



Panel Members,

My name is Shelby Rognstad, I am the mayor of Sandpoint, Idaho. Today I also represent the Mayors of neighboring Dover, Ponderay and Kootenai. Our towns lie within the Pend Oreille watershed and also lie along the corridor through which this increased coal traffic is proposed to travel. There are many reasons we are collectively opposed to the proposed Long View Terminal. The significant increase in coal shipments has negative impacts on health, water quality, air quality and on global climate stability. Many here today will speak to these concerns.

However, I want to highlight another, public safety. Our rural communities lack qualified personnel and adequate mitigation resources needed to respond to a transportation emergency. If a tragic event were to happen, like the Lac Megantic derailment in Canada which killed 47 people, it would take several hours to get an adequate number of personnel to respond. Further, increased rail traffic obstructs traffic on our roads for prolonged periods throughout the day and night. This impacts our emergency response times which could be a life or death situation for many. It also directly impacts our local economy.

Furthermore, there are many waterbody crossings throughout our communities. If a derailment were to happen within a waterbody, it would have disastrous consequences for our lake and rivers which are the source of our drinking water and our tourist based economies.

For these reasons, our cities are opposed to the increase in coal export that will result from the proposed Long View Terminal. We ask you to please reject this proposal.

Sincerely,

Shelby Rognstad  
Mayor  
City of Sandpoint

Annie Shaha  
Mayor  
City of Dover

Nancie Lewis  
Mayor  
City of Kootenai

Steve Geiger  
Mayor  
City of Ponderay