

No Coal in Oakland!

Under a proposal hatched by a big coal mining company and backed by local developer Phil Tagami, up to 10 million tons of coal could come through Oakland annually from Utah mines, to be shipped from a new terminal at the former Oakland Army Base.

Last July, with overwhelming support from Labor, faith, environmental, and community organizations, the Oakland City Council banned the storage and handling of coal in the City of Oakland.

The City based its decision on extensive evidence of serious local health and safety impacts, as well as disastrous effects on the global climate, that would result from locating a large coal export facility in West Oakland.

Unfortunately, the struggle against coal goes on. Rejecting the judgment of the people and elected leaders, Tagami is now refusing to build a job-creating terminal unless he can ship coal. To enforce his will he has sued the City in federal court claiming the City's action violates his Constitutional and federally protected right to ship coal.

No Coal in Oakland calls on developer Phil Tagami to drop his misguided lawsuit against the City and build a marine terminal that will bring clean, sustainable jobs, not dirty coal, to Oakland. It's time for Tagami to move on, not cling to a get-rich-quick scheme on behalf of Dirty Coal.

JOBS NOT COAL

- Jobs involving coal are unhealthy and unsafe due to dust emissions, which is why the Alameda Labor Council and the International Longshore and Warehouse Workers Union passed resolutions saying NO to coal
- Thousands of other, non-toxic bulk goods such as grain, gravel, sand, and steel can be exported from this new terminal
- Tagami's lawsuit creates no jobs except for lawyers

HEALTH, SAFETY, AND ENVIRONMENTAL RACISM

- Twice-daily 100-car long coal trains can spew up to six tons of coal dust per week on those who live and work near railroad tracks
- Toxic coal dust is linked to decreased lung capacity, increased bronchitis, asthma, pneumonia, emphysema, cancer and heart disease
- Adding more toxic particulate matter to the air would mean more trips to the hospital, more kids with asthma, and shorter life spans for too many people
- The communities of color where these coal trains would pass and near which they would unload their coal are already overtaxed by pollution
- West Oakland, adjacent to the terminal, already has triple the normal rate of asthma cases and a much higher incidence of cancer and other diseases

CLIMATE IMPACTS

- Coal is the fossil fuel that contributes most to climate disruption
- Coal burned anywhere contributes to global warming everywhere

- Any major expansion of fossil-fuel infrastructure poses a serious threat to the health and safety of future generations
- Over its 66-year life, the West Gateway coal terminal alone could result in over one billion tons of added CO₂ emissions
- Toxic pollutants from China's coal burning migrate to western North America, undermining California's progress in reducing ozone
- Rising sea levels will have a disastrous effect on critical low-lying areas of Oakland (6 feet of sea-level rise will put 1/3 of West Oakland under water!)

ECONOMICS

- Coal is a dying industry in severe decline
- Reduced use in the US has forced the coal industry to look for export opportunities
- Overseas coal demand is dropping as Asian countries move to renewable energy
- Big pension funds and major Wall Street entities are divesting from coal
- A similar coal terminal built in Los Angeles in 2007 has already gone out of business
- Oakland will likely be stuck with a dirty, useless property

THE DEVELOPERS

- Misled the public and lied to city officials about their intentions to include coal at the terminal
- Attempted to keep plans secret and out of the public eye
- Offered money to community groups in exchange for support of their coal plans
- Paid workers to attend a city council hearing and used Union logos on a mailer without the Unions' permission to bolster the appearance of pro-coal support

LEARN AND DO MORE:

Link to articles and other resources at nocoalinoakland.info

Individuals and organizations can sign the Open Letter to Phil Tagami. Visit nocoalinoakland.info/open-letter-to-Phil-Tagami

OPEN LETTER TO PHIL TAGAMI

We call on Phil Tagami to dismiss his lawsuit against the people of Oakland and give up his plan to build the largest coal export facility on the West Coast right here in Oakland. It is time for him to come up with a cleaner, safer, healthier, and more sustainable use for Oakland's publicly-owned West Gateway.

