

My name is Craig Heverly. I am speaking for my three grandchildren. Viola is four. Dickson and Ewan are 9 months old. They are just beginning their lives' journeys.

They live in Tacoma so will not live in immediate danger from the effects on this particular string of trains. The coal dust will not get to them, immediately. If they should need an ambulance or a fire truck or a police car, the trains will not block them off, immediately.

And besides, the coal is being shipped to far away countries. It won't be their problem, immediately.

But, as we know all too well, the coal will be burned. And that carbon will go up into the atmosphere and come back to us as a tsunami of changes in our climate. If we want a world for our children and grand children that is fit to live in we have to stop the coal.

If we thought a foreign nation was going to attack us, we would do all in our power to stop it. If we thought a deadly disease was coming our way, we would never say, "That's beyond our scope of investigation. We can't look at that."

Well, we are under attack. A deadly disease is staring us down. Its name is carbon. The victims of this attack are going to be Viola, Dickson, Ewan and their contemporaries. And they have done nothing to deserve it.

I am asking you, I am begging you, think of them. Go beyond the narrow "here and now." Think of the "there and then."

Thank you.

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