't know much about the situation in Spokane,
10 but I certainly am learning about the situation in
11 Sandpoint.

12 I'm a retired park ranger. I worked for
13 the park service for 32 years. My background is
14 in biology and ecology. I've focused on
15 protecting the resources in a number of parts
16 through my career, and I see changes occurring.
17 I've been involved in fighting wildfires. And
18 that situation is very alarming these days, to see
19 what's happening with the increased fire activity.
20 Real concerns to our public lands.

21 But focusing, you know, my concern is
22 coal and climate change. You know, coal is
23 killing us. How many asthmatic children will have
24 to suffer due to our refusal to recognize the
25 costs of burning coal.

1 Climate change is happening. We can make
2 a difference by denying the permit for the
3 Millennium Bulk Coal Export Terminal. Stop
4 enabling the coal industry to pass the social
5 costs of they're personal greed to our global
6 citizens.

7 Conservation and renewable energy is the
8 answer. Please help stop this coal use insanity
9 now. Thank you.

10 EVENT HOST: Thank you. Our next
11 speaker, please?

12 SPEAKER 69: Hi. I'm Joelle Robinson,
13 and I'm here today as an aunt to my seven nieces
14 and nephews, ages 9 to 20, and for my one-year old
15 God daughter and for all of your sons and
16 daughters.

17 The actions we take on this coal export
18 proposal directly affect their lives when it comes
19 to climate disruption. A time when the science is
20 clear from the world's leading scientists and from
21 our own lived experience, we can not allow any
22 extreme fossil fuel infrastructure. We cannot
23 allow the largest proposed coal export terminal in
24 North America to be built.

25 Coal is the dirtiest, most carbon

1 intensive fossil fuel. There is already too much
2 suffering in the world and we want to help turn
3 the tide and reduce the amount of climate impacts,
4 including droughts, devastating forest fires,
5 deadly heat waves, crop failure, and cultures that
6 are being displaced due to sea level rise.

7 There are already hundreds of thousands
8 of people dying each year due to climate impacts,
9 and numbers of animals going extinct is heart
10 wrenching. We are disrupting our entire window of
11 life, which is unconscionable.

12 We have a choice here to move forward
13 with clean energy. And with fossil fuel
14 transition policies recently passed in Washington,
15 we're moving backwards.

16 This project would increase Washington's
17 existing toll of greenhouse gas emissions by 30
18 percent according to the DEIS. That is
19 unacceptable. As is the increased asthma and
20 cancer that would accompany it. As is the
21 increased toxic air pollution inflicted on our
22 Asian world neighbors. And then back again to the
23 West Coast, contaminating our Northwest rivers,
24 lakes, and fish.

25 Our children are depending on us. I

1 implore you to take the no action alternative for
2 your children and all our children.

3 EVENT HOST: Thank you. I'd like to ask
4 again for those folks that came and planned to
5 speak and have not had the lucky draw of the
6 lottery, if you would move to the first few rows,
7 and I think we'll be able to accommodate, based on
8 the numbers that I'm seeing.

9 Those that would like to speak, if you
10 would check in with Kim, she's just arriving, I
11 think we can go ahead and safely allow all of
12 those still wishing to speak to approach the
13 podium to be now in line.

14 Do we have one speaker? Thank you, sir.

15 SPEAKER 70: Hello. My name is Jason
16 Barber, and I'm a horticulturalist and a botanist,
17 with a degree from WSU. And the impact of coal
18 upon our environment has been extremely
19 detrimental. I see it every day. I see it every
20 day.

21 The increase in our climate, the way that
22 our plants react, and everything else that has
23 been going on with those. Our crops have been
24 less. We really need to look out for our food
25 sources and look towards the future of how we're

1 even going to be able to eat. And I feel that it
2 is really important to move away from coal and try
3 and find cleaner, better energy in order to create
4 a better environment.

5 And that's how I feel will. My plans
6 tell me that, and so thank you very much. And I
7 appreciate everyone here, and I appreciate all of
8 you. Thank you.

9 EVENT HOST: Thank you for you comment,
10 sir. We're doing to take just a couple-minute
11 pause here. We're going to pause the lottery
12 system. And I'd just like the co-lead agencies to
13 make a determination. I'm looking at half a dozen
14 folks that would like to speak, and I'm looking
15 for some direction. Two minute pause. So we will
16 pause this public hearing at 8:10, and resume at
17 8:12. Thank you.

18 (Pause in proceedings from 8:10 p.m. to 8:12
19 p.m.)

20 EVENT HOST: Thank you, folks. We'll
21 resume the public hearing. It's now just after
22 eight, about 8:13. We will be going until nine,
23 so folks that might just be arriving to speak will
24 have their opportunity.

