

Dear Army Corps of Engineers

Hello I'm Lindsey Shaquanie, I'm 18 years old. I live in Bellingham WA 98226. I go to Lummi Nation High School (LNS). It's a small land where basically everybody knows everybody. Easy to know and hard to forget. We work hard to make our land feel like our natural culture, with trees, water and birds flying free. There are a lot of people here that live off working on their boat to go fishing, and people who go clam digging. Our water is full of nice cold water on a hot sunny day and kids, teenagers, and adults enjoy the heart warming feeling, and the peaceful noise of the waves washing up on shore. Our water brings families close together. It's a peaceful place.

We don't build it up with pollution, and I would be very much appreciate if you don't pollute our water. It is a place of peace. If you were to do this to our water it would not just make me mad it would also upset our community and make our land feel like a dump? We like our water clean and clear. Land is NOT for a waste. It's for beauty; do not destroy our water with such filth. It kills our live animals that live in the water, which gives our community sea food. We catch our food with fishing pools, on our boats sitting their in the middle of the sea, and fishing nets and pots. That's the way it should be, old fashion!

I would just like to the beauty of nature than it dying every minute and I'm very much thankful for taking your time to read my letter. It means a lot to me for you understanding about how I feel about my land home and for my community. I do care about what my food would taste too, I like it fresh. Not nasty and already dead but once again I am very much thankful that you took your time to read my letter.

Many Wishes,  
Lindsey Shaquanie

Dear Army crops of engineers,

I am Kevin Cultee Jr. I go to Lummi nation school, I am from Lummi, and this Lummi reservation is a small reservation for us. My parents are Kevin Cultee Sr. and Charlotte Adams; my grandparents are Valgina Kinley and Randy Kinley. I think they should not let big ships go through our water parts, if we are out there on the boat, dropping our pots our, waiting with our fishing lines, or picking up the pots. If one of us Lummi's were broke down on the water, we would get ran over, or killed. Because that's a big boat and can't turn fast.

This well effects our environment a lot, because when those big tankers go by, they'll get coal all over or water and lands. If it got all over on our water, it would kill or fish, crab, and all the other stuff we go out on the water for. If it got on our lands, it would kill our birds, dogs, cats, and all of our other animals that we try and protect on this land. Our ancestors lived here for a long period of time also, they were buried on this land long time ago, and they told or elders now to never let anything happen to our land, protect it.

If this does happen, I'll never be able to spend time with my son, or grand kid on a boat. The water is fun to be on when you're fishing or crabbing. You just get fresh air all day, time with friends or family, I go out with my brother, and it's like the only time I spend time with him. I work for him to make money for my daughter, if this happens, I won't have a way to make money for my daughter.

Thanks for reading my letter.

Sincerely,

Dear Army Corps of Engineers,

January 17, 2013

Hi my name is Sara Coss, I am from Lummi Nation. I am a canoe puller of Autumn Rose Canoe Club/ Ultimate Warrior. I have been pulling for 3 years, going on my 4<sup>th</sup> this coming up summer. I am against the coal train. Because it will ruin the Lummi water system and cause many problems for our canoe team. Canoe pulling means a lot to me.

If the coal train came through Cherry Point on Lummi reservation than all the fish and crab, (what our represents our culture) we'll be ruined as well. You have no idea how important our culture is to us. It is what makes us who we are as a community and a family. We want to be able to keep what it is that is so necessary in our daily lives. We want to have the next generation that is coming into this world to know of the good things so many of us have here on the reservation.

I don't approve of the coal train because it causes many deaths and sickness; such as, coal dust can cause respiratory problems. It is nothing but A pollution to the society, in which ever place the head of coal train decides to put these deadly things. The coal train also causes global warming problems

And climate change, we don't need any of this to happen to the environment that we live in.

And in my conclusion I sincerely wish that you take upon consideration that, our land is very precious to us, and that you proceed to take your coal train else where.

Thank you, Sara Coss

Dear Army Corps of Engineers,

My name is Miguel Toby, I am a senior high school student at Lummi Nation School. I am on track to graduate on time and to go to college. I plan to start my career as a border patrol agent after college. I also plan on fishing and crabbing as a hobby during the summers while I am in college. I have been crabbing and fishing all my life to help support my family just like my dad and all my uncles did for their families. We all learned how to fish from my grandpa, who learned these ways from his father and so on. I plan on giving these traditional skills to my kids so our ways will last for a very long time. Unfortunately with this coal train situation, I will be unable to pass on our ways. The thing is, not only will the coal hurt us, but the huge monstrous ships charging through and taking out everything in its way will hurt big time. Also for the ships to make the trip back to American they need to be weighted down, and the only way they can do that is to bring the water for china to here, and with the water will be all the living species. All of those species are not native to our waters and will most likely take out all of our fish and crab. This being because they could have different germs and this could kill them. Plus that water has a lot of toxins and chemicals that can make a ton of people sick and can be very fatal. With all these weird chemicals it could greatly affect restaurants and people who fish for a living. Right now we are all struggling with fishing as is, but if these tankers come in and bring all of this stuff then it will for sure whip out the fishing game. Not only will it affect the fishing and living species on the water, but it will affect all the animals on land. These animals depend on the smaller water animals for nutrients. They feed off of them and if the water animals die then the land animals will slowly die too. Also if the water gets bad chemicals and toxins then it will affect the trees and plants. As you know we need plants and trees to help cycle the carbon and turn it into oxygen. Now is this really worth risking the wild life and food for us so a few people can make a few bucks? I don't think so, so please help us out and stop this nonsense. I want to be able to show my kids what its like to fish and crab and enjoy the beautiful northwest water.

