

## *Dear Army Core of Engineers*

*Hi, my name is Earl Johnson. I am 17 years old. I am a member and a current resident of the Lummi Nation. I am a student at the Lummi Nation School. My parents are Sharon & Joe Johnson. My Grandparents are Rosalie & Ralph Scott, and Vivian George & the late Joe Johnson Sr. I don't think you guys should have the coal train run through here. It will affect our casino, our fishermen out on the water, and it can also affect people lives because of breathing in the coal.*

*The first reason why I don't think you guys should start the coal train is because it will keep customers away from the Lummi Silver Reef Casino & spa. The coal train will keep the casino from making more money by having less customers. A lot of people wouldn't want to come to our casino because there are going to be a lot of trains running through Bellingham.*

*The second reason why I don't think you guys should start the coal train is because it will effect our fishermen. I have a lot of family members that go out fishing, crabbing, clam digging, halibut fishing, and shrimping. Those are the ways how some people make money out here on the Lummi Reservation. Also fishing means a lot to most people out here. Fishing is part of our culture. The coal will ruin the fish, crab, shrimp, clams, and halibut. If it was to blow 50- 60 mph, the coal would blow all over the place and it can end up out in the ocean where we go fishing at.*

*The last reason why I don't think you guys should start the coal train is because it can affect some peoples breathing. Breathing in the coal is bad for your body, and I don't*

*like the idea that you guys would want to use our old burial grounds to put coal there.*

*It would be very disrespectful to do that to my Lummi people.*

*I shared with you my concerns on this coal train and I along with my class mates and the people in my community on the Lummi reservation will continue the fight on the coal train.*

*Erud Phson*

Dear Army Corps of Engineers,

My name is Michaela Julius and I am a member of the Lummi Nation. I do not think that the coal terminal project should continue for a several reasons. One being that, coal can be very harmful and unhealthy for people and the environment. Also, with the coal terminal being in Cherry Point, it affects the water in Cherry Point and the water around. Finally, Cherry Point is sacred land to the Lummi Nation. If the coal terminal project were to continue, it would affect the lives of, not only the people of Lummi Reservation, but the people around here.

First of all, coal is not healthy to be around people. It is one of the dirtiest fuels in the world. Breathing in the dust from the coal can cause health problems for people. A few health issues that people have experienced are asthma, chronic bronchitis, congestive heart failure, and black lungs from the dust. Coal dust does not only affect the human body, but it also affects the Earth. Coal dust pollutes the air and causing climate change throughout the world. It was said that the trains will lose three percent of their load from departure to the ending location and the Cherry Point Terminal. Once the coal is transported to China, it does not only affect the land in China, it affects everywhere in between. Once the coal is taken off the ship, the dust that comes off from moving the coal can get into the water. When the ship comes back to the Cherry Point Terminal, there's a possibility that it brings the polluted water this way.

The terminal project should not go through because it affects the water. If the coal or the dust from the coal were to get into the water, it affects the wildlife. A large percentage of the Lummi Nation are fishers, crabbers and/or divers. This project affects the crabbers because, when the ship is going through the crabbing area, they don't stop or move for the crab pots that are in the water. Crabbers cannot make money and provide for their families if their crab pots were tampered with. The terminal affects fishers because coal can contaminate the water, not only killing the fish but killing other wildlife that the fish may eat, putting the fish in danger. If the fish are in danger, the animals that eat fish are also in danger because they cannot eat the fish if they are contaminated. Fishers, crabbers and divers are out of work if this project goes through because of how it

would affect the water and wildlife. Going through with this project goes against the fishing rights that Lummi Nation Members have, stated in the Treaty of 1855. People of the Lummi Nation would be greatly affected by this because seafood has always been a part of our way of life and it would greatly impact our culture. The coal terminal would also affect our culture in other ways.

Cherry Point is known by Lummi Nation to be sacred grounds because it is an ancient burial ground to our ancestors. Over the past few days, I've heard several people say, "You wouldn't go to the Lummi cemetery and start building." This project should not go through because they would be building the terminal on/near our ancestors burial ground. Building over an ancient burial ground that is respected and sacred to a tribe should not be build over or tampered for that reason, it is respected and sacred.

