

US eyes military bases for coal, gas exports

By **MATTHEW BROWN**
Associated Press

BILLINGS, Mont. — The Trump administration is considering using West Coast military bases or other federal properties as transit points for shipments of U.S. coal and natural gas to Asia as officials seek to bolster the domestic energy industry and circumvent environmental opposition to fossil fuel exports, according to Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke and two Republican lawmakers.

The proposal would advance the administration's agenda of establishing American "energy dominance" on the world stage and underscores a willingness to intervene in markets to make that happen. It's tantamount to an end-run around West Coast officials who have rejected private-sector efforts to build new coal ports in their states.

In an interview with The Associated Press, Zinke cast the proposal as a matter of

national security to ensure U.S. allies have access to affordable fuels. The Trump administration also has cited national security as justification for keeping domestic coal-burning power plants online to prevent disruptions of electricity supplies.

It's unclear which sites are under consideration other than one in Alaska. Experts said the possibilities are constrained by the need for a deep water port.

Zinke said the administration is interested in partnering with private entities to ship coal or liquefied natural gas through naval installations or other federal facilities. He added it's still early in the process.

"I respect the state of Washington and Oregon and California," Zinke said. "But also, it's in our interest for national security and our allies to make sure that they have access to affordable energy commodities."

Accomplishing that, he



Julia O'Malley/Alaska Daily News
The former Adak Naval Air Facility sits vacant in Alaska. The Trump administration is considering using West Coast military bases or other federal properties as transit points for shipments of coal and natural gas to Asia.

said, may require the use of "some of our naval facilities, some of our federal facilities on the West Coast."

Zinke specified only one site that could serve as an export hub, for natural gas: the former Adak Naval Air Facility in Alaska's Aleutian Islands, which he sug-

gested could receive fuel by barge from the North Slope. The base closed in 1997 and has been largely abandoned. Roughly 300 people live in the town of Adak, the westernmost community in the U.S.

Zinke did not reveal government properties that could serve as potential coal ports.

Exports have been held up as a lifeline for struggling domestic coal miners since demand for the fuel started to wane a decade ago, when many power plants switched to cheaper, cleaner fuels. The West Coast offers the most economical route for shipments to Asia because of its relative proximity to the largest coal-producing region in the U.S.: the Powder River Basin, which straddles the Montana-Wyoming border.

Any export site would need access to deep waters to accommodate large ships and enough land to store fuel awaiting shipment. Few such locations can be found on the West Coast, said Joe Aldina, a coal industry analyst with S&P Global Platts Analytics.

With the U.S. coal export market booming in recent months, Aldina said any new port established by the government would quickly fill with coal for shipment overseas. Yet with demand expected to fall over the long term, particularly in Europe, the current high prices for coal are expected to drop.

Aldina expressed skepticism that government intervention could make much difference.

"Like everything else the Trump administration has tried to do, it's a long shot whether some of these things will work, and it's questionable whether they will really help the market," he said, adding prices and fuel quality are the main drivers of coal markets, not government policies.

Resistance to exports — rooted in worries about air pollution, climate change and rail safety — and changing market conditions have resulted in six proposed coal ports in Washington state and Oregon being rejected or shelved. A \$680 million project in Longview, Washington, was denied a key permit last year by state regulators who said it would increase greenhouse gas emissions and cause

"significant and unavoidable harm to the environment."

That's brought a backlash from elected officials in coal-producing states, who have blasted Washington Gov. Jay Inslee in particular. They argue the rejection of the Longview port, sponsored by Utah-based Lighthouse Resources, violated the commerce clause in the Constitution that says only Congress has the power to regulate international and interstate trade.

