

RESOLUTION NO. 12-013

**A RESOLUTION EXPRESSING CONCERN REGARDING
POTENTIAL ADVERSE IMPACTS FROM INCREASING
NUMBER OF TRAINS TRANSPORTING COAL THROUGH
THE CITY OF THE DALLES, AND REQUESTING THE
APPROPRIATE AUTHORITIES TO REQUIRE AN
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT WHICH
IDENTIFIES THE IMPACTS TO THE CITY OF THE DALLES**

WHEREAS, there are currently a number of projects proposed which include the transportation of coal by train from the Powder River Basin in Wyoming to facilities located in the States of Oregon and Washington; and

WHEREAS, under these proposed projects, the potential exists for an increase in the number of trains transporting coal through the City of The Dalles; and

WHEREAS, the Union Pacific Railroad has track lines located in the City of The Dalles, including four at-grade crossings; and

WHEREAS, during two town hall presentations, the City Council heard public comment expressing concern for the potential for coal dust being generated by the trains, having a negative impact upon the residents of the City of The Dalles; and

WHEREAS, the City Council is concerned that the potential increase in train traffic used to transport coal could result in closure of at-grade crossings with greater frequency and for longer period of times, which could possibly contribute to traffic congestion and negatively impact emergency service response times; and

WHEREAS, the City Council is concerned about the impact on the community's health, environment, safety, and local business from coal dust and other particulates which may be blown from or fall from the train cars used to transport the coal; and

WHEREAS, the route which the coal trains would follow is adjacent to the historic downtown area of the City, and to the recently completed Lewis and Clark Festival Park, and the City Council is concerned about the potential negative impact of the increased number of coal trains upon customers of local businesses, and visitors to downtown area and the Festival Park;

**NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF THE DALLES
RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:**

Section 1. The City Council urges the appropriate authorities to require an environmental and economic impact statement which identifies and measures the impacts on the City of The Dalles and other communities located within the Columbia River Gorge from the increase in coal train traffic.

Section 2. The City Council urges the appropriate authorities to hold at least one of the environmental impact scoping hearings at a location within the City of The Dalles.

Section 3. This Resolution shall be effective as of September 24, 2012.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 24TH DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2012

Voting Yes, Councilors: Wood, Dick, McGlothlin, Spatz

Voting No, Councilors: Ahier

Abstaining, Councilors: None

Absent, Councilors: None

AND APPROVED BY THE MAYOR THIS 24TH DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2012



James L. Wilcox, Mayor

BRIAN AHIER
MAYOR PRO TEM

ATTEST:



Julie Krueger, MMC, City Clerk