The Terminal should not be built in Cherry Point because it does not give the surrounding people a safe environment, possibly causing health problems from the polluted air. Also, it affects the fisherman, crabbers and divers because of the ships that are going through the crabbing areas and the dust from the coal getting into the water and putting the wildlife in danger. Finally, the terminal should not be built here because of how sacred the ground is to the Lummi Nation. I would like to thank you for taking the time to read my letter and understand why I am against the Cherry Point coal terminal.

Respectfully,

  
Michaela Julius

Dear Army Core of Engineers,

My name is Leo Scarborough; our school has recently lectured us the pros and cons of coal exporting. The statistics of past coal mining and exporting, probabilities of our waters being destroyed and what we put at risk if this is approved to happen has threatened every thing we do in our waters. This has encouraged me to write this letter with purpose and to explain why as Native people we value our water so much. The Pros and cons of coal exporting are a risky yet beneficial investment. Here are the pros and cons of coal exporting along with my opinion.

Pros of coal exporting through the San Juan Islands; this investment would create very many jobs and possibly help the community a lot financially through out a period of time. Coal also provides cheap energy to the community and is very consistent. A lot of coal exports can also be made through out the islands expanding business a work though out the islands.

Cons of exporting through the San Juan Islands; this Gamble could create many issues in the future and has in the past in many, many places all over the globe. Coal when used to produce energy I only 8% of the real energy you have in your house today. Of that 8% the coal produces 74% green house gas emission into our environment. When this gas emission is released into the air it really effects almost everything around us; the air, our atmosphere, our lungs, the animals, and our water. All of those things are basic things from the earth we need in order to survive in the world we have today. Coal exporting can also cause serious damage do to just one mistake in transporting it from point A to B. Damage like releasing all of the foreign waters into our water with bacteria,

plankton and small fish or animals that could overcome the vulnerable things in our water and possibly cause extinction to other species in the water around us.

In conclusion I have to say this a very big matter to not just Lummi Nation but to everything in our water, our air, us as people, and the clean green environment we have that many counties, cities, and even countries cannot say they have today. The environment is what got us here today and has never harmed us in any way that we haven't been able to recover from, so I suggest we do the same by treating the environment as we would like to be treated as people OF "Mother Earth" that has given us our beautiful environment we have today.

**Dear army corps of engineers,  
My name is William Scott Grant the 3<sup>rd</sup> and I am  
14**

**Years of age also Native American. I am required  
To write a letter to you guys about the coal train  
you guys shouldn't do it because if you do and it  
spills just a little bit it will destroy our fish and sea  
life. Our fish environment will be gone and it will  
take us a long time to get that back!**

**See us our tribe we come from fishermen and  
most of our family's here get there money  
from fishing. If you guys ruin our waters this  
tribe will be a bunch of homeless family's and  
that is caused from you guys. Can you take  
that much responsibility ? really that would  
be mest up!**

**I live in Lummi and I fish these ground I do not  
want my home to be polluted with oil's an  
gasses and all that kind of stuff killing our  
homes! The coal train loses three percent of  
coal every delivery so that's a lot, and it will  
mess everything up plus Im from Skagit to  
and that coal will lead up to my rivers up  
there to.**

**When you guys do all these delivery's it causes  
chaos in our water so im bagging you please  
do not make the delivery here☹**

To the army corps of engineers I am a student of LNS. I am Talon DeVaney t am a resident of the USA and I have a right of speech.

I am unhappy about the coal Trane. If you do that the fish will all die or get diseases from the fish in the water of china. It will destroy the fishing of the people of Lummi.

Another thing is if you do this the puller caps will melt and bad gases will destroy the air and atmosphere. Scientists say we will only have 40 years to live. I would like to be older then 40 years old.

You will also break the treaty. It will destroy all the graves. I would also like for May kids, kids to have good air to breath.

So I do not think it will be good for nothing to do the coal. I say no, no, no, no, no to china burning coal. So do not put the coal thru Lummi.