25 We have some folks in the front row that

1 have arrived with their lottery tickets. There's
2 no reason not to proceed. I think we can go ahead
3 and get them into the queue. Check in with Kim.

4 And, Kim, if you want to use the same
5 seating system I think we'll stay organized. And
6 we'll take the next speaker. If we run out of
7 speakers we're going to start with a ten-minute
8 break, allow people to arrive again, and
9 subsequent breaks after that until we're able to
10 conclude.

11 Thank you. You'll have two minutes.

12 SPEAKER 71: Hi. Thank you so much for
13 coming. Thank you everybody. Sorry I couldn't be
14 here earlier. My name is Melissa Reese, and I was
15 born here in Spokane. I have a bachelor's degree
16 in business and I'm just really passionate about
17 our planet, life. I'm here speaking for the
18 children I hope to have, and everybody's children.

19 I just really think it's time to look
20 forward. I've always been really optimistic and,
21 you know, they say humans are resistant to change,
22 and I think that we should be more open to that.
23 It can be better.

24 And I support jobs, of course, and I just
25 really think that -- well, I want to give you an

1 example. I was an exchange student in high school
2 in Germany, which I think all children should
3 travel the world and get a good view of what's all
4 out there. And I wanted to walk up and touch the
5 Rhine River. I touched it. I was there.

6 And my host father said no, you don't
7 touch that river. It's polluted and it's dirty
8 and it will make you sick.

9 I also am a cancer survivor. I had a
10 rare type of cancer in 1995, less than a hundred
11 people in the world had. I lived in Idaho where
12 my dad fought fires for the Department of Lands,
13 fought Yellowstone. He also died of brain cancer.
14 They said our cancers weren't linked. But nobody
15 knows what causes cancer, it's just things we're
16 not used to, or alternating the growth of cells in
17 our body.

18 And so I try to do my best to eat the
19 best I can, drink the best I can. I love it here,
20 love the Northwest so much. And I'm so proud to
21 be here and be able to speak here. And you guys
22 have a lot of power and I hope you take that and
23 do what you will with it.

24 I put my trust in you. I'm not in your
25 position. If I were it would be an honor.

1 And, you know, I just want to say thank
2 you again, and, you know, to prevent cancer and
3 things like that we just need to look at different
4 ways to do things. I just want to live healthy
5 and enjoy everything, and all the love. Thank
6 you.

7 EVENT HOST: Thank you. Our next
8 speaker, please?

9 SPEAKER 72: My name is Eddie Hayman
10 (phonetic), I live in Spokane.

11 One thing that I had, at least since I've
12 been here, thought was about ocean acidification.
13 That is doing an incredible amount of damage to
14 the ocean and probably to our shellfish industry.

15 And also the warming of the ocean is
16 drying different species. And the warming of the
17 waters inland, last summer we had fish die-offs
18 because it got so hot.

19 So I think a lot of job are being lost
20 due to climate and increasing carbon dioxide.
21 Like the Great Barrier Reef, it's pretty much
22 (inaudible), and that's due to the warming of the
23 water.

24 And another point that I haven't heard a
25 whole lot about, it seems kind of strange, but

1 we're basically sending energy to Asia in large
2 part to manufacturer products that we used to make
3 here.

4 The job issue is we've already sent those
5 jobs, millions of jobs away for the benefit of the
6 few. It's time to bring those jobs back and not
7 to create 300 jobs while -- 300 permanent jobs to
8 continue to send energy to where our products
9 should not be made and should be made here.

10 Thanks very much.

11 SPEAKER 73: Good evening. My name is
12 Jim Rutherford. I've been a resident of Spokane
13 since about 1969. I was actually born in
14 Longview.

15 In those days they had the paper mill
16 down there that you could smell 30 miles away.
17 And part of my concern with this whole situation
18 right now is that I've worked in drug and alcohol
19 treatment most of my career, over 30 years. And
20 what I see happening is a lot like an addiction to
21 a bad drug.

22 We have polluted the earth to a point
23 where it's just not recovering well. And we may
24 have hit a tipping point. Build a kit in the
25 350.org. There's been talk about Co2 in the

1 atmosphere.

2 And last year we hit records that have
3 never been seen before. In a hundred thousand
4 years of going back and looking at climate and Co2
5 in the environment, they never seen anything like
6 it.

7 And my concern is partially that we've
8 hit a tipping point and we may not be able to
9 recover, period. So I'm definitely saying, please
10 do not allow this to happen. We need clean
11 energy, we need more jobs. Let them be in
12 something that's not killing the planet, please.

