



TO: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Washington State Department of Ecology
Cowitz County

Comments on Proposed Millennium Coal Export Terminal
Choctawhatchee Riverkeeper, Inc.
P.O. Box 6734
Banks, Alabama 36005-6734

Humankind is already seeing severe and worsening impacts of emission of carbon dioxide from burning fossil fuels. Coal emits more carbon dioxide per unit of energy produced. Extraction, shipping, burning and the residues of coal combustion also have more non-climate change impacts, severe impacts, than other fossil fuels. Leading climate scientists indicate that we must cease burning coal as soon as possible to prevent horrific and irreversible climate change.

Already burning of coal and other fossil fuels is...

- Damaging or destroying warm water coral reefs...many scientists say that the carbon dioxide already added to the atmosphere will almost certainly doom these fish nurseries that are ultimately the protein source for between 1 and 2 billion human souls
- Causing loss of snowpack that provides irrigation water for agriculture that is critical in many nations, including the nuclear armed nation of Pakistan that is already unstable
- Causing thermal expansion of seawater and adding water causing sea level rise that will cost the United States and nations many billions of dollars in future storm damage and ultimately loss of coastal infrastructure
- Causing increased frequency and severity of drought, here in the SE United States and around the world, causing crop losses as well as endangering estuarine systems and resources such as oysters in Apalachicola Bay in Florida
- Causing more frequent severe heat waves like those that struck Chicago and Europe in recent that have the potential to kill thousands of people
- Causing changes in weather patterns including more frequent deluges causing farming losses and infrastructure damage

This project should not go forward. Its costs to societies around the globe from climate change impacts alone almost certainly offset any global economic gains. In addition to the climate change impacts indicated above, there are severe impacts of mining and shipping coal here in the U.S. and the impacts of burning coal upon many thousands if not millions of Chinese people and other Asians who already suffer from the wholesale burning of coal with minimal environmental controls.

Sincerely,

Michael William Mullen
Executive Director

Choctawhatchee RIVERKEEPER®, Inc.
P.O. Box 6734
Banks, AL 36005
334-807-1365
Email: riverkeeper@troycable.net



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