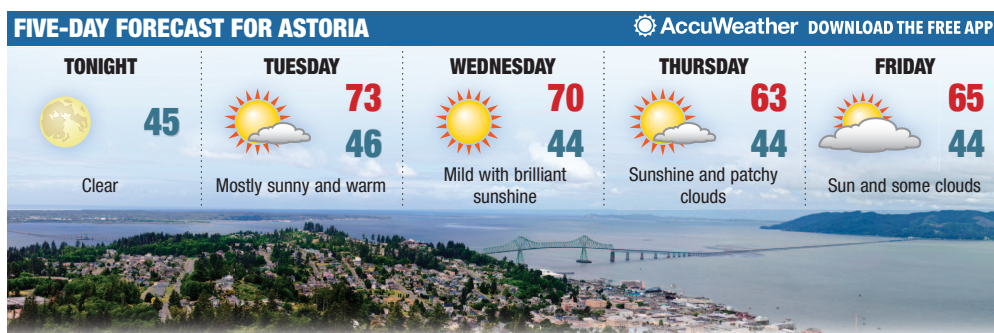
Montana, Wyoming and four other states joined Lighthouse Resources in a lawsuit challenging the rejection of the company's Millennium Bulk Terminals port, which could handle up to 48.5 million tons of coal a year.

U.S. Rep. Liz Cheney, a Wyoming Republican, said she's spoken with Zinke and U.S. Energy Secretary Rick Perry about using federal facilities to circumvent opposition to proposed ports.

"That might be, for example, retired military facilities or other places where we would be able to use those for exports — frankly, to get around some of the unreasonable obstacles that have been thrown up," Cheney said.

Prior to joining Trump's cabinet, Zinke was a Montana congressman and Perry was governor of Texas. Both states are among the United States' top coal producers.

Zinke said Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross also was involved in the proposal.



ALMANAC

Astoria through Sunday.

Temperatures
High/low 68°/50°
Normal high/low 61°/44°
Record high 78° in 1978
Record low 33° in 2017

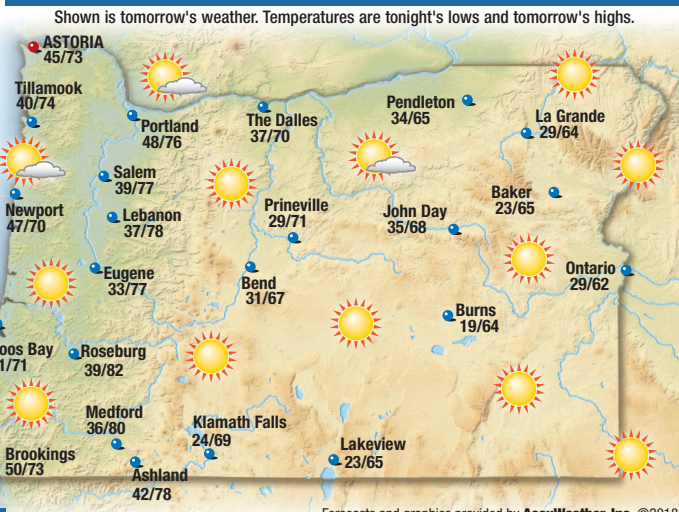
Precipitation
Sunday 0.00"
Month to date 2.93"
Normal month to date 2.01"
Year to date 41.61"
Normal year to date 42.25"

SUN AND MOON

Sunset tonight 6:30 p.m.
Sunrise Tuesday 7:34 a.m.
Moonrise today 2:09 p.m.
Moonset today 11:16 p.m.

First Full Last New
Oct 16 Oct 24 Oct 31 Nov 7

REGIONAL WEATHER



UNDER THE SKY

Tonight's Sky: Fomalhaut, the brightest star of Piscis Austrinus, the southern fish, stands low in the SE.

Source: Jim Todd, OMS

TOMORROW'S TIDES

Astoria / Port Docks

Time	High	Time	Low
8:05 a.m.	6.4 ft.	1:14 a.m.	0.9 ft.
6:57 p.m.	6.9 ft.	1:22 p.m.	3.5 ft.

