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**From:** Sierra Club <information@sierraclub.org> on behalf of Marian Betzer <m.betzer@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 13, 2013 10:52 AM  
**To:** EFSEC (UTC)  
**Subject:** Comment on Docket No. EF-131590, Application No. 2013-01  
**Categories:** Blue Category

Nov 13, 2013

Mr. Stephen Posner  
P.O. Box 43172  
Olympia, WA 98504-3172

Dear Mr. Posner,

I'm writing regarding Docket No. EF-131590, Application No. 2013-01 to urge the Washington Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council (EFSEC) to assess the full environmental and public safety impact of the joint Tesoro-Savage proposal to turn the Port of Vancouver into a major crude oil export terminal.

Coal trains and oil trains or any other chemical train cargo are not safe for our environment or communities.

While new technology is taking tremendous advances in creating alternative energy resources for our "hungry" consumers, politicians continue to be blinded by the powerful lobbyists representing the "old" energy suppliers rather than embracing newer and cleaner technology and energy providers.

We need to embrace the new technologies that will ensure that our children and grandchildren will have clean water to drink, fresh air to breathe, pristine shorelines for recreation and adequate open space and habitats which are necessary for the survival of our natural resources and functions, and the bird, fish and wildlife and HUMAN populations these habitats sustain.

Do not let the greed and huge profit margins of a few determine the future health for the majority.

Do not listen to the narrow-minded argument that short-term jobs are better than responsible decisions. Just one example of jobs which did not result in community benefit is the Tacoma, WA Arsaco Plant which sickened not only the employees, but the soils and waters of the community and Puget Sound for miles around. The unhealthy impacts from the Arsaco Plant are still being felt today and it is the community and taxpayers who have been impacted the most for a few jobs!

If approved, the plan would result in 380,000 barrels of oil each day being shipped through Spokane, the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area, Vancouver and other Northwest communities. Oil-by-rail is a bad deal for Washington State. The project comes at a steep price for rail communities and the Columbia River, yet offers few jobs in return. Based on the far reaching impacts of this project, I urge you to recommend the rejection of Tesoro-Savage's proposal.

The public safety and environmental impacts of this proposal deserve close scrutiny. For example, EFSEC must assess:

1) The potential safety and environmental impacts of a large train-related oil spill or explosion along the rail route in Washington and beyond. Recent derailment disasters in Lac-Mégantic, Quebec and Alabama have shown that these risks are far too real. The tragedy in Quebec, in particular, highlighted the extreme danger of the same type of oil and tankers that would be traveling through our communities.

Forty-seven people died in that explosion, which also devastated the town.

2) The increased risk of an oil tanker spill on Washington State waters and along the shipping route.

3) The transportation and public health impacts of additional unit train traffic through communities along the proposed oil-by-rail route.

This includes evaluating emergency response capabilities in Vancouver, where oil trains would deliver and store oil, and other communities along the rail and shipping route.

4) The project's impact on climate change. This analysis should include climate change impacts from crude oil as well as tar sands oil from cradle to grave.

5) The impact of the project's cradle-to-grave CO2 emissions on the viability of the large oyster industry in Washington State.

After carefully considering the safety, environmental, and climate risks associated with the proposed oil terminal, I respectfully ask you to recommend the rejection of Tesoro-Savage's application.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Marian Betzer  
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