

# DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

My name is Diana Gordon and I live in Washougal, Washington. I'm on the parks board in Washougal. We are really just an advisory board, but it has made me very interested in the livability of our community and aware of the kinds of issues that might affect it.

Washougal is located on the Columbia River and the rail tracks run right through town. We have five at-grade crossings and only one overpass which gets really congested at times. We already feel the impact of train traffic, and adding more very long trains per day will only make our traffic congestion worse as well as increase emergency response times. In addition, <sup>several schools,</sup> several parks, a greenway with jogging trails, a couple of baseball fields, a state park, and a national wildlife refuge are located within a quarter of a mile of the tracks. Air and noise pollution from the trains and idling cars definitely affects those areas even now.

I am concerned also that the noise and pollution from the many trains per day that the Millennium Terminal will require to supply their Longview Terminal will eventually affect our property values. When a train goes by, we are cut off from the highway, some medical offices and shops, and our downtown. Who will want to move to a town that is cut in half every time a train goes through?

I know that Millennium has promised that family-wage jobs will be created by this terminal. It is good to hear that some of the profits this Australian company would accrue would stay in this country. Unfortunately, many communities and thousands of people would feel a hugely negative impact from this terminal. I think that the Northwest would be much better off without it *and I think the scope of the EIS should be broad + study the impacts this terminal will have on all the communities between the mines and Longview.*

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