NATIONAL CITIES

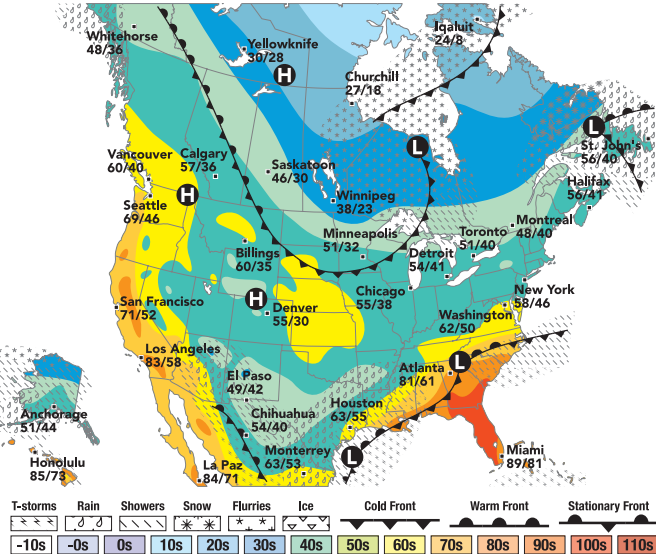
City	Today	Tues.
Atlanta	83 65 pc	81 61 pc
Boston	63 47 sh	58 45 s
Chicago	48 33 pc	55 38 pc
Denver	45 25 s	55 30 s
Des Moines	46 31 pc	59 36 pc
Detroit	54 34 pc	54 41 pc
El Paso	51 39 c	49 42 c
Fairbanks	46 39 pc	50 34 pc
Honolulu	84 74 pc	85 73 pc
Indianapolis	51 32 r	53 38 s
Kansas City	47 29 pc	60 39 s
Las Vegas	70 51 s	73 56 s
Los Angeles	81 56 s	83 58 s
Memphis	60 48 r	54 48 r
Miami	90 81 pc	89 81 pc
Nashville	67 49 r	60 45 c
New Orleans	87 74 pc	85 71 t
New York	67 48 sh	58 46 s
Oklahoma City	48 39 c	55 42 pc
Philadelphia	70 49 sh	58 46 pc
St. Louis	50 36 sh	58 43 s
Salt Lake City	51 34 s	59 37 s
San Francisco	77 52 s	71 52 s
Seattle	66 46 s	69 46 s
Washington, DC	71 53 sh	62 50 pc

REGIONAL CITIES

City	Today	Tues.	City	Today	Tues.
Baker City	61 23 s	65 27 s	Olympia	66 36 s	70 34 s
Bend	66 31 s	67 32 s	Pendleton	64 34 s	65 37 s
Brookings	69 47 s	69 48 s	Portland	74 48 s	76 47 s
Eugene	75 33 s	77 37 s	Roseburg	77 39 s	82 43 s
Ilwaco	69 48 s	70 49 s	Salem	75 39 s	77 41 s
Klamath Falls	65 24 s	69 29 s	Seaside	72 47 s	73 47 s
Medford	79 36 s	80 42 s	Spokane	59 32 s	62 34 s
Newberg	75 43 s	77 43 s	Springfield	74 35 s	77 39 s
Newport	70 47 s	70 48 s	Vancouver	73 42 s	74 43 s
North Bend	71 43 s	70 47 s	Yakima	65 33 s	67 33 s

TOMORROW'S NATIONAL WEATHER

Shown are noon positions of weather systems and precipitation. Temperature bands are highs for the day.



ON THE RECORD

DUII

• At 4:29 p.m. Sunday, Jose J. Tellez, 21, of Keizer, was arrested by Warrenton police on U.S. Highway 101 near Ensign Lane and charged with driving under the influence of intoxicants.

DEATH

Oct. 13, 2018

IRVIN, Shirley, 86, of Warrenton, died at home. Hughes-Ransom Mortuary & Crematory in Astoria is in charge of the arrangements.

