Gateway Pacific Terminal
Environmental Impact Statement
Scoping Request

My name is Carl Doherty
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I enjoy Sailing in Georgia Strait and the Discovery Islands

I'm concerned that if the Gateway Pacific Terminal is built, each year over 50 million tons of soft coal would be brought on trains to Cherry Point, dumped on the ground in 60-80 feet tall, open storage piles and then by conveyors across water, into ships bound for China! Nine coal trains, each with 100-150 loaded cars would go to Cherry Point every day. According to the rail operator, BNSF, every single coal car can ~~can~~ lose as much as 500 pounds along the track

of coal dust en route. A 2001 Canadian study of coal dust emissions at the neighboring Westshore Terminal near Tsawassin, B.C. estimated that the Westshore Terminal emits roughly 1.5 million pounds of coal dust a year.' The proposed Gateway Pacific Terminal at Cherry Point would be more than twice the size of the Westshore Terminal with potentally twice the coal dust problem. The prevailing winds at Cherry Point sweep down the Strait on to the neighborhoods and bays in Whatcom County.

<u>Please study the impact of</u>

(a) the tons of coal that will spill along the train tracks through which the trains travel.

(b) storing over fifty million tons of coal at Cherry Point on the polution of the surrounding area.

(c) the off-loading of the large amounts of foreign ballast water that will be

dumped into Georgia Strait from the coal tankers, (up to 17 million gallons per ship!)

(d) the large quantities of coal dust that are released during the ship loading process to the country side, neighborhoods, beaches, parks and the vast herring grounds off Cherry Point.

(SEE ENCLOSED PICTURE)

SITE OF THE PROPOSED GATEWAY PACIFIC TERMINAL SHOWING THE SHORELINE AT CHERRY POINT WITH MT BAKER AND THE THREE SISTERS IN THE BACKGROUND.