

Testimony

May 24, 2016

Millennium Bulk Terminals

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As a third generation white resident of Cowlitz County, I would like to state my opposition to Millennium Bulk Terminal's proposed coal shipping facility. My family participated in the destruction of the old growth forests, the destruction of the salmon runs, and the destruction of a free flowing Columbia River.

I have learned from my fore-family and I do not want to see our coastal waters acidified from air pollution from the prevailing westerly winds from Asia. I do not want to see the timberlands acidified from air pollution carried on these same prevailing winds. I do not want my national government to subsidize, at belly robbing rates, to help make Wyoming coal cheap to extract. Yet Wyoming coal can be sold at hundreds of times profits to line the pockets of private enterprise.

We are doing better! The coming of a truck trailer manufacturing facility *is* doing better when it creates over twice as many permanent jobs as Millennium will produce. It takes recruiting and it takes the community to be involved in bring clean businesses to this town. And we didn't even know these jobs were out there.

We need to use our imaginations to bring good work to our county. Grasping at proverbial brass rings of extractive commodities like coal, oil, and timber will not work any longer.

Millennium Bulk Terminals has another entity which deals with real bulk products perhaps once it is divested of the coal companies, Millennium Bulk Terminals can turn its attention to the processing and exportation of agricultural products, and the importation of raw materials to feed the productive American export economy.