



Guide to Participating in the NEPA Public Review Process

Public Hearings

Monday, October 24, 2016

Cowlitz County Event Center
1900 7th Avenue, Longview, WA

Tuesday, October 25, 2016

Clark County Event Center
17402 NE Delfel Road, Ridgefield, WA

Public Hearing Agenda

Open House and Public Comments

1:00 – 9:00 p.m.

Welcome and Oral Public Comments

Afternoon Session: 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Evening Session: 5:00 – 9:00 p.m.

The United States Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) has released the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed Millennium Bulk Terminals – Longview and invites the public to comment.

The public comment period for the Draft EIS ends on November 29, 2016.

How to Comment

At a public hearing/open house:

- Comment form
- Oral testimony in front of the Corps
- Oral testimony in a private setting (one on one with a court reporter)

By mail:

- Millennium Bulk Terminals-Longview NEPA EIS
c/o ICF International
710 Second Avenue, Suite 550
Seattle, WA 98104

Online at:

- www.millenniumbulkeiswa.gov/submit-comments.html

Hearing Format

- A welcome area for learning about the meeting format and signing up to provide oral comments.
- An open-house area for reviewing information and talking to staff.
- An area for writing and providing written comments.
- An area for recording oral comments privately.
- A public comment area for providing oral testimony to representatives of the Corps (during afternoon and evening sessions).

Ground Rules

The United States Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) is committed to providing safe and effective public hearings. Public input is a very important part of the public review process. Public hearings and the public comment period are an opportunity for the community to participate in the review process and provide comments, suggestions, and concerns on the Draft EIS.

The Corps asks all participants to honor the ground rules. This will help maintain an open, secure, and respectful tone for each hearing, and allow everyone's voice to be heard equally. Use of the ground rules will support productive and civil hearings. Individuals who do not follow the ground rules and create an unsafe or intimidating environment will be asked to leave the hearing.

Intimidating behavior will not be tolerated because it creates a disrespectful and threatening environment. Examples of intimidation that are prohibited include:

- Confronting, blocking, or interfering with attendees when they approach, enter, or engage in the hearing venue.
- Conducting rallies or demonstrations at the entrance or within the hearing venue.

Staff will monitor the number of people entering the hearing space and, based on the safe capacities of the areas, may close the space to additional attendance if facility capacity is reached. When people depart and space becomes available, additional people will be allowed to enter.

The Corps is committed to providing a safe and effective public hearing. Some actions are prohibited because they create an intimidating atmosphere. Your cooperation and respect for the following guidelines will provide everyone an opportunity to speak safely.

- In anticipation that many people want to provide oral comments before an audience, a two-minute time limit per speaker or group of speakers is established for all hearings and will be enforced. Additional comments can be provided in writing.
- Speakers will be chosen by a lottery-drawing method to provide an unbiased selection of speakers.
- Silent expressions of support or opposition by giving a “thumbs up” or “thumbs down,” or raising one's hand or a small sign for a few seconds are allowed if they do not disrupt speakers.
- Clapping, cheering, or jeering disrupts speakers and is prohibited. Such noise contributes to an intimidating atmosphere.
- Speakers may be stopped when disruptive behavior, such as sign waving or a mass activity like standing up as a group, occurs.
- Signs no larger than 10- by 10-inches are allowed in the public comment areas. Signs should not be held up for extended periods as they block the view of others.
- Loudspeakers, flashing lights, or other visual or audible disturbances are not permitted.

The Corps reserves the right to close the hearing at any time if disruptions interfere with the opportunity for participants to make oral comments or if safety risks develop.