



*For a Fishable and Swimmable Spokane River*

October 11, 2013

Millennium Bulk Terminals-Longview EIS  
c/o ICF International  
701 Second Ave., Suite 550  
Seattle, WA 98104

Washington Department of Ecology  
c/o Diane Butorac  
PO Box 47775  
Olympia, WA 98504

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
c/o Danette Guy  
2108 Grand Blvd.  
Vancouver, WA 98661

Cowlitz County Building & Planning  
c/o Elaine Placido  
207 4th Ave. N.  
Kelso, WA 98626

*Via email to [comments@millenniumbulkeiswa.gov](mailto:comments@millenniumbulkeiswa.gov)*

**RE: Millennium Coal Export Project Environmental Impact Statement  
Scoping comments**

To whom it may concern:

These comments are submitted on behalf of Spokane Riverkeeper (“Riverkeeper”) and our member base of over 1,200 people who support our goal of a Fishable and Swimmable Spokane River. Riverkeeper is a program of the Center for Justice, which is a Spokane-based, for-impact legal advocacy organization.

Exporting coal through Spokane directly impacts the Spokane River basin in many ways, most notably our discovering that the current coal train shipments through Spokane are already resulting in coal dust and coal chunks in our waterways, and that an increase in this activity of coal exporting for a coal export facility in Longview will only increase how often we find toxic coal in the Spokane River.

Our members also routinely bring up concerns with the BNSF refueling depot in Idaho and how it leaks in the Rathdrum Prairie – Spokane Valley aquifer, an aquifer that is connected to the Spokane River and which could transport pollutants in to the River system. It already has issues; can it withstand a massive increase in refueling instances due to increased traffic? This needs to be studied very carefully for we only have one shot to protect the Rathdrum Prairie – Spokane Valley aquifer.



And finally, if corporations export coal to Asia they are causing air pollution in the western United States. Coal export from the Pacific Northwest has the connected action of importing poisonous air pollution that is deposited into our streams and rivers, toxifying our fish and threatening the health, vitality and brain development of our children. Every single waterbody in the U.S., including the Spokane River has a mercury advisory on it. This proposed coal export facility will only add to that problem. What is being done to address this?

We are connected in a global community and we have a shared resource called the atmosphere. We urge state and federal agencies to recognize this undeniable truth and conduct a proper environmental impact analysis that fully quantifies these global impacts.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bart Mihailovich". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "B".

Bart Mihailovich  
Spokane Riverkeeper