

(multnomah county)

My name is Orly Stampfer, I have a bachelor's degree in Environmental Science from Columbia University, and this fall I will enroll in the University of Washington for a Masters in Public Health.

The draft environmental impact statement states that arsenic is one of the pollutants that would continue to be introduced as a result of the proposed action in Longview and along the tracks. While the DEIS states that <sup>estimated</sup> maximum concentrations of arsenic will be lower than acceptable source impact levels, recent studies published in journals such as Environmental Health Perspectives suggest that arsenic is harmful to human health at lower levels than previously thought, including increased risk for skin and lung cancer. Low levels of exposure to arsenic are particularly worrisome for pregnant women and children. Recent studies show that exposure to arsenic in the womb and in early childhood may cause decreased fetal growth and adverse epigenetic effects.

The risk of exposure to arsenic and its toxicity is further supported by the CDC's Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry – arsenic has been ranked number 1 on that agency's Substance Priority List since 1997, and before that it was second only to lead. Government standards for allowable levels of arsenic in water have already been lowered by 80% in the last 16 years as evidence has grown demonstrating toxicity at lower levels of exposure. This evidence will likely continue to grow. *Changing standards remind us that just because existing standards may be met, that does not mean public health will necessarily be* How will increased exposure to arsenic impact environmental justice communities living closest to the train tracks and to the terminal? We respectfully request that this information be disclosed in a high-quality Health Impact Assessment with a public review.

protected.  
This has  
come up  
time and  
time again.

Please select the No Action Alternative and protect the public health of Longview and environmental justice communities. Thank you.