

January 17th, 2013

Dear Army Corps of Engineers,

My name is Karlee Cooper and I am a student at the Lummi Nation School. I am from the Lummi Nation Tribe. I am writing this letter to persuade you not to build the coal train at Cherry Point as this will affect our native life and our species. By building the coal train this will affect my generation and the ones to come.

Culture is very important to my family. Part of my culture is my ancestors that have passed many years ago. Cherry Point is a sacred burial ground. Cherry Point has many spiritual values to our native community. Our ancient ones are meant to be left alone.

Another part of my culture is canoe pulling. Canoe pulling is a way to see wild life in the ocean, such as salmon, seals, sea lions and orcas. My uncle is a fisherman and if by bringing non-native water and species to our land there will be no more fish to catch, this will also affect the salmon runs or salmon will no longer be able to live through these conditions.

The coal train will have an impact on the health of our elders and children. This will also impact our lifestyle by not being able to swim in our waters anymore as it will be filled with filthy animals and toxic chemicals from coal. By not covering the coal, dust will blow into the air by Cherry Point because of the strong winds. 500 tons of coal finds its way to the water every year. This will also affect our native species. The coal dust contains a harmful chemical which is known as carcinogens. I'm concerned that the coal dust will cause cancer to our old and young generations

Please study the impact of species of marine life coming in the ballast water of the tank ships that is non native to our area. Can you insure us that the wild salmon runs will not be affected by the ballast water? I would like to know that the native species will survive in the harmful conditions that the ships will bring to the water.

Also please study the impact of cancer on our land. The coal dust will increase the number of people who get cancer. My grandfather passed away from cancer, and we don't want to increase the number of people getting diagnosed with cancer. Can you insure us that the coal dust won't negatively affect our health?

Thank you for your consideration of our concerns of the coal terminal.

Sincerely,
Karlee Cooper

January 17, 2013

Dear Army Corps of Engineers,

My name is Diego Martinez and I'm a member of the Lummi Nation tribe. I would like you to take time to read this and understand what I'm trying to say.

If you decide to put this coal train terminal at Cherry Point, you will be destroying an ancestral burial ground and a place where ceremonies and rituals are held. Not only will the coal dust pollute our air, it will also pollute our waters where our salmon and crab are. It is a traditional thing to fish and crab in Lummi Bay and that could be ruined by coal dust pollution.

It will create a higher risk for lung cancer and other health risks so I am asking you to stop and think about what you are doing. I am against the coal train terminal at Cherry Point.

Sincerely,

Diego Martinez

Dear Army Corps of Engineer

My name is Mackayla George. I come from Lummi Nation Tribe. I go to Lummi Nation School, I lived here since I was born in 1998. Lummi is a beautiful place - the nature, the water. Our Salmon is the most cultural thing to us Lummi people. It's our way of life. I love to go out on the water and canoe pull with my family. It's the best feeling in the world being out on the water. When I canoe pull I love seeing the sun on the water, Salmon, seals, herons, and breathing the breezy fresh air. Saying a prayer out on the water.

My concern is that if the tankers come to Cherry Point, it will affect our Salmon. It will affect our fishing rights. It will kill all our Salmon. Also, coal dust can cause lung cancer and other types of sickness. We don't want the coal to come through Cherry Point. It affects our ancient burial grounds and our habitats of marine life and waters. Our culture will die if the coal trains come through. Boats can come through and carry non-native species and wipe out our entire populations of fish and crab, and possibly, our marine ecosystem.

Also not just our culture other people's culture also. What if coal goes in there water also it can kill there culture too.

What about little kids years from now ~~everything~~ everything is gonna be gone. All are fish, and crab. Our future is in there hands. Some of the tribes will be gone if the coal train comes through.

Respectfully yours;

Mackayla George

January 17, 2013

Dear Army Corp of Engineers,

I am Trisha Smith, A teenager that wants to protect Lummi Land. I grew up around here and hearing coal is coming through is disappointing. They are taking a risk to affect human bodies that live on this land. Us as kids are planning out our futures, coal dust has many chemicals that affects our body. The coal trains can change anything.

I enjoy growing up here. It is a beautiful place because it has a nice view of Mt. Baker during sunsets also fresh air and clean water. Our cedar trees are stripped to make cedar hats, cedar bracelets, etc. I like to walk and run around in the woods, along the beaches. Soon enough I will be strong enough to run around the reservation. Our beaches are becoming clean because we have Youth Build which is a group of kids that help clean up the reservation. The sea is great to swim in. Our families grew up here and our ancestors are buried here and at Cherry Point.

