

August 25, 2015

Candace Powers
CIB Program Manager
State of Utah Community Impact Fund

Dear Ms. Powers and the CIB,

On behalf of our members who are concerned residents of Utah, we are deeply disturbed to learn that you have allocated \$53 million of community impact mitigation funds to four counties who intend to invest that money in a proposed coal export facility in Oakland, California.

As the mitigation fund was clearly established to address and remedy the local impacts of mineral mining in Utah, including coal, we are concerned at the improper allocation of public mitigation funds for this unwise and controversial proposed project in Oakland that would harm public health and the environment in both states, and is economically risky.

The City of Oakland and many Bay Area residents are in an uproar over the prospect of Utah coal being shipped to Oakland and using almost half the export capacity of the prospective new terminal.

- 1) When the Mayor of Oakland read developer Phil Tagami's comments about the possibility of exporting coal, she immediately responded in writing to say "Stop it immediately!"
- 2) On June 17, 2014, the Oakland City Council passed a resolution opposing the transportation of fossil fuels by rail through the City, including the export of coal.
- 3) On February 27th, 2014, the Oakland Port Commission unanimously rejected an 8.3 million ton per year coal export project for the Port's Howard Terminal, citing environmental impacts, climate change, public health hazards, economic pitfalls, and public opposition.
- 4) On June 16th, 2015 the Emeryville City Council passed two resolutions opposing the transport and export of coal by rail through Emeryville – in particular coal bound for Oakland Global. Emeryville borders Oakland on its western side, where the tracks run.
- 5) Well over 12,000 Oakland citizens – and counting – have signed a petition demanding that their city government block and forbid the export of coal (and all other fossil fuels).
- 6) Oakland City Council has scheduled a public hearing for September 21st to hear testimony and receive evidence on whether the transit of coal through and export from Oakland will endanger the health and safety of workers and residents, which may lay the groundwork for a binding Oakland ordinance to stop the transit and export of coal.
- 7) The project is dependent on additional millions of dollars of public investment from Oakland and other California public funds. There are now elected officials who are preparing to condition any further public funding for the export terminal on a clear prohibition of fossil fuel exports.

It is thus clear that the proposed coal export terminal faces strong official and public opposition and protests as well as funding challenges that make the investment risky and unwise.

In light of the above, the undersigned organizations call on you to rescind your allocation of \$53 million for the purpose of coal export to California.

Sincerely,

Sarah Stock
Canyon Country Rising Tide
Moab, UT

Jean Hill
Government Liaison
Catholic Diocese of Salt Lake City
Salt Lake City, UT

Alicia Connell and Natasha Hincks-Henderson
Communities for Clean Air
North Salt Lake City, UT

Joan M. Gregory, Co-Coordinator, Environmental Ministry
Reverend Tom Goldsmith, Senior Minister
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