

Jean M. Avery

Like many other residents of Southwest Washington, I am opposed to Millennium's proposed coal export terminal for Longview.

1. Regardless of what the company may say publicly, Millennium cannot be concerned about the future of Washington State, because it is appealing the prior ruling by DNR, which denied a sublease for Millennium to operate on the Columbia River. If this is how Millennium does business, how can we expect this same company to act responsibly in our region?
2. As anyone who has traveled on the Columbia River knows, this is a magnificent environmental treasure. I highly recommend a Portland Spirit cruise, which highlights the river all the way from Portland, through Cascade Locks, to Astoria.
3. The Columbia Gorge National Scenic Area attracts thousands of visitors to view the magnificent waterfalls and overlooks. A coal terminal in Longview would bring many more polluting coal trains the Gorge. The risk of exploding trains is ever-present; and the train tracks are dangerously close to the heavily trafficked tourist destinations.
4. Our communities deserve clean air and water. We need to keep our environment clean and non-toxic -- for both current and future residents. (Washington State is becoming a popular destination for many people choosing to relocate here.)

Thank you.