

Subject **Protect Washington From Dirty Coal**
From Edith Montgomery <feiffel@mind.net>
To <comments@millenniumbulkeiswa.gov>
Reply-To <feiffel@mind.net>
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Dear U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, WA Department of Ecology and Cowlitz County Commission:

I strongly oppose the construction of a coal-export terminal in Longview, Wash. that would transport coal on trains and barges through the Northwest to be exported, sold and burned in Asia. Coal exports threaten endangered species and human communities locally and globally.

This terminal would have drastic impacts on the health of our natural ecosystems and our communities. The Millennium Environmental Impact Study must evaluate the effects of dust from uncovered coal trains, pollution into the Columbia River, terminal construction and operation, diesel emissions from increased barging and railway traffic, transfer of the coal from barges to oceangoing vessels, potential for spills and threats to endangered species.

The transport and use of coal adds numerous toxins to our atmosphere -- including mercury that bioaccumulates in our seafood, carbon dioxide emissions that escalate global climate change and increase ocean acidification, heavy metals that leach into our waterways, and carcinogens that sicken both animals and people.

The study must also consider what approval of this terminal and coal exports will mean at every step in the process -- from the Powder River Basin in Montana and Wyoming to the power grids in Asia.

In addition, the coal-train traffic impacts in Longview are so great that Millennium cannot operate without massive, taxpayer-funded rail infrastructure changes currently planned as the S.R. 432 Project. Because of this, the S.R. 432 Project must also be analyzed in the Millennium Environmental Impact Study.

Thank you for your consideration of my comments.

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US