

Millennium Draft EIS Public Hearing, 5/24/16

My name is Howard Harrison and I live in Redmond, WA. I'm a representative of Northlake Unitarian Universalist Church in Kirkland and I head our Green Sanctuary program there.

My father-in-law was a coal miner in Roslyn for a time. He saved this magazine from 1940 titled "Coal Age". World War II was underway and coal played a more critical role then. We are more knowledgeable now of the effects that burning coal has on our health and environment and we have clean alternatives to coal. Today is not a Coal Age. Today is a Climate Change Age and if we don't stop burning fossil fuels we will be taken back to before the Stone Age.

The DEIS acknowledges that climate pollution is a destructive end product of coal export. At 44 million tons per year the Millennium Bulk Terminal would be the biggest coal port in the country. It would increase Washington's total greenhouse gas emissions by 30%. This is totally unacceptable.

One of the principles of Unitarian Universalism is, "Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part". The effects of this terminal would be the antithesis of that principle. Pope Francis's encyclical on climate change lays out in great detail the destruction we are causing to our earth – and our responsibility to do everything we can to stop it.

I urge you to choose the no action alternative and deny the Millennium Bulk Terminal's permit.