

Sprinkler Fitters UA Local 669

To Whom It May Concern:

I appreciate the opportunity to weigh in on an important infrastructure project that has the potential to become an economic boon for the state of Washington. Specifically, I am writing in support of the Millennium Bulk Terminals project in Longview, Washington. This proposed export facility will provide an abundance of well-paying jobs, and ensure that Washington remains one of the premier trade hubs of the Pacific Northwest.

As the District 1 business agent for the UA Local Union 669, I am immersed in the major infrastructure issues that are important to our members. The Millennium Bulk Terminals project has been pending with the Department of Ecology for over five years now. This lengthy timeframe could create a harmful precedent that signals Washington is not a business-friendly state, as well as damage the state's reputation as a major trade hub. This would have a devastating impact on thousands of hard-working skilled tradesman across the state who need the projects these two characteristics attract. As such, I strongly urge the Department of Ecology to immediately approve the permit for the Millennium Bulk Terminals project.

Approving the permit would provide \$302 million in direct wages for Washington workers, as well as \$65 million annually once the project is completed. Moreover, the Millennium Bulk Terminals project will generate \$37.2 million in state tax revenues, which coupled with \$5.9 million in county tax revenues, will fund schools, hospitals, and a variety of other important services. Overall, the project will create 2,650 new jobs, along with 300 permanent jobs for running operations after construction is complete.

Thousands of workers are being denied the opportunity of a well-paying job simply because regulators have dragged their feet during the approval of the Millennium project's permit. This is unfortunate given the immense economic benefits that the project would bring to the state. The Millennium project plans to adhere to all applicable environmental standards throughout the entire construction process, and has ensured that every step of the public stakeholder process has been transparent and robust. As such, the Department of Ecology has no reason not to approve the permit.

The Millennium Bulk Terminals project is a win-win for the state of Washington. The project will create thousands of jobs, generate millions in tax revenue that can subsequently be used for important social services, and will enhance the state's overall reputation as a trade hub. On behalf of UA Local Union 669: Road Sprinkler Fitters, as well as thousands of other workers throughout the state, I urge that the Millennium permit be swiftly approved. We're ready to get to work.

Sincerely,

Steven Purdy
Business Agent
UA Local Union 669