

Shawn Diggs
1/17/13

To Whom It May Concern: I am writing to tell you not to do the coal train but I want it to go through but the principle said we have to write about why it should not.

Well I am a student at the Lummi nation school my name is Shawn diggs in the 9th grade and I am here to tell you stop don't do the coal train and the reason why is when you ask numerous of scientist and the well all say that there is a bunch of this type of chemicals and gases that are flammable and it takes

40 years then the gases well be out of control that we can't stop it now

My Uncle David and colleen they are both fisher man and it

Well mess up that that they wouldn't get to catch no fish and live the native life that we should. Also we need to let the people rest in peace like the treaty says.

Dear army core of engineers
my name is la Vander Jefferson I am a member of
the Lummi reservation. I am very unhappy with the
coal mine that you plan to put on Lummi sacred
ground that we used for a 175 generations. This is
also a grave site where my ancestors are buried.

If you proceed with this the water will eventually
rise and put some of Lummi land under water and
houses also a play ground will be gone. You are
also breaking the treaty of 1855. That says you can
not proceed with the coal mine. By law you can not
break the treaty.

The water from china will kill some of are sea
creatures. By law the treaty of 1855 says we Lummi
native can fish and crab. Nothing can take that
away.

Most of all are natives here in Lummi fish and crab.
That is where we get are money for are family. If we
can not fish or crab that is less money we have.
Which will make it very hard to support are family.

I rely hope you don't proceed with the coal mine.
Most of my family fish and crab. I don't won't my
family member to go with know work. When that is
all they know.

Dear Army Corps of Engineers,

My name is Theresa Solomon, I am a Native American I go to the Lummi Nation School; I am related to many of them that work out on the water! I also work out on the water too with my grandfather (Ralph F. Bob) so I really don't want the Coal Train coming through Lummi. I live on the Lummi Reservation.

If the coal train came through Cherry Point the coal would get in the water and ruin our fish, crab, and oysters also all the other sea creatures that live in the water. It would also hurt our people in health concerns. They would hurt our ancestors because most of their bodies are buried up there in Cherry Point. Imagine how our ancestors would feel about you doing that to us.

As a young lady that fishes and crabs I am totally against this, because they are going to ruin our way of life because I want my children that I'll be having to know our way of life to fish and crab just like I am now! I want them to at least eat fish and crab and other seafood.

I suggest that they don't allow the coal trains to come through Cherry Point it will damage our way of life and our health! And they are trying to build it on the burial grounds of our ancestors.

Sincerely, Theresa M. Solomon

Dear Army Corps of Engineers

1/16/13

Hey my name is Valentina and I am from the Lummi Nation Tribe and I am 15 years old my mother is Tracy Deardorff and my dad is Simon James he is a fisherman I would like to let you know I think the idea of you running coal through our water we are not going to have any more sea food to eat or catch and that is one of the main ways we make money and if you keep doing this to our waters one day part of our water will be over part of our land I would like to ask you if you would please stop transferring coal from our water to Japan I think that it would be a good thing for our people because it will give us a more chance for our people and I really don't think you shouldn't dig up our old people up.

All of our students at Lummi nation school like to go canoe pulling out on the water and if you keep taking coal to Japan on our waters you will make it to where we can't go swimming and to where we can't pull canoe I really want you to stop taking coal on our water because you are killing our fish and our crab and we need our sea animals so we can make money so if you would please stop thank you

Sincerely, Valentina Deardorff

Dear, Army corps of engineers

My name is Alina Marie Tageant, My Father is from Lummi Nation and that is how I am a part of the Lummi community. My mother is from Neah bay. My Mother is Anna Marie Tageant, And my biological father is William Revey. My grandmother's are Rosalie Revey, and Elina Tageant. My grandfather's are Robert Tageant, and Delfred Jefferson. Both the Revey's and the Jefferson's are well known around Lummi.

I'm against this shipping terminal, first off because it's the ancient burial ground of Lummi. Most of us have relatives that are buried there. I doubt the people who are trying to build this shipping terminal would just sit back and let someone build something over their relatives. Or if someone wanted to mess with you, how would you like it if someone wanted to ruin your new home just to make money for themselves.

On top of the burial sight, you are messing up our waters to. You don't see us trying to go over and mess with your fields, or however it is that you get your food. In other words your way of life! If we need money we get off our butts and go fishing or claming. We wont be able to fish, crab, or go clam digging. You guys are trying to mess up our life just to make yourself a little bit of money.

