

# Terminal: Project has faced a series of setbacks

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Tara Lee, a spokeswoman for Gov. Jay Inslee, said Thursday the state doesn't comment on pending litigation but "we are confident that the state's position is solid."

Inslee, a Democrat, has made climate change a key issue and has pushed to move the state away from coal toward renewable resources.

"We remain focused on defending our decision. We are confident that it will continue to stand up because it's based on Washington state law," a Department of Ecology spokesman said Friday.

Earlier this month, the American Farm Bureau Federation, the National Association of Manufacturers, the National Mining Association and the American Fuel & Pet-

rochemical Manufacturers also filed a joint brief backing the project developers.

"The interest and filing by these states and trade groups reinforces our position that this case is about much more than a single company and a single commodity," Lighthouse Resources said in a statement Friday. "The broad support for our case demonstrates that Washington State's actions threaten fundamental principles and protections established in the constitution's Commerce Clause."

BNSF Railway and five environmental groups that oppose the terminal have also intervened on opposing sides of the lawsuit.

Kristen Boyles, an attorney with Earthjustice representing environmental groups including the Washington

Environmental Council and Columbia Riverkeeper, said "there's no vast conspiracy here."

"Different agencies denied permits to build one coal terminal that has harmful (impacts). That's not a war on coal or a war on the economy. Millennium wants to blow this up to something that is enormous," she said.

The project has faced a series of regulatory and other setbacks, including last fall when the Washington Ecology Department denied the project a key water permit.

In a court filing, lawyers for Washington state have asked the federal judge to dismiss many of the claims and abstain on other claims while multiple suits are pending in state courts.



AP Photo/Elaine Thompson

Ships move through the Columbia River looking south from near Longview, Wash.

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Jill is a part time light artist. She has practiced, taught, researched, published, designed and built with light in many manifestations.

She has a B.A. in Maya archaeology from Rutgers College, learned light as a three-dimensional art form in the theater, and has a master's degree in interiors from the University of Oregon. She completed a PhD. in architecture from Texas A&M University, where she taught design studios in the architecture and visualization departments.

Jill's work has come full circle back to archaeology, forming her research interests and the inspiration for the book she plans to write called "The Archaeology of Light."

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