BIRTHS

Oct. 3, 2018

JAROLIMEK, Laura and Andrew, of Astoria, a girl, Kari Rose Jarolimek, born at Columbia Memorial Hospital in Astoria. Grandparents are Craig and Kathy Skrivseth of Baraboo, Wisconsin, Eva Jarolimek-Straskraba of Silverthorne, Colorado, and the late Lubomir Jarokimek.

Sept. 21, 2018

KENSINGER, Jessica and Caleb, of Cathlamet, Washington, a girl, Ellie Kensinger, born at Columbia Memorial Hospital. Grandparents are Sue and Fred Drake of Long Creek, Lori and Scott Kensinger of Cathlamet, and Andrea Wurdeman of Prineville.

PUBLIC MEETINGS

MONDAY

Knappa School Board, 5:30 p.m., Knappa High School library, 41553 Old U.S. Highway 30.
Jewell School Board, 6 p.m., Jewell School library, 83874 Oregon Highway 103.
Astoria City Council, 7 p.m., City Hall, 1095 Duane St.

TUESDAY

Cannon Beach Public Works Committee, 9 a.m., City Hall, 163 E. Gower St.
Port of Astoria Commission, 4 p.m., Port offices, 10 Pier 1, Suite 209.
Sunset Empire Park and Recreation District, 5 p.m., Bob Chisholm Community Center,

1225 Avenue A, Seaside.

Astoria Historic Landmarks Commission, 5:15 p.m., City Hall, 1095 Duane St.
Seaside School District Board of Directors, 6 p.m., 1801 S. Franklin.
Shoreline Sanitary District Board, 7 p.m., Gearhart Hertig Station, 33496 West Lake Lane, Warrenton.

LOTTERIES

OREGON

Sunday's Pick 4:
1 p.m.: 9-4-5-3
4 p.m.: 8-7-1-7
7 p.m.: 1-1-8-3
10 p.m.: 7-0-1-4
Sunday's Lucky Lines: 2-5-12-13-18-24-25-29
Estimated jackpot: \$56,000
Saturday's Pick 4:
1 p.m.: 6-5-8-6
4 p.m.: 5-0-3-9
7 p.m.: 2-3-7-6
10 p.m.: 2-1-1-9
Saturday's Lucky Lines: 3-8-11-16-19-22-26-30
Estimated jackpot: \$54,000
Saturday's Megabucks: 13-30-38-44-45-47
Estimated jackpot: \$8.3 million

Saturday's Powerball: 11-14-32-43-65, Powerball: 15
Estimated jackpot: \$345 million
Friday's Pick 4:
1 p.m.: 6887
4 p.m.: 1753
7 p.m.: 0295
10 p.m.: 4749
Friday's Lucky Lines: 1-8-10-16-19-22-28-32
Estimated jackpot: \$53,000
Friday's Mega Millions: 4-24-46-61-70, Mega Ball: 7
Estimated jackpot: \$654 million

WASHINGTON

Sunday's Daily Game: 3-1-3
Sunday's Keno: 04-07-13-19-29-31-33-36-37-38-43-45-46-63-68-71-72-74-76-77

Sunday's Match 4: 04-14-18-19
Saturday's Daily Game: 9-0-1
Saturday's Hit 5: 05-21-23-26-33
Estimated jackpot: \$100,000
Saturday's Keno: 03-09-12-15-23-28-31-33-38-41-42-45-47-52-56-58-62-63-72-80
Saturday's Lotto: 12-29-31-32-34-44
Estimated jackpot: \$4.2 million
Saturday's Match 4: 10-13-18-21
Friday's Daily Game: 2-7-8
Friday's Keno: 01-06-19-20-25-26-27-30-36-37-39-46-49-51-53-57-65-66-75-79
Friday's Match 4: 06-10-15-18

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