

In the Viewpoints section of Everett Herald on Sunday January 20<sup>th</sup> 2013 a piece entitled **Oceans at risk, a culture at stake** by Terry Williams, *Commissioner of Fisheries and Natural Resources and Director of the Tulalip Tribes Natural Resources Treaty Rights Office* spoke of the damage being done to our oceans due to the acidity caused by excess CO<sub>2</sub> in the atmosphere. Mr. Williams makes the following statement in his article:

*“Frankly, there's not much we Washingtonians can do by ourselves about the cause of ocean acidification: global CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. We contribute such a small amount to the 70 million tons of CO<sub>2</sub> that the world pumps into the atmosphere every day. What we can do is be a model for taking thoughtful and responsible action, for educating others about acidification and urging them to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.”*

I disagree that there is not much Washingtonians can do as a bit later in the same article he writes the following:

*“An immediate choice that faces Washington is whether to allow coal mined in Utah and Wyoming to be transported across our state and shipped to Asia. The Tulalip Tribes and other first nations in the Salish Sea are unanimously opposed to this project due to the negative impacts that it would cause locally, regionally and globally. The most ecologically sound action to take with that coal is to leave it in the ground where it sequesters all that carbon and other pollutants. When promoters of the project speak about the jobs that will be created, they neglect to consider the potential jobs lost among those who catch, raise, process and sell seafood.”*

I concur with Mr. Williams and the first nations in the Salish Sea area and recommend that the people of this state, our state government and the federal government take a step forward in halting further increases in global CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by refusing to have any additional coal shipped through the state of Washington to be further transported to other countries for consumption in order to satisfy the greed of those who would rape the earth to mine the coal.

Sincerely

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