

I have always found it impressive to see the Army Corp logo on the great dams that harness renewable energy from the Columbia River. Today, however, I feel I have to remind the Corps of at least part of its role.

Included in the mission of the Army Corps, as stated on the Corps website, is to "strengthen our Nation's security...and reduce risks from disasters." The Pentagon, in 2004, issued a report to then President Bush in which they said that "climate change over the next 20 years could result in a global catastrophe costing millions of lives in wars and natural disasters. Further, the authors of the report stated that "climate change should be elevated beyond a scientific debate to a US national security concern."

Given your mission and that the burning of coal is a major contributor to CO2 emissions thereby exacerbating climate change, which, to restate, is, according to the Pentagon, a national security concern, it seems reasonable that the Corps would be obliged to support ^{the inclusion of} including global climate impacts before putting its stamp of approval on any project that involves the burning of coal. I therefore ask that all impacts of mining, shipping and burning coal be studied to determine whether a permit should be granted to Ambre Energy, a company, by the way, that has a history of failed ventures and major liabilities for mine cleanup and pensions, according to Sightline. I believe your mission statement makes a wide area impact study an obligation, not a choice, for the Corps.

*in any
circumstance*