Our home, our planet is already suffering enough. Why make it worse and pollute it more? That's all your little shipping terminal is going to do. It is going to take the pollution rates and percentages way up. When the earth gets too hot, it cools down by having an ice age. And how are you going to survive that? In other words, would your money be worth your life? You cant just think of yourself. Your affecting our home lands, plus your own. The earth is your home to.

Now all I can do is that me sharing my thoughts will help you start to think about the right choice. Your only thinking of yourselves right now and I hope with all the letters you get you will change your minds. Or at least start to think about other people. For future references, in case you try to go ruin other peoples homes and lands.

Sincerely,
Alina Marie Tageant

1/16/13

Dear Army Corps of Engineers

My name is Darian Scott-Williams I am 17 years old I'm a member of Lummi Nation School and a current resident of Lummi nation. I am from Bellingham Washington I live on the Lummi Indian reservation. Cherry point is where our oldest burial site known is and where all our ancestors are I know that my ancestors wouldn't want this to happen and my elders and my family wouldn't like this at all. The tankers are going to be traveling through there to pick up the coal from the coal terminal and tankers traveling through there would ruin parts of the island and our burial site.

It's not only going to affect our island and burial site. It's going to affect our marine life and the marine life means a lot to my tribe because fishing and crabbing is our culture. We need fish and crab we use for our smokehouses when we gather and for our ceremonies. We will lose money because we won't be getting our fish and crab to sell big impact on us and also breaking the treaty.

Big health impacts too the pollution to the air, sea, and land the ships that are coming from china are huge and it takes water to balance the ship and the water that they are using to balance the ship out comes from china and there water is so polluted so much there bringing that water here and letting out when they get here what there letting out in our water is bad like mercury in our ocean when there ships release there polluted water they could take there marine life with them in our ocean and that wouldn't be good that could wipe out our marine life and the future could be bad for my kids if this would happen they say in 50 years that our cove would be under water and the stommish grounds would be under water if they let the tankers and coal trains come through polluting our land and our sea life.

I shared with you about my concerns about the coal trains and why this shouldn't happen because the future for my family and my kids would be bad. I want to keep the marine life good and my tribe healthy and stop the coal trains.

Sincerely Darian Williams

Dear Army Corps of Engineering,

My name is Charles Wilson and I am a tribal member of Lummi Nation. My parents are Candice and Robert Wilson. My mother is vice chairman of the Lummi council, and my father is a State Trooper. My relative's are fisherman and it's a big part of their life, and if this shipping terminal is built there are many consequences. When I first heard about this I really didn't care that much. But when I heard about the effects that it could cause I started to think more about it and this is a serious problem.

This affects us tribal people in many ways! Not just us tribal if this happens it could affect the whole world. If this so called terminal is built it is going to pollute the water and salmon and crab and other animals in the water are going to start dying off. That makes it harder for some people to make a living also. I have a couple uncles that crab and fish and that's the only way they make their money, because It's all they have.

The native animals will also be affected by these big tankers coming in and out. Tankers hold water and if they pick up crab or something that isn't native to our waters and bring and dump water and get fresh clean water they will dump the non native animals in our waters and it could throw off the way the water is now. A crab from china reproduces in our waters it's bad because they could mass produce and make the way the water is unbalanced. Because that on crab will become dominate and become one of the top predators and wipe out a great a large about of our native animals

I think that this could become a serious situation. There are a lot of bad causes that can happen and not many great causes. So all around this is not going to help. si

Sincerely, Charles Wilson

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Charles Wilson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

To Army Corp of Engineers,
January 17, 2013

My name is Shil-Qual-Mia Rita Joe daughter of Laurie Joe (Lummi) and Randy Joe (Cowichan BC) granddaughter of Vivian George (Tulalip) and the late Antone George Sr. (Lummi) we of the Lummi Nation People are concerned about the interruption that will be passing through our waters and land.

I am concerned about the pollution of our waters that will kill our wildlife for witch my people live off of. Pollution from the shipping terminal and coal trains will create dust, methane gas, and pollute the air. The pollution will affect my cultural life where we pull canoe, and swim as pollution will directly affect it. There are tribal members that make a living off from our land. Pollution will directly affect fishermen, hunters, and my people that live off of the land and in the water.

