
From: Fraser Rasmussen <rasmussenf43@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 28, 2016 9:16 PM
To: NWS.MBTL; Millennium.wqc@ecy.wa.gov
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Millennium Bulk Terminals Longview, LLC; NWS-2010-1225

Comments: After attending two day long hearings at the Cowlitz County Convention Center on the major expansion of the Millennium Bulk (coal) Terminals and studying the assets and liabilities of such an expansion I have concluded that my only responsible recommendation is to call for the “no action” alternative to the current DEIS. I call for the Corp to deny the project’s Clean Water Act Section 404 and the Rivers and Harbors Act Section 10 permits. Additionally, I urge the Dept of Ecology to deny Millennium’s Clean Water Action Section 401 water quality certification,

Millennium has failed to demonstrate that it can prevent coal and coal particulate matter from entering the Columbia River, both at the project site and enroute to the terminal. The risks and liabilities of train derailment are just too high. The significant increase in the number of coal trains coursing through the Columbia River Gorge will bring increased pollution in both coal dust and particles. All it would take is one major derailment to compromise the River for important species of fish, particularly Salmon. The livelihood and well being of native people, of fishermen, of farmers,, of all who use the Gorge for travel, for site seeing and the thousands of people who come annually just to take in its beauty and magnificence would be compromised.

The project would run counter to our Pacific Northwest region’s commitment to develop affordable “green energy” alternatives, that would replace the dirtiest of all fossil fuels, coal. Those that view the Pacific Northwest as the coal export capital of the U.S. have a distorted economic view as to what will take us into an equitable economy for the future. Coal will soon be at the bottom of what supports workers, families and particularly children. I understand that those at Millennium will feel shortchanged if this project is denied. However, the cost is just too high in terms of peoples health and well being to risk approval of this project. That benefit from coal will go primarily those in the top economic echelon of our society, not those who need family waged jobs, Again, I ask that you will weigh all this testimony carefully and deny the Millienium expansion.

I sincerely appreciate being able to express my opinion on this very important decision,

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