

RESOLUTION NO. 1363

A RESOLUTION URGING THE PROHIBITION OF THE TRANSPORTATION OF COAL VIA RAIL THROUGH THE CITY OF EDMONDS

WHEREAS, the City Council has a responsibility and a duty to protect the health and safety of its citizens; and

WHEREAS, as a signatory member of the Safe Energy Leadership Alliance (“SELA”), Edmonds has committed itself to being a regional and national leader in addressing the adverse impacts of climate change unequivocally linked to the burning of fossil fuels; and

WHEREAS, Edmonds has committed itself to protecting the environment and natural resources of our community, the State of Washington, the United State of America, and the Earth; and

WHEREAS, the burning of fossil fuels in the production of energy is unsustainable and is in stark contradiction to the goals of Edmonds to mitigate and combat the effects of climate change; and

WHEREAS, the transportation of coal ore via rail, and the burning of coal and other fossil fuels in the production of energy, threatens both the personal health and safety of Edmonds citizens as well as the health and safety of our natural resources and environment; and

WHEREAS, the coal transported via rail is exposed in open-top rail cars resulting in coal dust contaminating all areas along the rail lines where coal is transported via train; and

WHEREAS, coal dust contamination has the potential to cause serious growth and development conditions in children, cardiovascular and respiratory health problems, as well as, the potential to pose a threat to personal safety and property; and

WHEREAS, all projected estimates evidence a significant increase in the number of coal trains traveling the rail lines that run through Edmonds to export facilities in the State of Washington and British Columbia, Canada; and

WHEREAS, the City of Edmonds should join with other cities, localities, states, and tribal nations in demanding a cessation of the use of fossil fuels for the production of energy and of the transportation of fossil fuels via rail through populated areas; and

WHEREAS, prior resolutions passed by this Council, including: Resolution 1317 (2014), and Resolution 1263 (2011), addressing the health and safety risks of the transportation of fossil fuels via rail have not been adequately addressed by the governments of the State of Washington

or the United States of America, have not led to a decrease in the transportation of fossil fuels through our community, and did not account for the increases in transportation of fossil fuels via rail through Edmonds.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EDMONDS, THAT:

Section 1: The City of Edmonds adamantly supports and urges the transition of energy production away from the consumption of fossil fuels and toward the implementation of a sustainable, renewable, and environmentally friendly system of energy production.

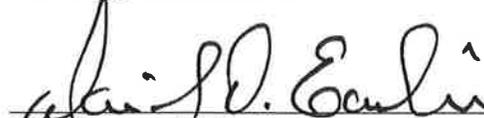
Section 2: The City of Edmonds opposes the transportation of coal via rail through the City of Edmonds, along the Puget Sound, and other populated areas.

Section 3: The City of Edmonds strongly urges the United States Department of Transportation and the United States Congress to prohibit the transportation of coal via rail through the City of Edmonds and all other populated areas.

Section 4: Copies of this resolution shall be transmitted by the City Clerk to the President of the United States; the Secretary of the United States Department of Transportation; the United States Secretary of Energy, each member of the United States Congress elected from this State, including: Senator Patty Murray, Senator Maria Cantwell, and Representative Jim McDermott; Governor Jay Inslee; each member of the Washington State delegation representing the City of Edmonds from Districts 21 and 32, including: Senator Maralyn Chase, Senator Marko Liias, Representative Cindy Ryu, Representative Ruth Kagi, Representative Strom Peterson, and Representative Lillian Ortiz-Self.

RESOLVED this 28th day of June, 2016.

CITY OF EDMONDS


MAYOR, DAVE EARLING

ATTEST:


CITY CLERK, SCOTT PASSEY

FILED WITH THE CITY CLERK:	June 24, 2016
PASSED BY THE CITY COUNCIL:	June 28, 2016
RESOLUTION NO.	1363