13 SPEAKER 74: Good evening. My name is
14 Heather Greenblug (phonetic). I'm a resident of
15 South Spokane County. I've lived in the area for
16 over 30 years. I've also previously lived in
17 Eastern Montana, Western Montana, and Alaska.

18 Upon moving to Spokane to where my family
19 resided, I have been a mother, a wife, a daughter,
20 and a care taker of my elderly parents, who have
21 since passed away.

22 I have suffered from severe asthma since
23 I was three years old, almost 55 years. I'm here
24 to give you personal experience of the disastrous
25 effects of worsening air quality, air pollution,

1 and anyone who says that coal dust has no
2 detrimental effect has never tried to breathe or
3 struggled to breathe.

4 It doesn't matter whether it's coal dust.
5 It can be dust from roads, dust from agricultural
6 fields, it can be dust caused by global warming
7 and the heat, it can be dust from coal trains.
8 And when you attempt to open your windows at night
9 to get a breath of fresh air, I consider that an
10 oxymoron. There's no such thing.

11 For those people who suffer from
12 respiratory illness, there is no such think as
13 fresh air anymore in this area.

14 And as I live about a mile about from the
15 train tracks in the Marshall area, as the dewpoint
16 settles and evening comes into play, you can see
17 the dust sit in the air and it is extremely
18 difficult to enjoy your home, to enjoy the
19 environment, and I plead that you will take the
20 health and safety into account and oppose this
21 bulk terminal. Thank you.

22 EVENT HOST: Thank you. Our next
23 speaker?

24 SPEAKER 75: Good evening. Thank you for
25 coming to Spokane. I'm a life-long Eastern

1 Washington resident.

2 Back in 2010, Millennium Bulk Terminals
3 proposed this facility and they said that they
4 were only go to export five million tons of coal a
5 year. Well, internally documents were found that
6 they were actually planning to export up to 60
7 million tons of coal a year.

8 And I listened tonight to people who
9 complained about how long the process is, but they
10 had to start that process over again because they
11 essentially lied to Cowlitz County about what the
12 amount that they were going to export. If they
13 had done that right they might be a little farther
14 ahead.

15 They're also behind on the health risk
16 analysis. And that is something that we really
17 need to have, and we need to have the public
18 review it. So I don't think they're a company
19 that can be trusted.

20 And I just want to read a couple of
21 things about coal dying. Well, first off, Arch
22 Coal just relinquished the 39 percent of their
23 coal to Lighthouse Resources. Just today that
24 happened.

25 If coal is so good, why is Arch getting

1 out? And they're a bankrupt company by the way.

2 A couple of things: Three Northwest coal
3 export projects folded after global coal prices
4 tumbled: Coos Bay, Grays Harbor, Timber, Oregon.

5 For the first time in history in 2013,
6 there were no bids in Wyoming history from the
7 Powder River Basin coal east auction.

8 You've heard of Portland and Los Angeles?
9 Well they had proposed coal export facilities back
10 in the '90s, and they invested millions of dollars
11 in them and then it didn't happened.

12 The abandoned coal export facilities,
13 they just lost a bunch of millions in stranded
14 investments and cleaning expenses. Thank you.
15 Thank you for your time.

16 EVENT HOST: And thank you all very much.
17 It's 8:23. We're going to take a ten-minute
18 recess. We'll see if folks who haven't had an
19 opportunity to speak would like to come and join
20 the speaker queue starting at 8:33.

21 So we'll recess the hearing for ten
22 minutes. Thanks.

23 (Hearing recessed from 8:23 p.m. to 8:33 p.m.)

24 EVENT HOST: Thank you, folks. At this
25 point we're beyond the lottery system. If you've

1 come to speak and you haven't had your opportunity
2 to share comments on the DEIS with the co-lead
3 agencies, this is your opportunity.

4 We would like you to check in with Kim
5 and go through the speaker queue. If we have
6 anyone else that would like to speak and take
7 their two minutes, we'll send them to the front.
8 It looks like someone is on their way. Thank you.

9 SPEAKER 76: Hi. My name is Justin Bell.
10 I moved to Spokane about eight years ago. My wife
11 is a life-long dancer and was known to dance with
12 great joy. However, she completely lost her
13 ability to dance when we lived in Los Angeles.
14 She became asthmatic and had trouble walking
15 across the room, which is quite a change from
16 someone who danced and taught dance in front of
17 many people. Her abilities were greatly
18 restricted because of the asthma.

19 We moved to Spokane where we had cleaner
20 air, and my wife danced again with great joy. She
21 teaches other people to dance also.

22 When coal trains come through our
23 community, they're going to drop a great deal of
24 coal dust. That coal dust is of course a witch's
25 brew, having everything you can name, Co2's was

1 just one. There's also particulate matter.
2 There's things like arsenic, mercury in small
3 amounts, all which have a devastating effect on
4 human health.

