

Form Letter W:

As you look at the proposed coal export terminal at Longview, you need to take impacts to Montana into account. These coal trains don't just materialize at the Washington border. This proposal will increase congestion, noise, and pollution with more coal train traffic, delay emergency responders, and harm existing businesses and property values. They will also cost Montanans millions of dollars as we're left picking up the bill for overpasses, underpasses, quiet zones and other necessary infrastructure to deal with those impacts.

The terminal at Longview could also lead to more strip-mining of coal. Arch and Ambre, the project's co-owners, both own existing and proposed mines in Montana and Wyoming. Arch also co-owns the proposed Tongue River Railroad. Coal mining has serious impacts on land, air, and water; as well as on the agricultural economies that depend on these valuable resources. The Tongue River Railroad would condemn productive farm and ranch land that families have owned for generations and spread weeds and fires, further threatening agriculture. Given Arch's stake in all three of these projects, it is clear that these projects are connected and shouldn't be looked at in isolation.