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Millennium Bulk Terminals EIS
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October 30, 2013

Millennium Bulk Terminals EIS
c/o ICF INTERNATIONAL
710 Second Avenue, Suite 550
Seattle, WA 98104

Vicki Rutson
Office of Environmental Analysis
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20423

Dear Sir/Madam:

Attached is a resolution adopted by the Missoula City Council on behalf of the City of Missoula, Montana requesting that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers consider the impacts to Missoula, Montana, in your environmental impact statement (EIS) for the proposed Millennium Bulk Terminal coal export port on Longview, Washington. The resolution also urges the Surface Transportation Board, as the federal agency responsible for regulating the railroads, to act as a cooperating agency in the EIS process for the Longview terminal.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Martha L. Rehbein, CMC
City Clerk

Resolution Number 7829

A resolution of the Missoula City Council to request that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers considers impacts to Missoula, Montana, in their Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed Millennium Bulk Terminals coal export port in Longview, Washington.

Whereas, the City of Missoula, Montana, population 67,000, is bisected by the southern main line of the Montana Rail Link/Burlington Northern Santa Fe railroad companies; and

Whereas, the proposed Longview terminal would result in an increased number of coal trains – each up to a length of 1.5 miles – moving through Missoula each day, year round; and

Whereas, increased train traffic must use the Madison Street crossing, an at-grade crossing used on average by 379 pedestrians, 770 bicyclists and 5080 automobile drivers each day and that provides one of only two accesses to thousands of homes in the Rattlesnake Valley; and

Whereas, both Madison and Taylor Street crossings are adjacent to a residential neighborhood and are not in a quiet zone, which means each train must blow its whistle; and

Whereas, increased coal export traffic will result in an increase in the number of coupling and de-coupling trains in the rail yard, activities that generate noise and air pollution; and

Whereas, the existing amount of air and noise pollution from the rail line and rail yard is already a cause of concern to Missoulians, based on the amount of public comment Council members receive; and

Whereas, any increase in these impacts to mobility, air and noise pollution due to train traffic serving the proposed Longview export terminal should be quantified and mitigated; and

Whereas burning coal produces significant emissions of carbon dioxide and mercury, both of which the Environmental Protection Agency classifies as air pollution;

Now therefore be it resolved by the Missoula City Council that the upline impacts of developing the Longview coal export terminal on the Washington coast are likely to result in significant adverse effects on our community that should be considered in any environmental review of these proposals; and

Be it further resolved that the Missoula City Council requests that the scope of the Environmental Impact Statement for the Longview coal export terminal include the effects on the City of Missoula; and

Be it further resolved that the Missoula City Council requests that the scope of the Environmental Impact Statement for the Longview coal export terminal evaluates the impacts of increased carbon and mercury emissions from burning the coal to be exported through the Longview terminal; and

Be it further resolved that the Missoula City Council urges the Surface Transportation Board, as the federal agency responsible for regulating the railroads, to act as a cooperating agency in the EIS process for the Longview terminal.

Passed and adopted this 21st day of October, 2013.

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

/s/ Martha L. Rehbein
Martha L. Rehbein, CMC
City Clerk

/s/ John Engen
John Engen
Mayor