

Testimony for the Vancouver/Clark College Scoping Hearing regarding the Proposed Oil Terminal in Vancouver. 10-29-2013.

My name is Jeff Stookey. I am a fourth generation Washingtonian, born and raised in the Okanogan Valley, and a 20-year resident of Portland, Oregon.

I am opposed to the proposed Vancouver oil terminal because of my concerns about the impacts on this beautiful blue-green planet we all inhabit.

Today we face nothing less than a global crisis: climate disruption and an end to life on Earth as we have known it--all at the hands of the fossil fuel industry which is driven by unprecedented greed and short-sighted delusion.

Bill McKibben and his friends at 350.org have shown us the math: the nations of the world agreed that a 2 degree rise in the Earth's average temperature is an upper limit in order to sustain life as we know it. Burning 565 billion tons of carbon will cause a 2 degree rise in temperatures. The *current* reserves of the fossil fuel industry equal 2,795 billion tons of carbon--five times the amount that will doom us to unacceptable temperatures and climate disaster.

Right now we are experiencing record-setting droughts, wild fires, polar and glacier melting, and extreme weather (exemplified by hurricane Sandy). If ever we have received a wake up call, this is it. I strongly recommend that everyone see the new documentary movie *Chasing Ice* by James Balog. It shows dramatic time-lapse footage of glaciers melting away before our eyes, emphasizing the foolishness of continuing to deny that climate change is occurring.

Besides, we do not need additional oil from fossil fuels.

We currently have all the scientific and technical knowledge and the physical resources to get all of the energy we need from renewables, according to Mark Z. Jacobson, Director of the Atmosphere/Energy Program and Professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering at Stanford University.

Former Irish President and Climate Justice Advocate Mary Robinson says, "...it's very clear that as we move to low carbon, it will actually be job creating."

Feed-in-tariffs--which have helped put Germany and Ontario, Canada at the forefront of the transition to green energy--are an important policy tool to incentivize this transition, creating jobs that manufacture and install wind generators and solar panels. (I encourage you to visit the website for Oregonians for Renewable Energy Progress (OREP) for more information on Feed-in-tariffs.)

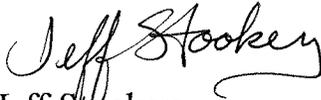
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America's path to prosperity lies in a rapid switch-over to abundant, homegrown, renewable energy to power our homes, businesses, and vehicles-- NOT in facilitating mining and exporting of dirty, polluting coal, which represents a retreat from the 21st Century economy. Renewable energy already employs 2.7 million workers (more than the fossil fuel industry) and studies have shown that green energy will continue to create far more jobs than the fossil fuel industries. [see: *Sizing the Clean Economy, A National and Regional Green Jobs Assessment* by the Metropolitan Policy Program at the Brookings Institute, 2011.] A U.S.-led, green, industrial revolution will move our economy forward, create millions of new jobs, and help ensure a livable planet for future generations.

Global climate change is here. Future generations are watching to see what actions we take to reverse it.



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