

Department of Ecology
Millennium Bulk Terminals
Draft Environmental Impact Statement
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Every step of the coal-fired process is dangerous to human health, from mining and processing to transporting to burning and waste. Those most impacted by these dangerous, toxic processes are the most vulnerable: the poor, the elderly, and especially children. Mercury from coal plants causes neurological damage in babies and children. Already, large deposits of mercury from coal-fired power plants in Asia have been found in the nearby Cascades. Coal burning is linked to the leading causes of death in the United States: heart disease, cancer, stroke, and chronic respiratory diseases.

Coal companies want people to believe that we must choose between jobs and a clean environment. Coal produces fewer jobs than any other export. Coal exports will destroy far more jobs than they will create. Already there are more than twice as many jobs in wind and solar power industries than there are in the entire coal industry.

Faith communities have led the successful fight against new coal-fired power plants and played a central role in the agreement to close, in 2020 and 2025, two coal-fired generating units in Centralia, Washington. Building coal export terminals would take us backward. We can invest in the future through conservation and clean and renewable sources of energy. God's creation and our children's future must be protected.