

2-minute prepared testimony at 10/9/13 coal hearing, Ridgefield, WA.

Thank you. My name is Darryl Lloyd and I live in Hood River, Oregon. I'm a freelance photographer and have lived in the Columbia Gorge area for much of my life.

Human-caused global warming and ocean acidification -- if allowed to continue at the present rate -- are the greatest known threats to life on earth. Combine the two, and there is little doubt that this should be the primary and central basis for any environmental impact study of coal shipment, storage and export on the scale of this project.

China's voracious coal habit has global impacts besides warming the world and acidifying its oceans. Sulfur, carbon and other coal-related air pollutants travel across the Pacific and people who live in the Northwest have no choice but to breath this foul stuff. In the past two decades, my photographs have clearly shown a remarkable increase in air pollution from Asia, especially during spring months. Beautiful, clear days in spring are getting increasingly rare.

We need to **reduce** carbon emissions, not create new ways to increase them.

Now, about coal being transported by trains to Longview:

This proposal calls for an additional eight loaded coal trains per day through the Columbia Gorge. This is on top of Peabody's proposal of nine loaded trains per day. Plus the present three per day, **that means the potential of 20 coal trains per day through the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area.**

OK, coal shippers claim only about two ounces of coal will be lost per car per mile, which is as big as my thumb.

Using the **coal shippers figure**, a math teacher calculated that there would be about 10 million pounds of coal dumped into the Columbia Gorge National Scenic Area each year. **A farm or town with 2,000 feet of rail line running through it would receive at least 50,000 pounds of coal dust each year.**

That's a low estimate. What would it be if there was a 30 mph wind blowing across a coal trail traveling at 40 mph?

My conclusions can be boiled down to these:

(1) An Environmental Impact study should cover the toxic fallouts from the project -- including Peabody's -- over the rail routes in the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area.

(2) Impacts of carbon emissions from China must also be covered. **At stake is life on earth!**