The coal dust will risk human lives, our businesses, health, and culture. Coal dust has arsenic, cadmium, lead, mercury, and hydrocarbons that can cause cancer to all of us. Our fishing businesses will be cut back because of the tanker. They will cut the crab pots, and when there is a fisherman out there, the tanker won't be able to stop for him. Tankers are dangerous to our seas and people that fish and crab.

Please listen to what all of us have to say about the coal train. I don't want a coal train on our land.

Respectfully,

Trisha Smith

Dear army corps of engineers

Hi my name is Alex Jefferson I am from Lummi nation people around here would not like the coal train because it could destroy life in the sea by having coal spills and oil spills and lots of other big stuff like that every thing else in the waters to. It could also pollute the air with gasses that could harm lots of people and lots of animals and even the planet that we all live on.

Also you guys are trying to put the coal train on our culture land it's where we have are burial sites.

The coal train is a very big problem in our community because we want to be able to fish on the water were the coal train would be me and my family go out there a lot to go fishing so it would not be fun if we couldn't go fishing out there any more if they put It isn't just a big problem that coal train there .

It isn't just a big problem here it is a big problem in the world

1/16/13

Dear us Army Corps of Engineers,

I'm Laticiyah, I am Lummi Tribal member and I go to Lummi Nation School.

I live in the Lummi Reservation and if you come to Lummi you destroy Lummi and get coal dust everywhere. You will create global warming. It will put holes in the ozone layer in the atmosphere. I enjoy a lot of things but I won't be able to go swimming, eat fruit, or go to the beach. When the people with asthma will have to leave. Think how it's going to make you feel guilty and maybe hurt. Make the right decision!

Sincerely,

Laticiyah

January 17, 2013

No coal

Dear Army Corps of Engineers,

I am a Native that goes to Lummi Nation School in Bellingham, Washington. I think that bringing coal over here is bad because it could wipe out our salmon.

This is our land, and you shouldn't build the terminal at Cherry Point. My ancestors would be saying the same thing. Cherry point is an ancient buried ground.

I think it would be best if you guys would just put the coal back in the ground. The coal dust is infecting our water which will kill our fish and maybe affect our health. We "canoe pull" which is kind of like kayaking but in our culture we race in the water. We'd like to keep our water unpolluted.

You guys might change our sea species into your species by introducing invasive species from China. I don't want dolphins and sharks which could inference with our healthy salmon runs. I would rather keep everything the same, so NO COAL.

Sincerely,
Donovan Jones

January 17, 2013

Dear Army Corps of Engineers,

My name is Marlaneh Jefferson and I am a 7th grader at the Lummi Nation Schools near Bellingham, Washington. I wrote this letter because of the coal train---Cherry Point. I enjoy going to school and taking walks by myself. The coal train/terminal will have an impact on these things: Fishing/diving/crabbing, working, and being with family above the water.

I'm concerned that the coal terminal at Cherry Point will make a bunch of noise and will cause pollution. They will be very loud and will disturb the people who live around train tracks. The tankers will bug the people who work out in the bay and will pollute the water and make it hard for the creatures to breathe.

I'm also concerned that no one will be able to work on the water and work. The coal dust will pollute the air and the water. Coal trains would be very annoying for people who are trying to work. The tankers will wipe out most of our people's crab pots. I am against the coal terminal trains.

Sincerely,
Marlaneh Jefferson

Dear Army Corp of Engineers January. 17, 2013

I'm a student at Lummi Nation School, and yesterday was my birthday I turned fifteen. I like sports, and later on after I graduate I'm going to the NAVY. My opinion of the coal train I don't like it one bit there's too many of our Lummi people dying from cancer and accidents.

All wildlife is dying or getting sick real bad, fish are dying, and all the coal train ashes are going into the atmosphere. It's real sad that all my Lummi people are having to breathe in all that coal train ashes that can give you can get cancer from.

The coal train might provide lots of jobs for Lummi, and Bellingham people, but would you rather give people jobs and let other get sick or die. I hope you reconsider the coal train because it is a big interferon's people, and wildlife. I hope the coal train stops and you can figure out another way to sell the coal to someone else or just the same people but a different way. Please stop the coal train I don't like seeing people, fish, and other wildlife dying from the coal train.

Sincerely

Matthew Martin