



June 13, 2016

Mayor Libby Schaaf
And City Council
1 Frank Ogawa Plaza
Oakland, CA 94612

Dear City Council members,

On behalf of our members who are residents of Oakland as well as many who are residents of Utah, Greenaction for Health and Environmental Justice respectfully urges the Oakland City Council to enact a complete ban on the storage of coal at the Oakland Bulk and Oversize Terminal, preventing its transportation through the city and its shipment overseas. This ban is within your authority based on Paragraph 3.4.2 of the Development Agreement.


Fugitive coal dust emissions transporting, unloading and loading pose a pollution and health risk. In addition, it is a well-established fact that coal that is burned overseas contributes to climate disruption worldwide, including contributing to the potentially devastating impacts of rising sea levels here in the Bay Area.

Very importantly, failing to ban the storage of coal will add to the already unacceptable cumulative impacts of pollution that residents of West Oakland continue to suffer. These residents already are negatively impacted by freight transport associated with the Port and freeways, pollution from the AMCO Chemical Superfund site, other contamination sites, lead contamination and other pollution. The last thing Oakland needs is more pollution that threatens the health of residents and the planet.

Public opinion and scientific evidence all support a complete ban on coal storage in Oakland. Please do not compromise on the health and safety of the community and the planet.

I am also attaching a letter signed by many faith, health, community, and environmental/climate justice groups in Utah opposing the Utah to Oakland coal export scheme.

Sincerely,


Bradley Angel
Executive Director

Greenaction for Health and Environmental Justice
559 Ellis Street, San Francisco, CA 94109
PO Box 277, Kettleman City, CA 93239
Phone: (415) 447-3904 Fax: (415) 447-3905
www.greenaction.org greenaction@greenaction.org