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Co-lead Agencies: Cowlitz County and
Washington State Department of Ecology:

**Re: Comment on the DEIS for the proposed Millenium Bulk Terminals coal
export terminal in Longview**

Dear Agency Decision Makers:

This letter advocates the "No Action" alternative, i.e., denial of the permit to build the Millennium Bulk Coal Terminal in Longview.

I am gravely concerned about the weak and unenforceable mitigation. The Draft EIS proposes a reporting process for coal dust complaints.. A phone call or email to complain about coal dust fouling a person's lungs, home, and river is not "mitigation." The agencies should revise the Draft EIS and remove inadequate, unsupported, and unenforceable mitigation. My conclusion is based on years of experience working in the health field on behalf of the poor .

As you know, poor people and those of color will be most affected by airborne particulate matter emanating from coal cars traveling to the proposed terminal.

Applications to reduce coal dust emissions have not proven to be totally effective.

I have worked in Washington State (State) in the health care field for fifteen years. Based upon my years of experience working with poor people around the State I know that they will be least likely to be able to take advantage of the proposed mitigation systems. I worked with such mitigation systems.

The poor usually work multiple jobs and don't have the time or equipment to readily access data about mitigation that is readily accessible to people of means. Thus, the proposal undermines economic justice and racial equality. Mitigation methods are written from the perspective of the wealthy and entitled who are clueless about accessibility challenges of those who do not share their advantages.

In addition, this proposal will deal a gut punch to the State's finances at a time when we can't even fund basic education. The State will bear the health care costs of those most affected. The taxpayers will pay the cost. We will fund corporate welfare for a private company which produces a product that pollutes the planet.

How can this plan further the public interest?

The agencies must deny these permits in the name of economic and racial justice, as well as a sound fiscal policy that benefits the public that it was designed to serve.

Sincerely,



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