

This review needs to examine the health effects of the proposed coal trains and the mound that will be down river and down wind from Longview. It will spew coal dust for miles here as it does from every exposed pile.

My mother knew that when the wind blew from the coal pile everything was covered in fine black dust. She cleaned endlessly but did not know that coal dust is toxic. She did not know that living near that coal pile would contribute to the arthritis that devastated the last years of her life, the C.O.P.D. and emphysema that destroyed my father's retirement and caused each of them to spend their last years in agony. Now between my four siblings and myself there are two with C.O.P.D. and emphysema, one bladder cancer, and two cases of chronic kidney disease, all linked to coal dust.

That coal pile in upstate New York should serve as a warning to the people of Longview, Cowlitz County and Washington State. This proposal is a bad deal for all of us in the Northwest and for our country. It is an especially bad deal for those who live within miles of the coal trains and terminal.

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