



Washington State Legislature

Olympia

July 31, 2013

Colonel Bruce Estok
US Army Corps of Engineers
P.O. Box 3755
Seattle, WA 98124-3755

Maia Bellon, Director
Washington State Department of Ecology
P.O. Box 47600
Olympia, WA 98504-7600

Cowlitz County Board of Commissioners
207 Fourth Avenue North (Room 305)
Kelso, WA 98626

Dear Colonel Estok, Director Bellon and Commissioners:

As legislators representing areas that will potentially be impacted by the proposed coal export facility at the site of the now-closed Reynolds Aluminum plant in Longview, we are writing to bring a serious concern to your attention.

We recognize that the issue of siting an export facility has generated strong feelings of both support and opposition. We respect the fact that many people want to share their opinions about this project and think it is important to the process that every voice be heard. It is our strong desire that the upcoming scoping meetings be opportunities for listening and education, rather than a forum for rallies supporting one side or the other (which will not advance the goals and purposes of the scoping meetings). We encourage the Department of Ecology ("Ecology") to design a procedure for the scoping meetings that will provide a safe and respectful forum to inform the public and maximize the opportunity for all citizens to share their thoughts about the issues surrounding the environmental review of this project.

We suggest the ideal for the scoping meetings for the Millennium Bulk Terminals proposal should:

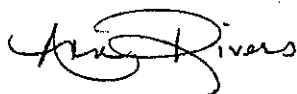
- Create an environment for comments in which no one fears for their personal safety.
- Avoid intimidating supporters or opponents who wish to make comments but are concerned about a confrontational reception from an assembled crowd.
- Provide opportunities for members of the public to learn about the project and receive responses to questions.
- Instruct the public about the different opportunities to comment - verbally or through written comments at the meeting, or later by email or letter.
- Provide a meeting timeframe that will facilitate comments from all members of the public without requiring participants to give up a full day of work or care for their family in exchange for an opportunity to contribute.

Southwest Washington has weighed in on other controversial projects; an "open house-style" process has been utilized successfully in the past and should serve as the model for obtaining citizen input. This will provide the public an opportunity to learn about the new facility. Citizens can receive knowledgeable answers to questions, and also provide verbal comments privately and individually, or in writing.

This process used to collect comments about the project would be respectful and inclusive. We encourage Ecology to adopt a similar process to allow the maximum number of citizens to offer useful comments in a safe and respectful environment.

Thank you for taking the time to consider our concerns and our suggestions. If you have any questions, or if you would like further insights, please feel free to contact any of our offices.

Sincerely,



Senator Ann Rivers
18th Legislative District
360-786-7634




Representative Liz Pike
18th Legislative District
360-786-7812



Representative Brandon Vick
18th Legislative District
360-786-7850



Senator Curtis King
14th Legislative District
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Representative Charles Ross
14th Legislative District
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Representative Norm Johnson
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Senator Brian Hatfield
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Representative Dean Takko
19th Legislative District
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Representative Brian Blake
19th Legislative District
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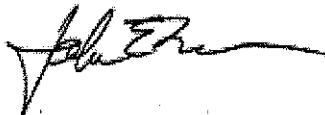
Senator Annette Cleveland
49th Legislative District
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Representative Sharon Wylie
49th Legislative District
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Representative Jim Moeller
49th Legislative District
360-786-7872



Senator John Braun
20th Legislative District
360-786-7638



Representative Paul Harris
17th Legislative District
360-786-7976

Cc: Ted Sturdevant, Governor's Office