

JOBS

Construction, industrial unions speak up for export terminal

RIDGEFIELD Wash.—Officers and members of construction and industrial unions turned out in force Oct. 24-25 to support a controversial coal export terminal proposed for a former industrial site in Longview.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers was taking public comment after releasing its draft environmental impact statement for the proposed Millennium Bulk Terminals.

Hearings took place at the Cowlitz County Event Center in Longview from 1 to 9 p.m. on Oct. 24, and from 1 to 9 p.m. at the Clark County Events Center in Ridgefield on Oct. 25.

“Four years ago, our brothers and sisters in the Longview labor community were excited at the prospect of new family-wage jobs in a community that sees little new job growth. Today, they and their families continue to wait because the regulatory reviews continue on without end,” said Willy Myers, executive secretary of the Columbia Pacific Building Trades Council. “Millennium Bulk Terminals would provide excellent skilled labor opportunities for workers who want to live and raise their families in the Longview area. As a state, we need to be sure the state’s regulatory process offers a fair and timely review of projects so we don’t lose jobs and investment opportunities.”

Millennium, which is owned by Ambre Energy and Arch Coal Inc., first began its permitting process in February 2012.

“We’re standing up for private investment that will bring in millions and millions

of dollars in wages, millions of dollars in tax revenue, and for the development of a brownfield site that has been languishing for a long time,” said Mark Martinez, president of the Washington State Building Trades Council.

The \$680 million private investment in Cowlitz County would create 1,000 union construction jobs under a project labor agreement, 135 permanent jobs when complete — 2,650 direct and indirect jobs overall. It would bring in \$43.1 million in state and local taxes during construction, and \$5.4 million in state and local taxes each year when fully operational, according to the company. Millennium is supported by 15 labor unions and/or councils.



Mark Martinez of the WSBCTC speaks at a rally held Oct. 25 at the Clark County Events Center.



A strong show of support for Millennium Bulk Terminals at a public hearing in Longview on Oct. 24.

IN MEMORIAM

Glen J. Feuerborn

Oct. 21, 1931 - Oct. 16, 2016

Glen J. Feuerborn, a retired business manager of Laborers Local 483, died Oct. 16, just five days shy of his 85th birthday.

Feuerborn served two terms as business manager of Local 483—from 1990 to 1998, when he retired at age 66.

During his working life, Feuerborn was a millworker, a deck-hand on a tugboat, a cab driver, a car and RV salesman, a bellman, a manager in the hotel industry, and a union organizer. He went to work for the City of Portland in 1978 cleaning sewers.

Feuerborn had worked his way into management at the Portland Hilton Hotel, but was fired following a Culinary Union strike there, allegedly because he gave advice to striking bellmen.

“If you go on strike, go on strike together. You have to stick together if you hope to win,” he told the Northwest Labor Press after his retirement as business manager of Local 483.

Following his termination, the Culinary Workers Union hired him as an organizer.

Feuerborn held union cards with the International Woodworkers of America, the Inland Boatmen’s Union, the Culinary Workers, Teamsters, and the Laborers.

Born in Kansas, Feuerborn’s family of 12 moved to Oregon after his father was fired for trying to organize a lumber mill.

Feuerborn graduated from Central Catholic High School in Portland. He was a veteran of the U.S. Air Force.

He is survived by his wife, Barbara; two sons; a daughter; seven grandchildren; 15 great-grandchildren; and two sisters.

In lieu of flowers, contributions can be made to the National Kidney Foundation.

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