



801 W. Riverside | Suite 100 | Spokane WA 99201

Phone: 509.624.1393 | 800.SPOKANE

Fax: 509.747.0077

GreaterSpokane.org | AdvantageSpokane.com

November 28, 2016

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

RE: Millennium Bulk Terminals-Longview Proposed Project – NEPA EIS Public Comment

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing on behalf of Greater Spokane Incorporated (GSI) to voice support for Millennium Bulk Terminals-Longview, and quick submittal of the final Environmental Impact Statement. GSI is the primary advocate for economic development in the Spokane region, and as its CEO and behalf of our 1,200+ members employing more than 100,000 individuals, I strongly advocate for the completion of this project for the sheer economic benefits that will come as a result.

At GSI, we regularly see the possibilities that result from an influx of state tax revenue. And it's also very rare to see an infrastructure project that requires no taxpayer investment, but provides such abundant economic returns. Yet the Millennium project will do just that, driving home approximately \$70 million in direct wages, with ongoing operations producing \$16 million dollars in wages from good paying jobs. Millennium is currently projected to generate \$37 million in tax revenue during construction, and more than \$5.4 million in county, and state taxes for years to come.

The Pacific Northwest is extremely trade dependent and a critical component to growing our economy is utilizing Washington's access to Pacific Rim markets. The Millennium project will streamline our shipping and transport industries directly connecting us to some of the finest suppliers and distributors throughout Asia.

As a lifelong resident of Spokane County, I understand the importance of protecting our State's abundant forests, lakes, and rivers. And both the extensive state and federal environmental reviews conclude the Millennium project will meet all of Washington's stringent environmental standards.

I appreciate the opportunity to provide input on the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). Thank you for taking the time to listen to local advocates like myself. The construction of the Millennium export terminal is a great investment for Washington's economic future. I urge the immediate release of a final EIS statement.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Todd Mielke". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Todd Mielke, CEO

BE PART OF SOMETHING GREATER!

Greater Spokane Incorporated – The Spokane Region's Business Development Organization

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