

# Columbia Pacific Building and Construction Trades Council

This letter is regarding the proposed Millennium Bulk Terminal (Millennium) project. As the Executive Secretary-Treasurer of the Columbia Pacific Building and Construction Trades Council (CPBCTC), I wholeheartedly support the Millennium project and encourage that it be approved. Located in Longview, this project would not only create opportunity for our state's union workforce, but also deliver significant benefits to the citizens of Western Washington and much needed economic stability in the surrounding communities.

Being the Executive Secretary-Treasurer of CPBCTC means that I serve the over 20,000 construction workers from five different trades across the Pacific Northwest who make up our members. To my membership and myself personally, projects like the Millennium Bulk Terminal are crucial to ensuring the future of our workforce and economic vitality.

In Cowlitz County, this project would have a positive effect that is incredibly hard to overlook. For one, the increase in tax revenue would help lessen the tax burden on Washington residents and aid in supporting essential public services like roads, hospitals, and schools. The project would result in a \$5.9 million increase in tax revenue to Cowlitz County annually as well as a whopping \$37.2 million for our great state.

Aside from the increase in tax revenue, residents would also see much-needed job growth. It's estimated that 2,650 construction jobs would be created while the terminal is being built and another 300 permanent positions would remain as well. For the electricians, plumbers, pipefitters and countless other tradesmen and women that I advocate for each day, this would be a huge boon for them and their families. In fact, this \$650 million construction project would also create \$302 million in direct wages during construction.

Given that Washington is a state that is heavily dependent on trade for employment, allowing this project to go forward should be a no-brainer. The 530-acre site on which the Millennium project is proposed has remained completely underutilized for over a decade now. With this land just wasting away, it's time we found a proper use for it.

After an extensive review and a protracted, five-year wait, the Millennium Bulk Terminal project's approval is long overdue. Given that this project will produce thousands of jobs for laborers in unions like the CPBCTC, raise wages significantly at a time when Americans are in dire need of a pay increase, and bring in new tax revenue on the state and local level – all while meeting the state's environmental standards, I urge you to grant it approval so that we can continue to move forward. Opportunities like these don't come along as frequently as we'd like, and we mustn't squander this one.

Thank you,

Willy Myers  
Executive Secretary-Treasurer  
Columbia Pacific Building and Construction Trades Council