

Coal Testimony Oct 9, Ridgefield, WA (not given)

The worlds leading climate scientist James Hansen calls coal the single greatest threat to civilization and all life on planet Earth. We here him loud and clear, that's why we are here today . . . testifying and bearing witness to the death of coal. Finally, and it may be too late given all the Climate Change tipping points that have been triggered, but still . . . **finally** we get it, we really get it, human caused climate change is real and coal equals death.

Shipping coal, strip-mined from public lands owned by the American public, to Asia to be burned thereby dumping thousands of tons of CO2 into the atmosphere every year, the same air that you and I breathe in this room . . . all so big coal corporations can reap big profits is simply insane. Insane. We must not allow this to happen!

Irresponsible proposals like the Longview Coal Terminal are simply the death throes of an antiquated industry that has outlived its usefulness. *COAL - TERMINAL*. What an apt pairing of words! Continuing to burn coal will lead diretly to the creation of a climate terminal for not only future generations but the kids that belong to us here in this room. Coal is indeed terminal and it's day is over.

If we are to have any chance at all in securing a liveable climate for future generations, it is imperative that coal stay in the ground. No amount of jobs are worth creation of a terminal climate. More exports, more jobs? Sure but it will be at the expense of our children and the future. Coal must stay in the ground and this proposal terminated.

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