

NO COAL EXPORTS

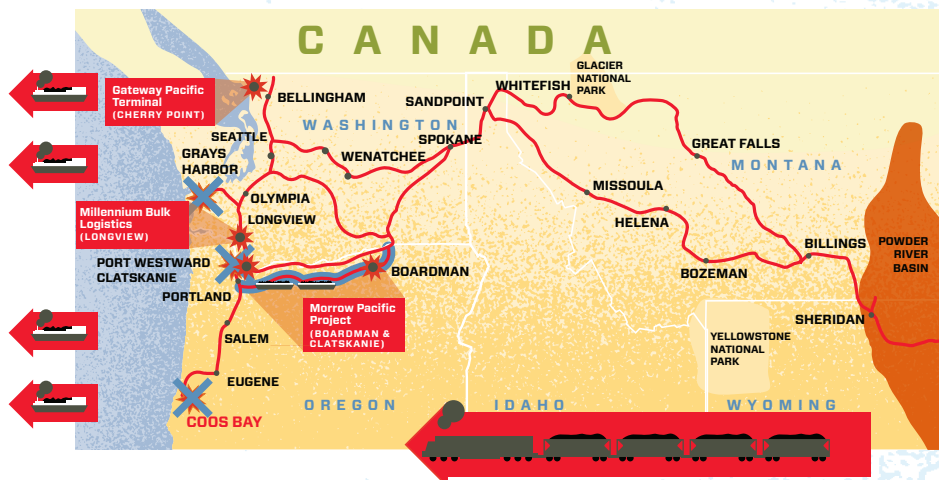
We can do better.

Coal is the dirtiest fossil fuel, by far.

Americans have turned to cleaner energy. Now the coal companies have a new plan to turn a profit: strip-mine coal in Montana and Wyoming, transport it on long and heavy coal trains through Northwest cities and towns, ship it on barges on the Columbia River and massive cargo ships through Puget Sound and off the West Coast to be burned in Asia.

Shipping up to 100 million metric tons of coal a year through West Coast communities would release toxic coal dust and diesel exhaust along the rail-lines, clog our railroads, ports, and highways, risk our families' health, impact our economy and local businesses, pollute our air and water, and stoke the climate crisis. We would pay the costs and suffer loss while the coal companies and their investors would reap the profits.

Citizens are standing up against these dirty plans and looking to a better, cleaner future for our children and our communities.



 **proposed coal terminals**  **shelved proposed coal terminals**  **potential train routes**

"Anyone who claims that this massive coal project is about jobs had better learn to subtract. We're weighing jobs based on the one-time exploitation of a fossil fuel versus livelihoods based on a sustainable resource. We have a moral obligation to reject this proposal."

— Pete Knutson, fisherman, owner of Loki Fish and Commissioner on the Puget Sound Salmon Commission, 12/13/12

POWER PAST COAL communities against coal export

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> the mines*

> the trains*

> the terminals

> the barges and cargo ships

Moving and storing coal is dirty, dangerous and disruptive

- The Powder River Basin is the largest potential source of US coal. At the expense of taxpayers, coal companies get dirt cheap coal from our public lands.
- Strip-mining is a mostly mechanized method of digging coal, which pollutes water, destroys valuable rangeland and habitat, and impacts the long-range productivity of ranches and farms.
- Coal mining causes health problems and significant air pollution.
- New and expanded mines targeted for coal export would put more communities at risk.
- Coal trains are the heaviest, longest and loudest trains on the rails.
- Diesel exhaust would dramatically increase cancer, asthma and other ailments.
- If all three terminals were built, some communities could see as many as 40 mile plus long coal trains per day.
- Burlington Northern Sante Fe (BNSF) railroad studies estimate up to 500 lbs of coal can be lost from each rail car en route. Coal dust would pollute our air and water.
- Transporting coal through neighborhoods with higher percentages of people of color and lower-income households would exacerbate inequalities.
- Increased coal train traffic would cause delays at rail crossings and more traffic congestion, limit access to neighborhoods, schools and businesses and slow emergency response time.
- Passenger rail and other freight commodities would be impacted by a significant increase in competition for use of our finite rail infrastructure.
- Needed upgrades would largely be funded through public tax dollars.
- If built, the terminals in WA and OR would mean up to 100 million metric tons of coal through West Coast ports each year.
 - Gateway Pacific Terminal in Whatcom County, WA - 48 million metric tons/year
 - Millennium Bulk Logistics in Cowlitz County, WA - 44 million metric tons/year
 - Morrow Pacific Project in Morrow and Columbia Counties, OR - 8 million metric tons/year
- The terminals would have acres of uncovered coal piles up to 85 feet high —releasing coal dust onto surrounding businesses, homes, farms, fields, wetlands and waters.
- To build the terminals, the companies would degrade wetlands, impacting marine ecosystems on which herring, salmon, orcas and fish depend.
- The terminals would directly degrade or destroy sacred tribal ground.
- Every year at least 2,500 of some of the world's biggest cargo ships would navigate our waterways and coasts including the Columbia River and the already-crowded Straits of Juan de Fuca and Georgia. This would mean ongoing threats to local communities, fishing grounds, wetlands, waterways and wildlife. Just one accident would be devastating.
- The Morrow Pacific Project proposal calls for barging coal down the scenic Columbia River - nearly doubling barge traffic on the river. The coal would then be trans loaded to ships heading to Asia where the coal would be burned.
- While in port, these ships burn tons of diesel fuel adding to air and greenhouse gas pollution as well as impacting the health of citizens in nearby communities. The ships would likely discharge ballast from foreign waters.

