

Northern Plains Resource Council
220 S. 27th St., Suite A
Billings, MT 59101

GREAT FALLS MT 594

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**The Washington Department of Ecology
c/o Northern Plains Resource Council
220 S. 27th St., Suite A
Billings, MT 59101**

Photo by: Ian Maddaus

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Put our communities before coal exports

To: The Washington Department of Ecology and Cowlitz County

Re: Millennium Bulk Terminal draft EIS

The proposed Millennium Bulk Terminals coal export facility in Longview would lead to a dramatic increase in coal train traffic through dozens of Montana communities in order to ship coal from Montana and Wyoming mines to the West Coast for export to Asia.

This coal train traffic will lead to increased diesel exhaust and coal dust pollution in communities along the tracks, threatening neighbors' health. It will also lead to increased traffic congestion and safety hazards, as well as delays for emergency response vehicles (e.g. ambulances and fire engines) at rail crossings, where gates will be down for at least an extra hour each day.

Coal exports also create added pressure to expand or build new Montana coal mines. In Montana, we would get all the environmental and public health costs of additional coal mining, all for the sake of corporate profits and Asian energy. Coal seams are aquifers in our region, and increased mining threatens our land, water, people and climate.

I urge you to deny the permit for the proposed coal port in Longview.

Sincerely,



signature

For more information, call Ella at 406-248-1154 or email ella@northernplains.org
Since 1972, Northern Plains has organized citizens to protect Montana's water quality, family farms and ranches, and unique quality of life. If you're not a member, you should join!

My name is Sandy Stimson
first name last name

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Additional comments: _____