Dear Army Corps of Engineers,

My name is Moriah Solomon I am from Bellingham Washington. I am a native American from a tribe called Lummi. I am only 16 years old but I am still learning more and more every single day at such a young age but what I have seen and learned about myself. Is that my grandpa Michael Solomon Sr. and my mother is Melanie Solomon and I come from a family of fisherman and fisher woman. My grandpa spent a big portion of his life upon the Salish sea fishing. In a way it effects me.

The land that you are building upon cherry point is a sacred land to us Lummi people. We used to hold ceremonies on that land like the salmon ceremony. Now Cherry Point is an ancient burial land, we do not know where they are buried but we know that we are their. It effects me because it is our ancestors land and it is called "cherry point" but you must realize that a couple generations after mine will soon inherit the land, just like I would when I grow older. It just that there is something called inspiring one generation or motivating the next, what if that is the generation now.

The impact it would have on most is the marine life. Is that if we do have a coal train and the dust just flies off into the water, it just that it will make its way on down and it will effect the coral reef, the coral reef will dissolve because of what the coal dust can do. Also because we need the water Lummi stands for "the people of the water". The marine life is honored and it is important. It just that every marine animal is honored in a different way when it comes from the sea. We have this event every year called the "Salmon Ceremony" we honor a salmon on that day when it comes from the sea. If we have a coal train the food chain would no longer be their it will work its way from the bottom of the sea like coral reefs,algae,plankton then it will end right up to the seals and bigger fish that eat the tiny little things. Including the point that the salmon is either endanger or extinct or worse both.

It's just that as young naïve native girl. You just don't live to see the odds be made. Having the effect of marine life being limited. Every other Lummi lives off the land and the sea water, we intend to keep it that way. We have people who are clam diggers, fisherman or fisherwoman,oyster pickers there are more names. It just that marine life plays an important role in our every day lives. Also if you have those big tankers who have foreign water in it, what if that water is already polluted, it just doesn't mix well with fresh sea water. The marine animals probably can't adapt to that kind of foreign polluted water, we don't want crab washing up on the beach dead. There is more in this lifetime to look forward to and I do not want the coal train to take it away.

A great way to end this letter. That in order to protect the Salish Sea marine life must be protected. We do not want the coal dust to endager a harmless sea animal who lives under water. That I would want my nephew to spend a portion of his life upon the sea that is not polluted. It just that the Lummi people may lose their sense of culture if we lose the fresh sea water. It just that coal is a fossil fuel it would last hundred of thousands of years and

it will last even more, nothing more to look forward too. If we lose the sea to pollution  
how are we even water people anymore.

Sincerely, Moriah Solomon

Moriah Solomon

**Dear army corps of Engineers**

**1-17-13**

**From Deion Hoskins**

**Here are some things that I am going to explain to you one is we are already losing our culture and cherry point is a huge part of our culture second thing is our water ways and the last thing is the rail roads.**

**I am going to tell you something's I don't like about the no coal campaign one is where they want put the coal is where my ancestors were put to rest. The burial grounds have been up there for many of years. We already lost one of our burial grounds and we can never get it back many of the elders still know where their grandparents have been put to rest.**

**The next thing I want to talk about is the Lummi water ways. If anything goes wrong with the huge water tankers like the tankers bring different types of fish or crabs and they mass reproduce they can take over the crab and fish that have been swimming in these waters for many of years. The tankers have to bring water in big tanks under the water to stabilize the huge ships that will have millions of gallons of water in the water there is a some chance they will be a foreign type of sea weeds or algae. If all any of that happens the Lummi people will have no way to keep crabbing or fishing open because the different fishes and crabs will over populate.**

**The last thing is the rail roads they will put in more trains will be going through. Last year there was 24 rail roads crashes and they say there is 99.99999 % chance nothing will go wrong, but**

**people did the math every 35 years something is going to go wrong like a tanker will hit a other boat or a crab pots or something like that. The tankers take 6 miles to stop so the people will have to move or get ran over by a tanker or a train will run ff the tracks or the train will flip or something like that.**

**There are some of the many things that will end up happing the ships are too big we will fight for a land and culture. My name is Deion Hoskins my mom and dad is Pauline Hoskins and hank Hoskins my grandpraits are donna hunter and reggy hunter I am from the Lummi nation and I will stand up for what I belaiive in.**

Sincerely Deion Hoskins