*photos courtesy of Paul K. Anderson

+photos courtesy of Sierra Club

++photo courtesy of Tony Eveland

+++ photo courtesy of Russ Maddox

“This is the largest decision we will be making as a state from a carbon pollution standpoint certainly during my lifetime, and nothing comes even close to it.”

— Washington Governor Jay Inslee, 1/17/13



> the power plants⁺

- Coal is the most carbon-intensive fossil fuel. Coal power plants emit at least 1.6 tons of climate changing gases for every ton of coal burned. A single large plant can emit upwards of 10 million tons of climate pollution a year. It makes no sense to encourage more coal burning abroad while we are cutting coal use in the U.S.
- By encouraging rapid expansion of new coal plants, coal export would lock the world into emission levels that essentially guarantee catastrophic climate impacts.
- Mercury and other pollutants from coal-burning power plants travel from Asia to the West Coast of North America where they poison our air, water, fish and food supply.
- Disposal sites for coal ash release toxic contaminants such as lead, boron, selenium, cadmium, thallium and other pollutants into the surrounding air and water.

We need to power past coal

The Powder River Basin in Wyoming and Montana is one of the largest coal reserves in the world and also one of the cheapest sources of coal as the leases to private companies are subsidized by US taxpayers. By exporting coal from the Powder River Basin, coal companies would provide our global competitors with a cheap, dirty fuel.

Coal companies are seeking permits to build at least three coal export terminals in Washington and Oregon. The companies, partners and investors include:

- **Peabody Energy**, the world's largest private-sector coal company
- **Arch Coal**, the 2nd largest coal company in the U.S.
- Australian-based **Ambre Energy**
- **Millennium Bulk Logistics** (a subsidiary of Ambre Energy)
- **Cloud Peak Energy**
- **BNSF & Union Pacific** railroads
- **SSA Marine**

- **Chico Pardo, speculative investor**
- **Resource Capital Funds**

If they build all the terminals, up to 100 million metric tons of coal would travel through Montana, Idaho, Washington, and Oregon every year. The current proposals are at:

- **Gateway Pacific Terminal** (at Cherry Point, north of Bellingham) in Whatcom County, WA - 48 million metric tons/year
- **Millennium Bulk Logistics** in Longview, Cowlitz County, WA - 44 million metric tons/year
- **Morrow Pacific Project** (near Boardman) in Morrow and Columbia Counties, OR - 8 million metric tons/year

Shelved/pulled proposals so far:

- **Coos Bay**, OR - 8 million metric tons/year
- **Grays Harbor**, WA - up to 5.5 million metric tons/year
- **Port Westward, Clatskanie**, OR - up to 27 million metric tons/year



What you can do to help our communities power past coal

“Not only would a massive increase in coal train traffic negatively impact our business; but would also support an energy past that is not sensitive to the pollution and climate realities of the present and future.”

—Gary Shaver, President, solar panel manufacturer Silicon Energy, Marysville, WA

- 1. Pick up the phone and write letters:** Contact your elected officials including members of Congress, governor, state legislators, mayor, city council members, county council or commission members, and let them know you want them to exercise their leadership in opposing coal export off the West Coast.
- 2. Get engaged online:** Connect with us on Facebook.com/powerpastcoal and on Twitter @powerpastcoal to keep spreading the word on social media.
- 3. Visit PowerPastCoal.org:** Learn more about this issue, find out about events and other actions and get materials like yard signs, buttons, flyers and petitions to distribute in your neighborhood.
- 4. Pass it on:** Give this flyer to a neighbor, friend or family member to educate more folks in your community.



“Every aspect of coal usage, from the mining, to the burning, to the waste it creates, is damaging to human health.”

— Dr. Georgia Milan, Florence, MT physician, 3/2/13

POWER PAST COAL is an ever-growing alliance of health, environmental, business, clean-energy, faith and community groups working to stop coal export off the West Coast.

Already over 60 cities, counties and ports, over 3,000 health providers and public health advocates, 220 faith leaders, 500 businesses and over 160 elected officials have either come out in opposition or have raised concerns about the export of coal in the Northwest. There are 115 organizations that are part of the coalition.

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communities against coal export