To whom it may concern:

My name is Jeremy Dane Spotted Bear I am a Black Feet member from Montana, I now live in Lummi, Washington I don't think that this coal train idea is not a good idea. One reason why I don't think this is a good idea is because the government has signed a treaty with the Lummi Reservation and now they are trying to bend a few rules just to get money. Another reason why I don't think that it is a good idea is because it is bad for the environment not just around Lummi or Washington but it pollutes the whole world. I can't be saying that this idea is all bad because the community will be getting money and also it will be good for jobs around the economy.

My first reason is mainly because I hate how the (white people) meaning the Government think that they can just use Native Americans land even after signing a treaty. It also shows that they really don't have respect for the FIRST AMERICANS. They even did this before with the Lakota Tribe by taking the Black Hills (sacred land) before actually making a treaty. Now they want to build over burial grounds which should be sacred land anywhere in the world, not just for the Native Americans. I wonder if the Chinese would be willing to unbury their family, relatives, friends, or even their own people just for some money, if they would be I would be disappointed.

My second reason why I think that this "coal train" is a bad idea is because it's not good for the environment. First of all coal has to get burnt to be used as energy, so that's means the smoke goes up in the air and its messing up the atmosphere, which is causing Global Warming. Also it is bad for the environment locally because the Lummi's and other coastal Natives around here depend on the water, and the water life. I say that because the ships that are coming from china will be messing up the underwater life. The ways the Chinese ships are going to mess up the water, they are going to bring Chinese water and their Algae could kill the Algae in this bay. Also the big ships are going to mess with the fishermen's fish and their crab pots. Also they coal isn't going to just appear from Wyoming all the way to Bellingham? No the coal is going to be transformed by train and who knows maybe the first 1000 times is going to be successful, but I am sure that there will be a derailing some time in the future. When that happens everyone is going to feel bad or sorry but why do we really need to sell coal to the Chinese? I know for the money but do we really need to make our world worse just because were in debt with a country, because I don't think so.

I do know that the United States of America is in debt and the government is trying to get over this crisis, and this coal train will help a little bit. I just don't get why people think of the easiest way to get money, and how there isn't going to be any consequences. I also don't get why no one wants to use solar panels or wind mills to get energy. Every one will have to pay more but they will always be there unlike this coal that will get all burnt up.

Well now you have heard my reasons why I think that this coal train is a bad idea. I just hope that who ever is controlling this coal train will change their minds.

Sincerely,  
Jeremy Spotted Bear

To: Cherry point Terminal

Dear: Army Corps Of Engineers

To the corps of the army, I am a student at Lummi nation high school. I would like it if you were to not proceed in this hole shipping thing. Because it would make us fishermen loss a lot, if you where to accidently to hit something and cause a oil spill, and it wouldn't be very grate full. Because there are a lot of fishermen that rely on this as a life time thing cause they have nothing to look forward to after. That means that it would be very hard to find a job for all fisherman out here and around the area. And I my self have to look forward to be a fisherman but only because I am still in high school trying to be a graduated student.

And to mention don't do this pleas because if worse come to worse. Like not only fish would be whipped out everything that we do out for 30 years. Everything that we catch and dig up, dive for would be gone. And that stops us for getting sea food and every body in the nation. And I think that their would be a hole lot of people going crazy if we where to loss all of what we have left. But how knows what well go on. And I am speaking for a lot of the natives, it may not mean a hole lot to you guys and every one else that is up for taking are culture away for us will it's a big part of are culture.

So I am asking you guys to stop this for us. Because you guys are not the only ones trying to make a little cash and food. So I hope you find the courage to stop this hole thing and respect what we have and respect what we get for the nation. And when you get to my latter I think you will get the point.

Lukus cory james

Dear, Army Corps Of Engineers

My name is Brandy Lawrence and I'm sixteen years old and I am from Lummi reservation and been living here ever since I was born. My parents are Loretta point and Carl Lawrence. And my grandparents are Ernestine point, Dominic point. And my other grandparents are Hazel Lawrence, and David Jefferson. And I live at the Mackenzie projects. And my dad is a fisher men and a clam digger he has been doing them both for many years. And I'm against the coal because it can impact on my family and I want it to change.

