

To: Washington State Department of Ecology, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Cowlitz County

From: Alexandra Amonette, 1939 Marshall Ave., Richland, WA

*Alexandra Amonette*

Re: Millennium Bulk Terminals: Longview, WA, Environmental Impact Statement Public Hearing, Pasco, WA

Date: October 1, 2013

The EIS scope should address 4 things:

(1) If we keep burning coal and all fossil fuels, we'll permanently destabilize our climate, and threaten the biological health and survival of humanity and other species.

(2) Burning coal causes carbon dioxide pollution and is responsible for as much atmospheric carbon dioxide as the other fossil fuels combined. That carbon dioxide sticks around for thousands of years in the atmosphere, traps heat, increases more water vapor that causes more frequent, intense storms like Sandy, droughts like in Texas, floods like in Colorado, fires like in Arizona, and ocean acidification that's destroying the shellfish off Washington's coastline.

(3) All the hidden costs of coal—like the billions in health care and the tens of thousands who die from breathing ozone and particulates from burning it every year.

(4) All climate impacts—from mining to transport to burning and atmospheric and oceanic pollution.

Did you know that Goldman Sachs issued an investor report this summer and said foreign demand for coal will decline sharply in a few years? Why are we phasing out coal plants here but considering permitting coal exports to Asia where it's a short-term moneymaker for a few, but emits carbon dioxide, causing further climate destabilization for all?

There's a way to secure jobs and clean energy: a market-based revenue-neutral carbon tax and dividend with a border tax adjustment as proposed by Citizens Climate Lobby. It places a tax on carbon-based fuels at the source, like a mine and increases steadily and predictably so that within a decade, renewables like wind and solar become competitive with fossil fuels. 100% of the dividend comes back to us to help offset the increased energy costs.

We've got a talented, intelligent work force here in the Tri Cities region already working on innovative clean renewable energy and energy efficiencies. As agents of government, you have the opportunity and obligation to prevent more carbon dioxide pollution by stopping coal exporting in its tracks and encouraging carbon-free energy projects at industrial sites like Longview instead.

Thank you.