



November 18, 2012

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

To whom it may concern:

The below signers, all members of the Leadership Alliance Against Coal, represent leaders from across the region, including elected officials from cities, counties, NW tribal governments and the state legislature. We share a collective concern about proposals to export coal from Northwest ports and we submit the following comments on the scoping of the environmental review for the Millennium Bulk Terminal proposed in Longview, WA. With this letter, we wish to express our concern that the proposed terminal will have significant adverse impacts. The communities touched by the proposed export terminal need a full understanding of all the potential impacts of coal export. Among the impacts we believe to be significant and warranting analysis in the EIS are the following:

- Impacts from increased mining in Wyoming and Montana, particularly on public lands;
- Increased rail traffic and related impacts to infrastructure throughout Wyoming, Montana, Idaho, Washington, and Oregon;
- Traffic congestion, pollution, safety, and health issues in communities along the rail line between Powder River Basin area coal mines and the Pacific Northwest terminal sites, including the significant impact of at-grade crossings for these communities;
- The impact on tribes' treaty rights, sacred places and life ways.
- The effects of significantly increased barge and cargo ship operations on the Columbia River and in the Salish Sea and combined vessel traffic impacts and oil spill risks in the transpacific navigational routes including the Gulf of Alaska and Unimak Pass.
- The effect of coal export on domestic energy security and pricing;
- The effects of global consumption of coal exported from the proposed terminals on international market prices, and resulting increased greenhouse gas emissions and air pollution impacts from coal combustion in Asia, including mercury and other contaminant deposition in Pacific Northwest waters.

While we continue to believe that a single, comprehensive analysis of the impacts of all three proposed Northwest coal terminals is warranted in a combined EIS, we were very pleased to see the announcement last summer that the Department of Ecology will include in its environmental review of the Gateway Pacific Terminal the statewide rail and health impacts as well as the global climate impacts from the coal export proposal. We urge the Department to take a similar approach with this proposal.

Thank you again for your leadership on this important issue, and we are looking forward to working with you to ensure that the public health, safety, and welfare of our residents are protected from the negative impacts of coal export.

Sincerely,



Mayor Bruce Bassett
Mercer Island, WA



Mayor Stephen H. Buxbaum
Olympia, WA



Councilmember Richard Conlin
Seattle, WA

*Councilmember Nancy M. Dumas
Sumner, WA



Councilmember Jean Godden
Seattle, WA

*Councilmember Mike Grady
Mercer Island, WA

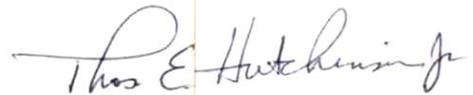


Councilmember Jennifer Gregerson
Mayor-Elect, Mukilteo, WA



City Commissioner Katherine Haque-Hausrath
Helena, MT

*Council President Dave Hedges
Milwaukie, OR

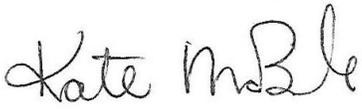


Councilmember Tom Hutchinson
Longview, WA

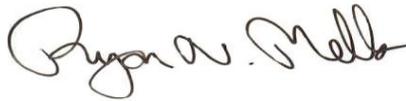


Councilmember Nick Licata
Seattle, WA

*Councilmember Michael Lilliquist
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Councilmember Kate McBride
Hood River, OR


Mayor Mike McGinn
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Councilmember Ryan Mello
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Councilmember Mike O'Brien
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State Representative Jamie Pedersen
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Councilmember Larry Phillips
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