

**MILLENNIUM BULK TERMINALS—LONGVIEW
HEALTH IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOCUS GROUP
NOVEMBER 18, 2015, LONGVIEW, WA****Focus Group No. 3 Summary**

The Cowlitz County Department of Building and Planning, in conjunction with the Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, is undertaking an environmental review of the Millennium Bulk Terminals – Longview project. As part of this overall process, the County and Ecology, with assistance from the Cowlitz County Health and Human Services Department and the Washington State Department of Health, are also preparing a Health Impact Assessment (HIA). Local stakeholders were invited to participate in focus groups designed to develop recommendations for the HIA public scoping process and general approach.

Twelve stakeholders participated in a focus group held Wednesday, November 18, 2015, at the Cowlitz County Health Department during the monthly meeting of the Public Health Advisory Council. Dr. Jennifer Vines, health officer with Cowlitz County Health Department, welcomed participants and introduced the team. Mr. Michael O'Neill, healthy communities lead with Cowlitz County Health & Human Services, presented an overview of the Millennium Bulk Terminals – Longview project and discussed HIAs. He then facilitated a group discussion on project benefits and concerns, which are listed below.

Train Traffic

- EMS response time
- Neighborhoods (Woodland, Highlands)
- Noise
- Increase diesel particulates
- Increase coal dust

Jobs

- Adding jobs
- Increased tax revenue brings social services
- Improved mental health – gives people hope
- Health insurance benefits
- Giving back to the community

Project Site

- Cleanup
- Are there better or worse alternatives?
- Coal storage – dust impacts to soil and water
- Plans for site after 30 years

Respiratory Problems

- Asthma in adults and children
- Chronic disease

Citizen Engagement

- Project has made citizens more active and engaged in local politics

PRIORITIZATION EXERCISE

Participants prioritized topics by importance. They were given four dots and allowed to spend them all on one concern/opportunity or spread them across several of the items listed by the group. Here is the ranking/vote tally.

1. Jobs (14 votes)
2. Respiratory Problems (10)
3. Train Traffic (7)
4. Citizen Engagement (3)
5. Project Site (0)

HIA APPROACHES

- Compare to other cities with coal terminals. What are they monitoring? What processes have they used?
- Use the environmental impact statement as a source
- Talk to medical professionals

PARTICIPANTS

- Peter Bennet, Millennium
- Robert Buchman, Member at Large
- Sandra Davis, Citizen*
- Wendy Hutchinson, Millennium
- Sandra Loren, Public Health Advisory Council Chair
- Dan Meyers, City of Kelso
- Dan Roberts, Member at Large
- Amber Rosewood, Family Health Center
- Jeanne Snow, Health and Human Services Nurse Manager
- Mike Wallin, City of Longview*
- Darla Walton, Member at Large
- Steve Watters, Youth & Family LINK*

*Volunteers willing to be members of the proposed MBTL HIA Steering Committee