

October 14, 2013

Cowlitz County Commission
Commissioner's Office
207 4th Avenue N
Room 305
Kelso, WA 98626

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COMMISSIONERS OFFICE

RE: Docket number 2013-19738
Comment on scope of EIS for Millennium Bulk Terminals Longview LLC Coal Export Terminal

I am writing because I strongly oppose the construction of a coal export terminal at Longview, WA which would transport coal on trains and ships throughout the Northwest. Coal companies Ambre Energy and Arch Coal are seeking to build a coal export terminal, called Millennium Bulk Terminals, in Longview, WA. The terminal would export up to 44 million tons of coal every year in huge ships down the Columbia River, out through some of the roughest and most dangerous ocean waters in the world and across the Pacific to Asia. If approved, the Millennium Bulk Terminals would be the largest permitted coal export facility in the U.S.

Coal is a dirty and dangerous combustible fuel that coal companies would put in open rail cars to travel through communities and on massive cargo ships through our marine waters, fishing grounds and recreation areas.

This proposal would negatively affect communities by increasing congestion and noise with more coal train traffic, polluting the air and local waterways, harming existing businesses, and delaying emergency responders. It would also damage aquatic ecosystems and fishing areas on the Columbia River, harm human health, increase tanker traffic and the potential for shipping accidents and spills, expand strip-mining in Wyoming and Montana, and escalate climate change.

Coal export threatens the health, public safety and economic vitality of communities. Carbon-intensive, dirty coal has become such a hard sell in the United States that Big Coal is trying to ship it out to be burned in Asia. But no matter where it is used, coal will still harm our climate and threaten our ecosystems and communities. The only way to stop this is by keeping it in the ground, off of our seas and out of our air.

I urge you to consider these impacts in the scope of the Environmental Impact Statement.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,


J. Capozzelli
New York