We support the City Council's decision in July 2016 to ban coal storage and handling in Oakland. Rather than accept the will of the people, who collectively have contributed nearly \$500 million in local, state, and federal funds to redevelop the former Oakland Army Base, Tagami hired one of the richest law firms in the world to sue Oakland, claiming our ban on coal violates his Constitutional rights.

By pursuing litigation that could last for years, he is putting off the creation of jobs that he promised and Oakland residents desperately need now—and diverting city funds to legal defense that would be better spent to meet the needs of Oakland residents. By insisting on his right to ship coal when the world is turning away from coal, he is chasing his own quick profits from building a coal terminal while taxpayers will be left holding the bag when the coal export scheme collapses.

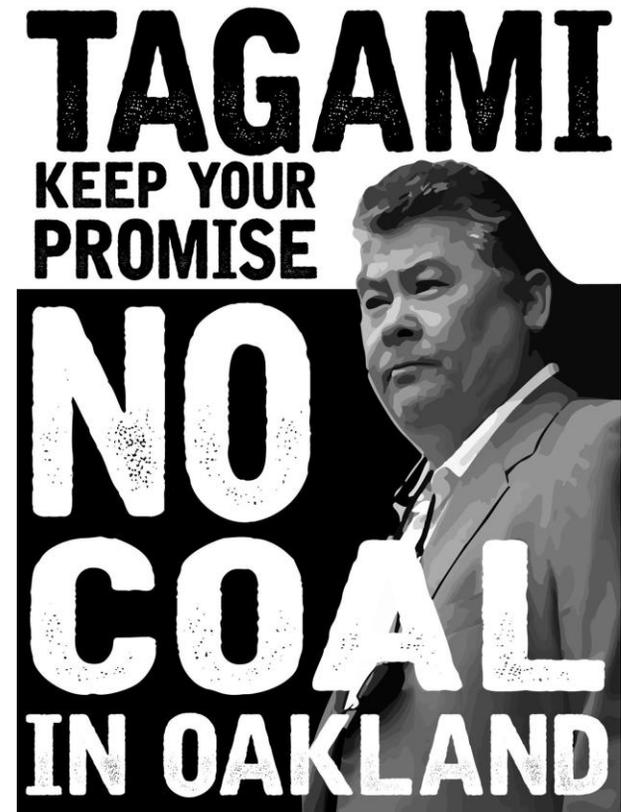
We ask Phil Tagami to drop his lawsuit and get to work on a plan that makes sense for one of the few remaining undeveloped parcels on our public waterfront. **NO COAL IN OAKLAND!**

Contact us at: nocoalinoakland@gmail.com.

THE DEVELOPER CLAIMED COAL WOULD CREATE JOBS BUT THESE LEADING LABOR ORGANIZATIONS SPOKE OUT IN FAVOR OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL'S BAN ON HANDLING COAL AT THE WEST GATEWAY TERMINAL:

- Alameda Labor Council (representing over 100 unions), and
- AFSCME District Council 57
- AFSCME Local 444
- AFSCME Local 2700
- Amalgamated Transit Union, Local 192
- American Postal Workers Union, Local 78
- California Nurses Association
- Industrial Workers of the World, Bay Area Chapter
- Inland Boatmen's Union of the Pacific: San Francisco Region
- International Longshore & Warehouse Union, Local 10
- International Longshore & Warehouse Union, Local 34
- National Nurses United
- National Union of Healthcare Workers
- Oakland Education Association
- Peralta Federation of Teachers
- SEIU 1021
- SEIU United Service Workers West
- UNITE HERE 2850
- United Auto Workers, Local 2865

Over a hundred other community organizations—including faith, environmental, health, and business groups—joined together to fight for the coal ban. Now we must come together again to fight Phil Tagami's legal attack on Oakland and on communities throughout the United States that resist unsafe, unhealthy, unsustainable fossil fuel infrastructure projects within their borders.



Drop your lawsuit against the people of Oakland

Build a marine terminal with clean, safe, and sustainable jobs