



**Rebecca A. Chaney**  
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Department of Ecology  
State of Washington

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Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Gateway Pacific coal export terminal proposal. I am concerned that the project will negatively affect the people and environment of the state of Washington. As a professional working in the field of environmental stewardship, I am doubly concerned that the project will negatively impact not only my own interests but also those of my clients. These interests range from forest production, to organic farming, to children's health. It is critical that Washington sustain a robust and clean environment that supports its people, animals, and plants in practice and perception.

A long list of concerns has been submitted by the public during your comment period. I urge that those items, ranging from noise to traffic to aquatic ecosystems, be carefully evaluated. In addition, I urge that the effects of changes to our atmosphere resulting from increase emissions be examined for global and local impacts.

Specifically, changes to the climate resulting from increased use of coal need to be evaluated for their impact on the native plants of the Pacific Northwest. Native plants contribute to the environmental function, economy, sense of place and quality of life of our region. Some examples of negative impacts arising from adverse conditions for native plants and forests include but are not limited to:

- Decreased timber production
- Decreased forest production (berries, fungi, and floral industry products etc)
- Degraded farm production due to increased
  - Erosion
  - Flooding
  - Water pollution
  - Invasive noxious weeds
- Decreased quality of life and tourism due to aesthetic degradation and lack of sense of place.

Northwest forests (public and private), farms, and tourism are important elements of our economy and our way of life. I urge you to consider negative impacts on native vegetation that may be impacted by this project.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Rebecca A. Chaney". The ink is dark and the signature is fluid and legible.

Rebecca Chaney – Owner

*r.a.c. Pacific Northwest Environmental Design*

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