On cherry point there is a burial site with are ancestors on the land and there trying to make a train track on it for the coal and I don't want that to happen cause of all the ancestors will get disturb and something bad can happen. And the ancestors were there for about seven or eighth century's long, it will affect my grandchildren in a way because I will tell them the story behind the land. And the coal would be killing are culture.

The coal could affect the food and money. And it would put lot pollution in the air and water. And about 27 years the part of the reservation would be under ground. And I would like the reservation stay the same for my kids and grandchildren. And if the coal fell all over the water we wouldn't be able to go clam digging, crabbing, fishing, and swimming. And that would be bad because there are a lot of kids that love to go swimming in the ocean. And it can ruin on the natives to by getting money if coal messed it up.

I wouldn't want a train track for the coal because it would disturb are ancestors that been there for a very long time and I would just want them to rest in peace and be left alone. And not train track to bothering them. The coal would ruin a lot of family member that have been fishing, clam digging, and crabbing cause that's house most of them make there money to take care of there family members, they would be heart broken. And we would hate if half of are reservation goes under water.

Sincerely,

Brandy  
Lawrence

## **Coal Train**

My name is Richard Lawrence, senior at Lummi Nation School, from the Lummi Nation Tribe, stating my opinion on the Coal Train that there trying to place on Cherry Point. This idea would be positive idea for economic reasons, but in other reasons such as marine life and Native life and Native American ways, if this was place on Cherry Point, it wouldn't happen, due to burial grounds and the treaty that the Lummi nation tribe signed by the president in the time of the treaty, stating that 50% of the marine life is theirs. My opinion is "no" to the Coal Train, my family of Lawrence's are all dedicated to fishing, oyster picking, and clam digging, and if you were to place this Coal Train, its like taken our jobs away and our habits and our teachings to the younger children. This would affect our waters and kill most of the sea life. This Coal Train, can also end our ways of sea food, could get in the way of our income for some families that are not capable to work at a real job so fishing, clam digging, oyster picking and also crabbing is the jobs for the unemployed members out here on the Lummi Reservation. All these reasons are the reasons why I don't want the Coal Train, because it is all negative about this, we need to change our ways due to the climate and all the bad pollution, that the Coal Trains cause by polluting the air, affecting the atmosphere. Coal Train is not a good thing to do on Cherry Point, so my opinion on the Coal Train is no can't be done, it will destroy our ways of life, it will be built over burial grounds, that is disrespectful to them and our sea life will be gone.

## Coal Train

To the Army Corps of Engineering my name is Patrick Morris I am 18 years old. I would like to talk about the coal train your guys are trying to put up in our area. First thing I have to say is that I do not like the idea of the coal train being so close to the Lummi area and so close to our burial ground on Cherry Point. There are reasons I say we shouldn't have this here. My main reason is that it will affect our land and our marine life around here and that would affect us the most cause that is our life that's how most of us live here we live off the water. My uncle is a fisherman and a crabber and he does go some times and when he does it helps him and his family out with extra money to spend. And not only will it affect our fishing waters it will affect our drinking water. Another reason is that it will affect our business that comes for the casino because of all the trains that will be coming through.

The way I heard that it will affect our marine life is that all the coal that will get in the water and it will pollute all the water and eventually kill the salmon in our waters. And not only will it kill the salmon it will also kill our crab and our shell fish. I also heard that if we let this go through it could cause our global warming to get worst and make our water really warm like the tropics and other fish will move in to our waters and take over. And also the coal that will be falling off the train will eventually get into our drinking water then what would we do to get our water back.

My other reason is that all the trains that will be coming through will cut off the way for all the people that like to come to our casino that aren't from here and just want to have fun. And with all this coal that comes off the train will pollute the air. There is one good thing that I could think of and that is if we allow this to happen then it will give a lot of us Lummis a job but this is only one good thing we would get money and a lot more jobs but we would lose our fish and the rest of the sea food we have here.

Well that's all I have to say about this coal train I thank you for listing to all of us kids on this reservation and im glad we all got a say in this whole coal train but I still say this coal train don't belong here on our land.

Dear Army Corp of Engineering ,

My name is Kyle Jefferson and I am a senior from Lummi Nation High School and my uncles fishes and crabs out there in the bay and over by cherry point and the Lummi Bay. This Coal project you guys are trying to do would effect me and my family because we go out there and fish! Half of our income comes from fishing and crabbing but more of crabbing because since it's all year around. Doing this project would effect the fish and crab in the sea because coal is not degradable so if you guys have an accident and some spills in the bay it will sit there for a really long time. If anything happens it would ruin my family business.

Another reason why this deal shouldn't is because there would be 18 more trains a day coming thru town and the city. This would mean people would have to wait a longer and possibly be late for work or anything like that. I used to go to Ferndale High School last year and the train that goes to cherry is like barley hundred yards away when every hour or 2 we would hear a train honk its horn and it gets really annoying. There are more negative things are going to happen than positive. Thanks for your time to read my letter. Sincerely, Kyle