

tribe loses money. The people coming from work to go back to the island would have to wait longer to get back to their families.

And people on the reservation coming from work in town or something wouldn't want to wait ten odd some minutes to wait for a train with two hundred some carts to pass. Why would we want a coal terminal twenty some miles from our land. The terminal would create a lot of traffic causing people to be late for work and people losing their jobs and people being out of work and not being able to get to an interview because of the random train passings.

Passing train would contribute to a larger carbon foot print that Bellingham already has. The extra pollution going into the air would speed up global warming and in fifty years time Cherry Point would be under water. Plus the train ways leading to the terminal would be near under water also. The Nooksack River would also be flooded over so Lummi would basically be an island all its own. Gooseberry Point, Sandy Point and the land bridge would all be under water because of this stupid Cherry Point coal terminal.

Terrence Solomon

To whom it may concern:

My name is Jaycob Martin; I am a 19 year old Native American. I come from the Lummi nation tribe; I am Lummi native, I was born and raised on this Lummi Reservation. I come from two large families on both my mother's side and my father's side.

I would just like to speak my opinion on this coal train that you wish to put here, I don't think you understand the impact it could have on the environment, our health, our culture, our marine life, food source, not the mention the pollution and global warming. The gas that the coals let off when they are being burned will surround the earth like a coat and keep heat in causing the arctic ice to melt, just like it has been melting over the past years. No more ice means, no more glacier water. Also if the train were to fall over, or a collision were to happen, depending on where it falls or where the coal falls out, it takes 6 miles for one of the big boats to stop, but if they were to fall in say, the Nooksack river, it would pollute the water and the marine life would suffer and dwindle, less fish means less food source, less food source means less money, and from there on.

Not only that, but the train would be over our burial grounds. Sacred grounds to our people, where we lay our ancestors to their final resting place. It is highly disrespectful to me and my people. I would not want my children and their children to grow up with the coal train over their ancestor's grave, with their fish sick and dying and with their health at risk.

All I ask is for you to take into consideration our lives, future, health and how you would like to see our children and their children to grow. and another thing is the coal dust, they said its 99.999 % affective but that little 0.001 % is a really big impact to us because if you multiply it by all the coal

coming through, theirs still that big percent that it leaves behind. So please don't take away the only little culture we have left.

Thank you for you time and consideration,

Sincerely,

Jaycob Martin

To Army Corps of Engineering,

My name is Sarah; I currently reside in Bellingham, Washington and a member of the Lummi Tribe, a place that could be greatly affected by the coal train. I am going to talk to you about why I oppose the idea of the coal train. It affects my life and others around me in many ways. I've only just recently learned of this debate of whether or not this should happen, so far from what I have heard and researched, the cons outweigh the pros.

I'll discuss the very few good things about coal. Well to begin, there's a bunch of it, actually it's one of the world's most plentiful energy sources. Also compared to things like oil and natural gas, coal is cheap. The third thing that is a good quality of coal is it's versatile. It can transform to either liquid or gas form. Also having the coal train will create more jobs, well that's great, but is that all really worth it though?

Someone has said before "The trains carrying coal to power plants are death trains. Coal-fired power plants are factories of death." which I believe some facts prove. For example CO₂ is one of the primary causes for global warming; when coal is burned in 1 typical plant it releases about 3.7 million tons of CO₂.

Having the coal train will also impact my family's life. My family likes to fish, and with the coal train causing damage to the fish's health, and putting fisheries in jeopardy we can no longer do that. Some people may not think that not being able to fish would be such a big deal, but to my family it is. My mother likes to do it for some cash because we need it. We also like to eat some of the fish we catch. It's a hobby and a job for us and we don't want to quit.

To complete this letter, I just hope that the coal train does not happen, so that many people won't have to deal with the health problems, pollution, and other consequences that come with the coal train when we do not have to.

January 17, 2013

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Dear Army Corp Engineers,

My name is Dezmen

Lawrence and I am

10 years old. Please

Stop the coal train

because it will affect

the farmers by making

their food not taste

good because of all

the coal dust around it.

If the nature has coal

dust, it will make the

food poisonous. The farm

animals like cows who eat grass will get poisoned because the grass will have coal dust on it and the animals will get sick just like the people. The farm animals won't have fresh air to breathe and they could die.

Ewe coal - no coal. It is bad. Then the plants will die and the farmers barely have food.

like fruit, vegetables,
nuts, eggs, and milk.

Farming is too important to
each of us because we
all eat food. We can not
survive with out plants.

Sincerely,

Dezmen Lawrence

January 18, 2013

Dear US army core of Engineering,

Hi my name is Alexis Roubideaux. I am from the Lummi reservation. This whole coal train isn't going to work out around here. It affects our marine life, such as fish and crab, and around here those kinds of things are very important. All the dust from the coal train can get into our water and it will not dissolve and the fish and things will eat that contamination and we the people eat the fish so all that nasty stuff will get into our body's and who knows how sick we could get.

