

Army Corps of Engineers

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The Environmental Impact Statement for the Millennium Coal Terminal in Longview, Washington, needs to encompass - scope - the entire effect that taking coal from the U.S. to Asia will either cause or potentially cause.

Specifically, the impact on the Columbia River is happening now and will be greater in the future or even catastrophic if coal is shipped from Millennium in Longview.

Coal dust now is going into the Columbia River from the coal trains coming down the Columbia Gorge, going into the water. This dust is going into all the aquatic life there, including salmon.

The diesel smoke from the coal trains adds even more pollution to the river and its tributaries.

Once at Longview and the Millennium Terminal, runoff from rain and blowing dust from the wind will add more dust to the river.

Next, the transport down the Columbia will add more diesel pollution from the average of two more giant tankers a day.

The final step to entering the sea is crossing the Columbia River Bar, one of the most dangerous in the world. A shipwreck here would allow the coal to go into the water and also all the diesel fuel oil that the tanker needs to go on its way would go into the water with untold effect on salmon runs as well as other aquatic life. The pollution could proceed up and down the Oregon and Washington coasts, coating shorelines, and wiping out oyster beds.

After the coal is burned in Asia, winds would bring the pollution back to us to further degrade the Columbia River and all who live in it and along it.