5 Even a tiny increase in the amount of
6 asthma, lung cancer, COPD, bronchitis, and other
7 ill effects will increase our health care costs
8 dramatically, because many of the people who do
9 have these effects will lose employment because of
10 their inability to work. Much of this burden will
11 fall on the public tax rules.

12 My point is very simply that there will
13 probably be some increase in employment due to the
14 coal trains, but the negative impact on health
15 care costs will probably exceed it by many times.

16 It is my belief that if you endorse the
17 coal trains you will offset your gains
18 dramatically. Thank you.

19 EVENT HOST: Thank you very much for your
20 comments. It's 8:37. Do we have someone that
21 would like to speak?

22 I suggest we recess the proceedings until
23 8:50, about 13 minutes from now, and we'll reopen
24 the hearing until nine if we have folks that would
25 like to address the co-leads on this DEIS. Thank

1 you.

2 (Hearing recessed from 8:37 p.m. to 8:50 p.m.)

3 EVENT HOST: Folks, we'll resume the
4 public hearing for comments on the Draft
5 Environmental Impact Statement for Millennium Bulk
6 Terminals Longview. It is 8:50 p.m.

7 And I'd just like to call for anyone who
8 has had not had an opportunity to speak to Cowlitz
9 County and the Washington Department of Ecology,
10 if you could come forward.

11 Hearing none, we will recess until 8:56.
12 That will be the last call, and at 8:58 there will
13 be closing statement to close the public hearing
14 at nine o'clock sharp.

15 So we will resume in six minutes, maybe
16 five now. Five or six minutes, at 8:56. Thanks.

17 (Hearing recessed from 8:50 p.m. to 8:56 p.m.)

18 EVENT HOST: Good evening. It's 8:56,
19 and we'll resume the public hearing on the DEIS
20 for the Millennium Bulk Terminals Longview
21 project.

22 Are there any members in the audience
23 that have had not had an opportunity to speak and
24 address Cowlitz County and the Department of
25 Ecology?

1 I'll just state that we do have an
2 obligation to hold the hearing through nine
3 o'clock, so we'll resume at 8:58, in just a
4 minute, read the closing statements and close the
5 hearing at nine o'clock.

6 Do let us know up front if you're
7 arriving or would like to speak and we will have a
8 last chance for a speaker within the next minute.
9 Closing statements will be at 8:58. So, a
10 one-minute recess. Thanks.

11 (Hearing recessed from 8:57 p.m. to 8:58 p.m.)

12 EVENT HOST: We'll re-open the hearing.
13 Last call for comments. It's 8:58. I'll read the
14 formal hearing closing statements.

15 All testimony received at this hearing as
16 well at the hearing held at Longview May 24th,
17 along with all written comments received at the
18 hearing by mail or submitted online will be part
19 of the official hearing record for this Draft
20 Environmental review.

21 The comment period closes June 13, 2016.
22 If you would like to send the written comments,
23 please remember, they must be postmarked by June
24 15, 2016.

25 Please send them to Millennium Bulk

1 Terminals Longview EIS, care of ICF International,
2 710 Second Avenue, Suite 550, Seattle, Washington
3 98104.

4 Written comments may also be submitted
5 online at www.millenniumbulkeiswa.gov.

6 The next step is for the co-lead agencies
7 to consider the comments and prepare the final
8 EIS. Comments received on the Draft EIS will be
9 included in the final EIS, along with responses
10 from the co-lead agencies.

11 If necessary, additional studies will be
12 prepared for the Final EIS. The Final EIS is
13 expected to be released in 2017. The Final EIS
14 will inform decisions by the agencies on permit
15 applications for the project.

16 On behalf of the co-lead agencies, thank
17 you for coming. We appreciate your cooperation
18 and courtesy. Let the records show that this
19 hearing is adjourned at nine p.m., May 26, 2016.
20 Thank you all very much.

21 (Public Hearing concluded at 9:00 p.m.)

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C E R T I F I C A T E

I, Cheryl L. Vorhees, Certified Shorthand Reporter for Oregon and Washington, certify that, at the time and place set forth in the caption hereof, I reported in stenotype all testimony adduced and other oral proceedings had in the foregoing matter, that thereafter my notes were reduced to typewriting under my direction; and the foregoing transcript, Page 1 to 147, both inclusive, constitutes a full, true, and correct record of such testimony adduced and oral proceedings had and of the whole thereof.

Witness my hand and seal at Portland, Oregon, this 10th day of June, 2016.



Cheryl L. Vorhees

Certified Shorthand Reporter

CSR No. 08-0409

Exp. 09-30-2016

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