Our people will see the depletion of natural resources, such as trees, clean water, and intrusion. Trees provide many things to our people, such as spiritual needs clothes, and we use our land for many things including sacred places that the noise pollution will directly affect.

The invasion of the coal trains and shipping terminal will impact my people and my ways of life. This invasion having these affect makes me feel vary sad, because I want to raise my own family on these land and waters, where I have grew up. I am concerned for my future and how the shipping terminal and coal train will impact them. "The ground on which we stand is sacred ground t is the blood of our ancestors." (Chief Plenty Coups, Crow, 1848-1942)

"We know our lands have become more valuable, the white people think we do not know their value; but we know the land is ever lasting and the few goods we receive for it are soon worn out and gone." (Cawassatego, 1684-1750) My lands are valuable and have a great meaning to me, please do not destroy them. I love my people, my ways, and my land. To destroy my land will break my heart.

Thank you, Rita Joe

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rita Joe". The ink is dark and the handwriting is fluid and personal.

References:

Canassatego, Onondada, Nation, Six Treaty Negotiation July 3, 1744, born 1684 died 1750

Chief Plenty Coups, Crow MT, 1848-1942

Dear Army Corps of Engineers,

My name is Isabella James daughter of Darrylena Scarborough, Eagle Joe James granddaughter of Armor Joe James, Irene Louise James, Emily Scarborough, Darryl Scarborough I'm currently residing on the Lummi Indian Reservation many of my people are fisherman, clam diggers and crabbers it has been around for many years we live off this as in my family they spend a lot of time on the water that's what we do in life as a family how it brings us together more everyday not few of my family go fishing often.

Our culture all the fishing and stuff everything we do on the water is our culture and all that would backlash certain things would go very wrong in the process. The boats that are going through the ocean loading and unloading coal it could fall in the water and there would be no way to take it out of the water cause the currents that have all the coal already it just does not disappear it stays there forever and wont go away as well this stuff can effect the environment. This plan could have many bad effects to community's health if coal trains were to come through here.

The location that they would put these coal trains on is Cherry Point Terminal above a very old grave site where all our ancestors are the people be for us who taught us all the things we know today our Indian culture "way of life" what we do this day as all form them and that's how we live our life today. We don't want to be disturbing the grave site it very secret to our tribe and many other people we don't want to be disrespectful.

Along with many effects it will cause many problems for the environment. The coal that does not go on the ship will be every where all over the land and ruin forest very good sites that people and the ships that come through here and go to china they can bring many different species that don't belong over here and can take our whole population it will decrease and we wont have nothing to fish for our crab for or anything. The coal dust can do a lot of damage to everything that's around the plants and animals everything that not good for the land.

Coal dust in the air is not so good for us can hurt us a lot can get sick maybe not so sure in the water it will affect many plants and animals that live under sea things wash up on shore cause from all the pollution that's in the water from all those big boats that come in and out of state and come through our reservation we don't want our culture to go away.

Over all I think they should not put it over on Cherry point not a good idea at all is bad for the grave yard site they don't want to be bothered by this kind of stuff they should not got through with this it will cause many problems to our people please don't have it be successful for them. I love being a native American I believe our culture I think this is not a good idea for us or anyone else I live on this land and I believe my pride I don't want this to effect our culture I hope for further information to be researched.

Sincerely,
Isabella James

Coal train

I am from Lummi nation reservation. I don't agree with them building the coal train are terminal or whatever it is because it would mainly affect Lummi fishing if the oil reaches into the water.

It well affects Lummi culture by affecting all the seafood... It well pisses off all the tribe members who fish and crab etc because they won't be able to fish and mainly the whole rez fishes.

I don't like the idea myself because I also sometimes fish and crab. Some members of Lummi need fishing to support their family with money and food. it an stupid idea an I think most Lummi would agree an maybe even some of the people in town because it would mess up the beach an make it look all ugly. This would effect or culture because we wouldn't have fishing to pass down to our future generation like maybe my kids someday.

They try to build the terminal on cherry point Lummi old burial ground. I think this idea is just something that would make everyone mad. Got to worry bout pollution and bunch of other things... so yeah they better just not be greedy and build things on what used to be Lummi... I don't know really I just think it would mess a lot of things up and piss off a lot of people...

So better just not do it because everyone that don't like it well not forget it... mess with Lummi treaty also... just have a feeling that something bad would happen if so oil spill in the ocean/bay bunch of toxic stuff getting all over I don't think good idea to take that chance..Dumm idea

J. H.