



WHAT CAN YOU DO TO STOP COAL EXPORTS? **Participate in the Environmental Impact Scoping hearings this fall!**

This fall presents a critical juncture in the fight to stop coal exports through the Pacific Northwest. We need you to make it a victory for clean air and healthy communities everywhere. Here's how you can use your precious time to make a difference!

WHAT

This fall, Northwesterners will have the first formal opportunity to express concerns and opposition to coal exports through a public comment period. This is the first stage of the environmental review process for the 54 million-ton-per-year coal export terminal at Cherry Point, WA proposed by Peabody Coal. This process will inform key decision-makers' approval or denial of permits needed to build the terminal.

WHY

Through this process, the agencies will decide which impacts to include in the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). We want the EIS to disclose all of the impacts, from mine mouth to power plan—to include everything from the health, environmental, and safety risks of mining coal in Montana, to shipping coal by rail through communities across the Northwest, to burning coal abroad and exacerbating dangerous climate change. On the other hand, the coal industry would like the scope to be limited to the actual footprint of the terminal.

By mobilizing people to hearings and submitting comments on the Cherry Point terminal, the first terminal up for environmental review, we will set a precedent for all five coal export terminals in the Northwest. Our goal is to send a clear message that we demand a truly Coal-Free Northwest.

HOW TO SUBMIT A COMMENT

Citizen involvement is crucial to be sure that the project proponent –Peabody Coal – has to answer all the communities' concerns before moving forward. Our public officials will also listen carefully to your input. Some organizations and citizens will submit technical, legal comments. And a huge number of concerned citizens will send in their own letter, testify at a hearing, or sign a postcard or email.

You don't need to be an expert to contribute your thoughts, ideas and concerns. You can share your personal story, a concern in your community or whatever issue motivates you. For more information and tips you can go to PowerPastCoal.org or CoalTrainFacts.org.

WHERE & WHEN

Comments will be accepted until January 21, 2013 at www.coalfreenorthwest.org and PowerPastCoal.org. Seven hearings will be conducted over the next four months.

Bellingham

11 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday, October 27
Squalicum High School
3773 E McLeod Road, Bellingham

Friday Harbor

12-3 p.m. Saturday, November 3
Friday Harbor High School
45 Blair Avenue, Friday Harbor

Mount Vernon

4-7 p.m. Monday, November 5
McIntyre Hall
2501 E College Way, Mount Vernon

Seattle

4-7 p.m. Tuesday, November 13
North Seattle Community College
Wellness Center Gym
9600 College Way N, Seattle

Ferndale

3-7 p.m. Thursday, November 29
Ferndale Events Center
5715 Barrett Road, Ferndale

Spokane

4-7 p.m. Tuesday, December 4
Spokane County Fairgrounds
404 N Havana Street, Spokane Valley

Vancouver

4-7 p.m. Wednesday, December 12
Clark College Gaiser Student Center
1933 Fort Vancouver Way, Vancouver

BACKGROUND

The Scoop on “Scoping” and Environmental Impact Statements

The final product of the entire environmental review process is called an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)—a large document that reviews the kinds of impacts that would be caused by building the Bellingham coal export terminal. The EIS is required under the Washington State Environmental Policy Act and the National Environmental Policy Act. Federal, state, and local decision makers will use the EIS to inform their final decision about whether to approve or deny permits needed to build the coal export terminal.

This first phase of the process of conducting an Environmental Impact Statement (the phase that will be occurring during fall 2012) is also known as the Scoping phase. In the Scoping phase, the three agencies leading the EIS process - the Army Corps of Engineers, the Washington Department of Ecology, and the Whatcom County Council—will determine the scope of the EIS. In other words, they will decide the breadth and depth of impacts that will be included in the EIS.

Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) process for the Peabody coal terminal at Cherry Point, WA:

Phase I: Scoping - Fall 2012

Hearings & public comment period

Phase II: Draft EIS - Possibly 2013

Hearings & public comment period

Phase III: Final EIS - Possibly 2014

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communities against coal export

