

Dear Washington Department of Ecology, I support the “no action” alternative in the Millennium Bulk Terminals Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). Millennium’s proposed coal export terminal would harm communities throughout the Northwest, with the most intense impacts felt in Longview, Washington, near the proposed terminal site. The project harms our health and safety, air and water quality, and natural resources. I urge your agency to protect public health and natural resources and reject coal exports. Here are our top concerns. Climate Change: Washington State is a national leader in the fight to combat climate change. By rail and vessel emissions alone, this project would be one of the biggest greenhouse gas emitters in Washington. Coal exports undermine the state’s hard work to combat climate change and protect future generations. Health and the Environment: The draft EIS reveals many serious impacts to human health and the environment. It dismisses other impacts without a valid basis. The final EIS should incorporate the best available science, real world examples, and a comprehensive health impact assessment. The agencies undercut public, tribal, and other agency input by failing to complete a health impact assessment before releasing the draft EIS. Rail Traffic: The draft EIS shows Millennium’s proposal would have a severe impact on rail and road congestion. Because Millennium cannot fix this significant harm — from mine to terminal — the agencies should deny permits. Weak and Unenforceable Mitigation: In some instances, the draft EIS claims mitigation can reduce coal dust, rail traffic, and other project impacts. For example, to mitigate coal dust from the terminal, the draft EIS proposes a reporting process for complaints. However, a phone call or email does not change the coal dust fouling a person’s lungs, home, and river and is not mitigation. The agencies should revise the draft EIS and remove inadequate, unsupported, and unenforceable mitigation. Again, I urge your agency to protect public health and natural resources in Washington State and reject Millennium’s proposed coal export terminal. Thank you, The Climate Reality Project and Its Supporters