KEEP COAL OUT OF OAKLAND!

Dear Councilperson Lynette McElhaney, Oakland City Council, and Mayor Libby Schaaf:

We write to you today to demand that you keep coal out of Oakland. This proposal by developer Phil Tagami poses a grave threat to the health and safety of the West Oakland community.

As a West Oakland resident, I ask that you remember that our neighborhood already suffers from toxic air pollution that is dramatically worse than other areas of our city. According to the Alameda County Health Department, West Oakland residents like me and my family have a life expectancy of ten years less than residents of the Oakland Hills. We are already twice as likely to visit the emergency room for asthma as the average Alameda County resident, and are also more likely to die of cancer and heart and lung disease. Coal dust contains mercury, arsenic, uranium, and hundreds of other toxins. If you allow dirty coal to be handled in our neighborhood, West Oakland residents will face even greater health inequities than we already do.

This proposal also will accelerate global climate change. California is a coal-free state for good reason, and we shouldn't export the most carbon-intensive of all the fossil fuels to be burned elsewhere.

Please stand with West Oakland residents in opposing this proposal and keep coal out of Oakland!

Sincerely,

Name	Zip Code	Phone