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Idaho Conservation League

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Nov. 18, 2013

Millennium Bulk Terminals-Longview EIS
C/O ICF International
710 Second Ave., Suite 550
Seattle, WA 98104

Dear Washington Department of Ecology and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers,

I'm writing on behalf of the Idaho Conservation League. Since 1973, the Idaho Conservation League has been Idaho's voice for clean water, clean air and wilderness—values that are the foundation for Idaho's extraordinary quality of life. The Idaho Conservation League works to protect these values through public education, outreach, advocacy and policy development. As Idaho's largest state-based conservation organization, we represent over 25,000 supporters, many of whom have a deep personal interest in our air and water quality, our unique quality of life here in Idaho, and our climate.

We add our voice to the chorus calling for a broad, comprehensive environmental impact statement that examines the impacts of these exports from the coal mines to the smokestacks, and all the communities affected in between. If the Millennium Bulk Terminal, the Gateway Pacific Terminal, and the Coyote Island Terminal are all approved, communities in North Idaho face the prospect of an additional 38 trains a day rumbling through them and emitting coal dust all the way. Without a broad and cumulative look at the impacts of these coal exports, Idahoans will bear undetermined costs to our health, environment and pocketbooks. Many questions have been raised about the potential impacts to communities along these rail lines, and without a broad scope to your EIS, we will not have the answers we deserve. It is your duty to study the impacts to our air and water, our health and safety, and the potential economic impacts of these coal exports through Idaho, in addition to the potential impacts to our climate.

Thank you for this opportunity to weigh in. If you have any questions, feel free to contact me at (208) 265-9565.

Regards,

Susan Drumheller
North Idaho Associate