

September 25, 2013 Spokane Scoping Hearing on Longview

Hello. My name is Jan Hoem and I have come here from Missoula, MT.

For several years I was a camp counselor at Children's Orthopedic Hospital Camp on Mount Rainier under Dr. Stam. It was for kids who were patients at the hospital. Many campers had severe asthma and couldn't go to a regular camp because they might have a life-threatening asthma attack at any time. They wanted a less restricted life, and with a lot of care they mostly had that for a week.

About eight percent of kids (one in twelve) in Montana and around the nation have asthma – a progressive disease for which there is no cure. 80 percent of all adult asthma started by the age of five, and the rate has doubled in the last 40 years.

Dr. Paul Smith, Pediatric Pulmonologist and author of "Effects of Climate Change on Pediatric Asthma and the National Debt" stated last Saturday that "Every case of asthma is worsened by air pollution and climate change." The annual cost of medical care for asthma is 3 billion dollars – an average of \$1500 per patient.

The connection between climate change and burning coal is a fact.

The proposed Longview terminal would install the infrastructure leading to billions more tons of CO<sub>2</sub> into the year 2050. If the emissions from burning coal worsen health, which they do, and if they worsen climate change, which they do, approval of the Longview Terminal would clearly take us in the wrong direction. As the late Molly Ivins wrote, "The first rule to get out of a hole is to stop digging." We need to put our full weight of effort into renewables and conservation.

Your decision on the proposed Longview Terminal will affect everyone along the rail line and ultimately the air that is breathed by us all. Please make the study comprehensive.      THANK YOU

Thank you. Jan Hoem, 16 Greenbrier Lane, Missoula, MT 59802