

## Bonnie McKinlay

In assessing Millennium Bulk Terminal's request for Ecology's Section 401 Water Quality Permit, I encourage careful study of the threats to water quality that the proposed coal export terminal present.

1. Toxic nature of coal containing lead, mercury, arsenic, uranium, and thorium.

2. The frequency and likelihood of accidental spills that have and can occur throughout the transportation route, to and from the proposed Longview terminal, situated on the Columbia River. The strong possibility of accidental spills threaten aquatic life and habitat and human communities. These events would have serious social and economic consequences.

3. Trains and barges are routed through seismic sensitive zones that are expected to experience extreme earthquake and tsunami action within the next 50 years or less. The predicted cataclysmic seismic disruption would cause harmful contact between dumped coal and waterways from dockside coal storage facilities and transport vessels and trains.

4. Earthquake triggered and climate change-caused flooding can also cause spilling and leaks.

--I visited the site of the Mesa, WA coal train derailment in 2012. I was struck by the good fortune that it had spilled onto dry land, not into the Columbia River, Lake Pend Oreille, or other waterways.