

Mr. John Terell  
City of Moreno Valley  
14177 Frederick Street  
Moreno Valley, CA 92553

Otana Jakpor  
16941 Mockingbird Canyon Rd.  
Riverside, CA 92504  
April 8, 2013

Dear Mr. Terell:

I have long been concerned about air pollution, as I have grown up in Riverside and have seen firsthand how air pollution has affected people I care about. I am a volunteer for the American Lung Association and a student at the University of Southern California double-majoring in Global Health and Biology. I have previously interned with the USC-UCLA Southern California Environmental Health Sciences Center studying the goods movement industry and its impact on health. I received a Clean Air Award from the South Coast Air Quality Management District and was given the President's Environmental Youth Award for EPA Region 9 by President Bush in 2008 for my research and public policy advocacy concerning air pollution.

As we look at goods movement, it is readily apparent that the key to minimizing the health impacts of goods movement is strategic placement of intermodal facilities and the use of greener technologies. The proposed location of the World Logistics Center, with no access to railroad for the possibility of "clean trains," means a massive increase in diesel truck traffic. Please explain why such a massive warehouse complex with an associated massive increase in truck traffic would be situated in an area that is already in non-attainment according to federal and state air standards. The American Lung Association has given this region an "F" grade for air quality, and there could hardly be a worse area in the United States for situating a massive warehouse complex, as we already have some of the worst air quality in the country. I am glad that the World Logistics Center plans to use LED lights and become LEED certified, but I fail to understand how that will mitigate the effects of a massive increase in diesel truck traffic and its resulting pollution.

In my own research studies, I found several people to have asthma that had not been previously diagnosed. Even if people fail to recognize the impact of air pollution on their health, it does not mean that the poor air quality is not having an impact. In fact, we just need to look at published scientific studies to see that air pollution is having a huge impact on the health and economy of our region.

I believe that the draft environmental impact report failed to sufficiently evaluate the impact of the resultant increase in air pollutants upon pulmonary health. There was much focus on cancer risk, but insufficient focus on asthma, COPD, and the pulmonary development of children. The draft environmental impact report failed to even reference the landmark USC Children's Health Study that found a stunted rate of lung function growth, particularly in Mira Loma—a nearby example of a "warehouse city." The report also failed to calculate the economic costs from rising health impacts of increased air pollution. There has not been a true cost-benefit analysis of this project. The increased health costs would off-set some of the economic benefits of new jobs in Moreno Valley.

The draft environmental impact report also failed to address the impact of the increase in air pollutants on cardiovascular health. Particulate air pollution is associated with heart attacks and strokes. Please calculate this impact and the resulting economic cost of this impact. Such a large project as this could have a negative effect on life-expectancy in Moreno Valley.

I am strongly opposed to the building of the World Logistics Center which has a number of “significant and unavoidable impacts” on air pollution in this region, and therefore on the health and economy of this region.

Sincerely,

Otana Jakpor