

Unions turn out to support export terminal in Longview

LONGVIEW — A strong contingent of union members and their families turned out for a public hearing Sept. 17 to voice their support for a coal export facility being proposed by Millennium Bulk Terminals. The company wants to build a \$643 million terminal at the former Reynolds Aluminum smelter at the Port of Longview.

Cowlitz County, state, and federal regulators are holding five public hearings in Washington to determine the scope of the environmental review of the project. The Sept. 17 public hearing filled the Cowlitz Expo Center with about 2,000 supporters and opponents. Environmental groups have mounted a massive campaign against all proposed



West Coast coal export terminals.

The hearing lasted more than six hours.

Millennium will build the facility without any public subsidies, it will hire union construction workers and, once completed, it will staff the terminal with members of the International Longshore and Warehouse Union. It is estimated that the project will generate more than 2,000 jobs during construction and 135 full-time jobs once the terminal is up and running.

“This is exactly the type of private investment we need in our community,” said Longview City Councilman Mike Wallin.

Union officials said that local voices from workers are a vital part

of the process. They are asking union members to attend the next public hearing **Wednesday, Oct. 9, at the Clark County Fairgrounds in Vancouver. The hearing runs from noon to 8 p.m.**

The 95-day comment period for scoping the Millennium project ends Nov. 18. Regulators will review comments online, through the mail, and verbally.

For more information, contact Jeffery Washburn, president of the Longview/Kelso Building and Construction Trades Council, at 360-577-0535, or by email at jwashburn@ua26.org; or Mike Bridges, secretary-treasurer, at 360-431-1472, or by email at mikebridges@ibew48.com.

Convention Center hotel closer to breaking ground

Officials at Metro expect to start negotiations with developers of a convention center hotel later this month, after final approval of the hotel’s finance plan was granted by the Portland City Council and the Multnomah County board of commissioners.

The Metro Council has been laying the groundwork for several years to build a large hotel adjacent to the Oregon Convention Center, which it operates. On the table is a 600-room Grand Hyatt Regency owned by the Chicago-based Hyatt Corp. Hyatt is teaming with Mortenson Development Inc. and Schlesinger Cos. to build the hotel.

Hyatt signed a landmark neutrality agreement with UNITE HERE Local 8 last November, which means the hotel likely will be staffed with union workers. Under the agreement, UNITE HERE organizers could meet with workers at the hotel, and hold meetings there; managers would attend and make it clear that the company has no objection to workers exercising their right to unionize. Workers would be free to join a labor organization of their choosing, and could do so through a “card check” process or through a government-administered election. If workers choose to unionize, and didn’t reach agreement with management within six months over the terms of a first union contract, the contract proposals could be submitted to binding arbitration, under the labor peace agreement.

The hotel itself will be built with a union workforce. Mortenson Construction is a union general contractor, and a project “statement of principles” signed by Metro, the City of Portland, and Multnomah County seeks assurances that the developer will utilize union building tradesmen and women.

Jodi Guetzloe-Parker, executive secretary of the Columbia Pacific Building and Construction Trades Council, estimates hotel construction will generate nearly 2,000 jobs.

The projected cost is \$198 million.

Financing will come from various sources. The Hyatt/ Mortensen development team will invest approximately \$117 million into the project. The Oregon Legislature approved \$10 million in state lottery bond proceeds; Metro will contribute \$4 million using funds it has earmarked for a convention center hotel; and the Portland Development Commission will provide a \$4 million loan using funds dedicated to a headquarters hotel. The final \$60 million will come from a construction bond issued by Metro. The bond will be paid off using room taxes on hotel visitors.

Because the City of Portland and Multnomah County each have a stake in visitor lodging taxes, city and county commissioners had to agree to use money in the Visitor Facilities Trust Account to pay off the bond. In exchange for issuing the tax-free bonds, Hyatt agreed to meet a number of development conditions, including having a union workforce and leaving 500 of the hotel’s 600 rooms available to future conventions.