Losing our marine life can also affect our people, a lot of our men and some women are fisherman and crabbers, and obviously losing the marine life means losing money. I should know how important that is because I go fishing and I have a family to take care of. Its not much money but it is enough to make sure my baby is well feed and very healthy. It can also save people from losing there house. A little extra money is always helpful and the coal train would very much affect that extra money that keeps most people around here alive.

Our fish, crabs, clams and oysters are used in a lot of our ceremonies such as funerals, cultural gatherings, and school gatherings, marine life is a big part of our life. We have a salmon ceremony every year and how are we supposed to do that if there are no salmon left? If we let this happen, Cherry Point will be under water.

The coal train will not only pollute our waters but also our air. The air will not be as clean and fresh. People with asthma will have an even harder time breathing then most.

Unclean air can cause death almost all humans. Nobody wants that and I don't think you do either!

Burning coal releases carbon dioxide into the air. That is a very huge affect on global warming, and as we all know global warming is all ready a big problem on earth.

Allowing the train and terminal to be put at cherry point where the coal will be shipped to china, burning the coal can cause more carbon dioxide which causes more glaciers to melt and more polar bears and animals of that sort, will go extinct.

The coal train and terminal should not be able to run because it will affect our way of life and the polar bears and our fish. **THIS NEEDS TO BE STOPPED!!** Even Johnny Deep is even against this. We are all stand up for what is right and we will not stop until we get what's not only we want but what is right.

Sincerely, 

Dear Army Corps of Engineers

My name is Dawn James, I am 17 years old. I live in Bellingham Washington; I am a member and current resident of the Lummi Nation. My parents are Colleen and David James Sr, who are also my grandparents they adopted me when I was born.

This affects that the fact they are digging up burial sites and they didn't even stop. Those are our elders. The environment impact on this is that you will kill all our marine life that we have such as crab fish shrimp etc. we eat these foods and we live off them at some point. This will affect water when you drop coal and the water from china into our waters cause there different species of animals in their water and we don't know they have anything wrong with them or if can even eat them but it will extinct our food we eat. With all this coal that is in the air makes it hard for us to breath, this will damage our land and sea.

The conclusion, this is not healthy for us or our animals that live here and the fish that we have. But I would really appreciate it if you stop this coal train stuff cause we need all this stuff we have lived with for a lot of years and we don't want it to be gone right now cause there is still more kids that are coming into this world and I want those kids to see what this land looks like and I want it to stay the same when I get older.

Sincerely;

Dawn James. 

Dear Army Corps of Engineers,

I am Brandon Cooper, although I am enrolled as Nooksack I still claim Lummi as my family. My mother Pauline Plaster is enrolled Lummi. Her father who is passed on, his name was Ernie Plaster who was a fisherman, and crabber. As I get older I have the dream to carry on my Grandpa's ways on the water. But with this coal train project it may have an effect on what I want to do later in life.

One of the reasons I don't want this to happen because, it will be on an burial site where my ancestors are. My elders had told me to "take care of this land" and that's what I'm going to do. I wouldn't want to lose that place because I would like to bring my children up there later on in the future. It would be ashamed if the coal train to do that and take away OUR LAND away from us.

Another reason is that it may have an effect on the environmental impact. The tankers have millions of gallons of water to balance them out. If any non local marine life gets out of the tankers such as a different type of crab, it could mass produce and start killing off our crab that we desperately need to make money and put food on the table for our family. Also we fish and crab for not only the food, but for the money that is tough to get out here. People who don't have jobs on the reservation they fish and crab. We can't have the other species killing off our crab and fish.

Also there can be a health impact to many of our elders and other people from all the coal dust that will be spread around from the wind. Many of us teens like to play basketball at the Stomish Grounds and the coal can have an effect on us while we are playing. And while we are out on the ocean fishing or crabbing there could be a lot of marine traffic by the tankers. The tankers won't stop for anyone out on the water. Last there could be a train derailment that could be very harmful to our land. Also trains can get derailed off a bridge and dump all the coal into the water ruining our fish and crab.

Lastly on behalf of the Lummi Tribe we say NO to the coal train, because us teens want a future for our kids, and their kids. We would like to show them where our ancient ancestors had been before. I would like to honor them by showing and protecting the land that we will always have.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brandon Cooper", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

To: The Army Corps of Engineers

My name is Elder Roberts, I am a member of the Lummi Tribe. I am writing this letter because I don't want coal trains here and coal dust in the air. My Mom, Dad, cousins, Uncle, and Auntie all fish in our area. Fishing and crabbing are a huge part of our family, and have been for many years. As Lummi people, fishing and crabbing are a big part of our culture. I like this culture because we have good crabbing seasons and fishing seasons.

The coal train will affect our fishing treaty rights and my ancestor's burial grounds. If the waters that my family fish in are polluted by the coal, we wouldn't have anything to fish for and the eagles, that carry our ancestors' souls, would die. Their habitat and our habitat would be destroyed forever.

If that happened we would need to move somewhere else to live and I don't want to move. I have a good place to live right here, it is a nice place that we have here today. If it gets destroyed then we have nothing around us and the young ones would breathe in the air, and it wouldn't be good for them. Please protect our land and water.

Thank you ☺

Elder Roberts

Elder Roberts