

I am Jerry Mueller representing Shalom Church, a combination of the United Church of Christ and Mennonite Church here in Spokane. Thank you for the opportunity to express our concerns at this scoping hearing.

We take our call to be responsible stewards of God's creation very seriously. After recently negotiating the closure of the last coal powered plant in Washington, we are now faced again with a problem with coal in our state.

*BECAUSE OF  
LOWER COSTS*

The coal companies seek new markets in China, already overburdened with environmental contamination from coal, ignoring the fact that 80% of the global warming gases in the world are caused by coal, in addition to other contamination (mercury etc.) of the earth and water

It is totally irresponsible to limit this scope hearing when the effects of the whole project are spread across many states, through tribal lands across the ocean to be burned in China. Normal wind and water currents then will bring the by products right back here!

60 additional mile and a half long coal trains per day on a rail line operating at close to capacity right now, depositing coal dust across our towns and states and carbon dioxide in the air. This is not taking care of creation! It is morally and spiritually wrong!

Our state's relatively clean environment is proposed to be used for the profit of the coal companies, not the common good!

*SPEAKING OUT FOR JUSTICES CAUSE*

We want the scope to examine the environmental effects of the whole process. The big picture! Thank you.

*FOR COMMON  
GOOD*

*VIOLATES OUR VALUES*