

# International Association of BRIDGE, STRUCTURAL, ORNAMENTAL AND REINFORCING IRONWORKERS LOCAL 29



11620 N.E. Ainsworth Circle, Suite 200 • Portland, Oregon 97220 (503) 774-0777 Fax (503) 775-0947

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To Whom it May Concern:

I am pleased to use this opportunity to comment on this incredibly important critical infrastructure project and offer my support of the proposed Millennium Bulk Terminals (Millennium) project in Longview, Washington. The project is vital to workers throughout the state of Washington and provides a bright future for the state's trade capabilities within the Pacific Northwest. I cannot overstate how important this innovative infrastructure project is.

As president of Ironworkers Local 29, I am fully aware of the importance of infrastructure to both Washington and our nation as a whole. IW 29 currently represents a number of journeypersons and apprentices across six counties in the state of Washington. With the implementation of projects like the export terminal proposed by Millennium, scores of Ironworkers throughout Washington could benefit greatly. Advancing infrastructure in The Evergreen State should be a priority for regulators and elected officials as one in four jobs are linked to trade within the state. Establishing strong infrastructure enables commerce that would drive Washington's economy.

The Millennium project would have an incredibly positive impact at both the state and local level in Washington. It is estimated that the terminal would create 2,650 jobs during construction, with 300 additional permanent jobs available after build-out to run operations. The jobs created by the terminal would, in turn, generate more than \$300 million in direct wages and output during construction, with an additional \$65 million produced annually after the terminal is built. Additionally, Millennium would generate \$37.2 million in state tax revenues and \$5.9 million in county tax revenues, contributing to the community at large. These types of benefits associated with the project are simply difficult to ignore.

But despite the clear benefits to Washington's trade and infrastructure future, this project has been delayed for over five years. This delay of the project sends a message that Longview, Washington and the state as a whole is simply not a place to do business. It goes without saying that this type of reputation could have an incredibly negative economic impact on the area. It is time that legislators approve Millennium project and welcome investment back into the area.

Millennium is committed to upholding the safety and environmental standards that Washington expects. The project is built on a former Reynolds smelter site and one of the primary objectives is to transform the site entirely. Millennium and other partners have entered an agreement to ensure that the cleanup of this site follows all state rules and regulations. Before Millennium, the smelter site had simply been left to decay—now it is in the process of being transformed into a world-class facility.

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Workers throughout Washington will benefit from the approval and breaking ground of the proposed Millennium terminal, including members of IW 29. I urge you to finishing the permitting process and approve this critical infrastructure project.

Thank you for your consideration on this issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Shane Nehls".

Shane Nehls

President

Ironworkers 29