Multnomah County commissioners voted unanimously to approve the finance plan, and the Portland City Council voted 3-1 in favor, with Commissioner Dan Saltzman absent and Commissioner Steve Novick dissenting.

The City Council added an amendment to the memorandum of understanding at the request of Commissioner Nick Fish. The amendment requires Metro, Multnomah County, and Portland city officials to be allowed to periodically review how much Hyatt is charging for its rooms. Fish’s concern was that with the large public subsidies, the hotel could be in a position to undercut its competitors’ rates.

Metro hopes to have a development agreement finalized by the end of the year. The deal would not need approval from the city or county.

If approved, the developer would break ground early in 2014, with a ten-

This list from Union Plus (<http://www.unionplus.org/union-made/halloween-treats>) highlights union-made candy products. **However**, when it comes to chocolate, even union-made, choose products that are Fair Trade certified if you want to be **sure** to avoid child labor and trafficking rampant in the cocoa fields of West Africa, the source of most American chocolate.



Union-Made Halloween Treats

When those little ghosts and goblins come collecting on Halloween, make sure you have a full supply of union-made-in-America treats for them. Here’s a brief list of choices of candy products made by members of the Bakery, Confectionery, Tobacco Workers and Grain Millers International Union (BCTGM); snack foods by members of the United Food and Commercial Workers (UFCW); or fruit and nuts from members of the United Farm Workers of America (UFW).



Hershey Products	Ananelles Candy Company	Jelly Belly's Candy Company
Hershey Kisses*	Boston Baked Beans	Jelly Bellies - also made in a non-union plants in Chicago/Taiwan
Hershey Syrups	Jordon Almonds	Chocolate Dutch Mints
Hershey Milk Chocolate Bar*	Rocky Road	Chocolate Temptations
Hershey Milk with Almond Bars	U-Nos	dimples
Hershey Special Dark Bars	Look	Goelitz Confections
Hershey Nuggets	Big Hunk	Goelitz Gummi
Rolo	Abbazabbz	Pet Rat
Hershey Kissables	Yogurt Nuts & Fruit	Pet Tarantula
Kit Kat Bars		Sweet Temptations
Carmello Bar	Nestle	Halloween Candy Corn
Cadbury Fruit & Nut Bar	Nestle Treasures	Licorice
Cadbury Roast Almond Bar	Laffy Taffy	Malted Milk Balls
Cadbury Royal Dark Bar	Kathryn Beich specialty candy	Chocolate Coated Nuts, and Sours
Cadbury Dairy Milk Bar	Baby Ruth*	Sunkist Fruit Gel Slices
Hershey Symphony Bar with Toffee	Butterfinger*	
	Pearson's Nips	Gimbals Fine Candies
Necco (New England Confectionery Co)	Famous Old Time Candies	JellyBeans
NECCO Wafers/		Cherry Hearts
Necco Wafer Smoothies	Pearson's Candy Co.	Scotty Dogs
Sweethearts	Salted Nut Roll	
Sky Bar	Nut Goodie	Ghiradelli Chocolates
Clark Bar	Mint Patties	All filled & non filled squares
Canada Mints	Bun Bars	non pariels
Candy Cupboard		Chocolate chips
Thin Mints	Sconza Candies	
NECCO Assorted Junior Wafers	Jawbreakers	Frito-Lay chips and snacks
Clark Junior Laydown Bag	Chocolate Covered Cherries	
Mary Jane Laydown Bag	Chocolate	Kraft snack products
Haviland		
Mary Jane Peanut Butter Chews	American Licorice	Orville Redenbacher popcorn
	Black & Red Vines	
Corn Nuts	Strawberry Ropes	See's Candies

Fruit & Nuts

Members of the United Farm Workers (UFW) help produce various fruits and nuts with the UFW label, including products from: coastal Berry Co., Swanton Berry, Montpelier Almonds, Brown Date Gardent Dates, Mann's California Apples, and cirtus fruit from Sunkist, Sunworld, Airdrome and Big Jim.

*Some products made in Mexico; check the label for country of origin.