

Longview/ Kelso Building Trades

To Whom It May Concern:

Thank you again for the opportunity to comment on the progress of the Millennium Bulk Terminals-Longview (Millennium) permit application. I write in support of this proposed export facility and ask Washington regulators to stop dragging their feet on projects like Millennium that aim to create jobs and increase our states revenue.

As president of the Longview/Kelso Building and Construction Trades Council, we continually strive to advocate for infrastructure projects that will benefit the skilled workers in the building and construction industry. Therefore, it is concerning to see that the Millennium project currently remains as one of the longest reviewed infrastructure projects in our states history. This project, which is sure to provide much needed economic benefits to Washington, has been under review for five years. It's time now to move this project forward.

The figures are clear, this project will generate \$37.2 million dollars in state tax revenue, with no investment from our states tax payers, and generate millions in wages that will go directly back into our community. In fact, Millennium Bulk Terminals has invested millions in re-purposing an existing brownfield site and already improved what was once an eyesore and environmental hazard in an established industrial area — all while promising to create more than 2,650 direct and indirect jobs.

The construction of the Millennium Bulk Terminal will revitalize an underutilized industrial center here in Washington, offer great opportunities for our building trades members in the community, and will create much- needed entry-level career opportunities throughout the trades apprenticeship programs.

Washington's prime location in the Pacific Northwest lends itself access to the busiest foreign ports throughout Asia. We need to ensure that our nations shipping and transport industries remain competitive both by rail, and sea. The completion of the Millennium Bulk Terminals-Longview secures the livelihood of all of our members, in Washington, and throughout the nation.

It is appreciated that efforts are being taken to ensure Millennium meets all of Washington's regulatory standards, but we need to move this project along to completion. Last year Governor Inslee admitted this project has already been thoroughly reviewed. A project like this does not come along often, this is a crucial opportunity to provide stable growth for our families, state, and nation.

Sincerely,

Mike Bridges
IBEW Local 48
President, Longview/Kelso Building Trades Council