

**From:** [webmaster@shorelinewa.gov](mailto:webmaster@shorelinewa.gov)  
**To:** [agenda comments](#)  
**Subject:** New agenda comment via website  
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Survey answers

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Name (required):  
Gabriel

City of Residence (required):  
Shoreline

Neighborhood:

Ballinger   
Briarcrest   
Echo Lake   
Highlands   
Highland Terrace   
Hillwood   
Innis Arden   
Meridian Park   
North City   
Parkwood   
Richmond Beach   
Richmond Highlands   
Ridgecrest   
Westminster Triangle   
Don't know   
Not applicable

Email:  
gabe\_pinnick@hotmail.com

Agenda Date (required):  
1/14/2013

Agenda Item:  
Coal Train Environmental Impact Statement Scoping Process

Comments:

Understand the most comprehensive and in-depth EIS will only assist the corporations involved, if nothing else, to build better permit applications. It does not address the cause of power imbalance within each community affected. We must organize collectively within our municipalities and demand the inherent right of self-governance to the people of these communities; to turn the lawmaking functions within these municipalities against state and federal level to drive in the sustainability we the people want, and desperately need, from the inside out. Under the current legal framework, the people –the majority- can express discontentment, we can say " no" under the guise of participatory democracy, but we cannot change the material conditions with our moral suasion or requests because these corporations build these proposals, despite majority outcry, off of laws that declare them as possessing the privately-enforceable, constitutionally-protected rights to do so; more so than the communities in which they operate, and especially more so than the natural communities in which they operate for the simple reason that nature does not have legal rights. I propose the City of Shoreline, as well as every municipality, to collectively draft local home-rule ordinances that ban coal-train passage through municipal boundaries, declare constitutional corporate rights of commerce and property as subordinate to the rights of the people and their communities, legally promote the Puget Sound and other natural communities as possessing privately-enforceable rights, and a preemption that invalidates any state-issued permit that contradicts any of the above. I ask the Shoreline City Council to join this collective municipal effort, and not side with BNSF or others to sue to keep the measure off the ballot to prevent our voices from being heard. Also, understand that throughout history, imminent harm being forced upon communities generally radicalizes those communities; to say, where there's oppression, there's resistance. From there, it either flourishes solidarity, repression, or both. We, the majority, have identified an imminent harm, and if we demand our humanity and justice for our planet, how will you – the City Council- choose to respond?

Position:

Support

Oppose

Neutral