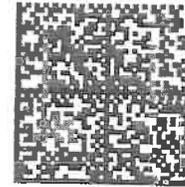


CITY OF CHENEY

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Cheney, Washington 99004-1698

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

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OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

TOM TRULOVE, MAYOR

November 6, 2013

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

To Whom It May Concern:

Thank you for the opportunity to offer these comments regarding the scope of the draft environmental impact statement (DEIS) addressing the Millennium Bulk Terminals Longview (MBTL) proposal.

Cheney, Washington, is located approximately 17 miles southwest of Spokane and is bisected by mainline tracks for both the Union Pacific (UP) and Burlington Northern / Santa Fe (BNSF) Railroads. Its population includes slightly more than 11,000 permanent residents and, during the school year, a significant number of students attending Eastern Washington University (Fall 2013 enrollment is 10,056 full-time and 2,070 part-time students).

We are concerned about the additional rail traffic that would occur through Cheney if the MBTL Project were built. Currently there are four intersections within our city limits where roads cross the BNSF rails. The UP rails involve three crossings within, and one just outside, the city limits. All of these crossings are at grade.

We request that the DEIS scope include an analysis of the impacts of added rail traffic that would result if the MBTL Project were built. These impacts would include delays at rail crossings, resulting in increased response times for emergency services, traffic congestion, and emissions from waiting vehicles. Other impacts that should be considered include increased emission from diesel locomotives, train noise (including both rail noise and train horns), and the potential consequences of a derailment or train/vehicle collision within the city.

In addition to the direct impacts of the MBTL Project, we request you also conduct a cumulative impact analysis that includes consideration of both existing rail traffic and any additional rail transport effects in Cheney resulting from other reasonably foreseeable future rail terminal projects that could further increase rail traffic through Cheney. Specifically, this should include potential impacts associated with the construction and operation of the proposed Morrow Pacific Coal Export Terminal Project to be built by Ambre Energy and the Millennium Bulk Terminal's proposed Gateway Pacific Terminal Project to be located at Cherry Point, Washington. It is our understanding that these projects would depend on additional rail shipments over the tracks bisecting Cheney.

Thank you for your consideration and attention to these requests.

Sincerely,

Tom Trulove
Mayor