



STOP THE PLAQUEMINES COAL TERMINAL

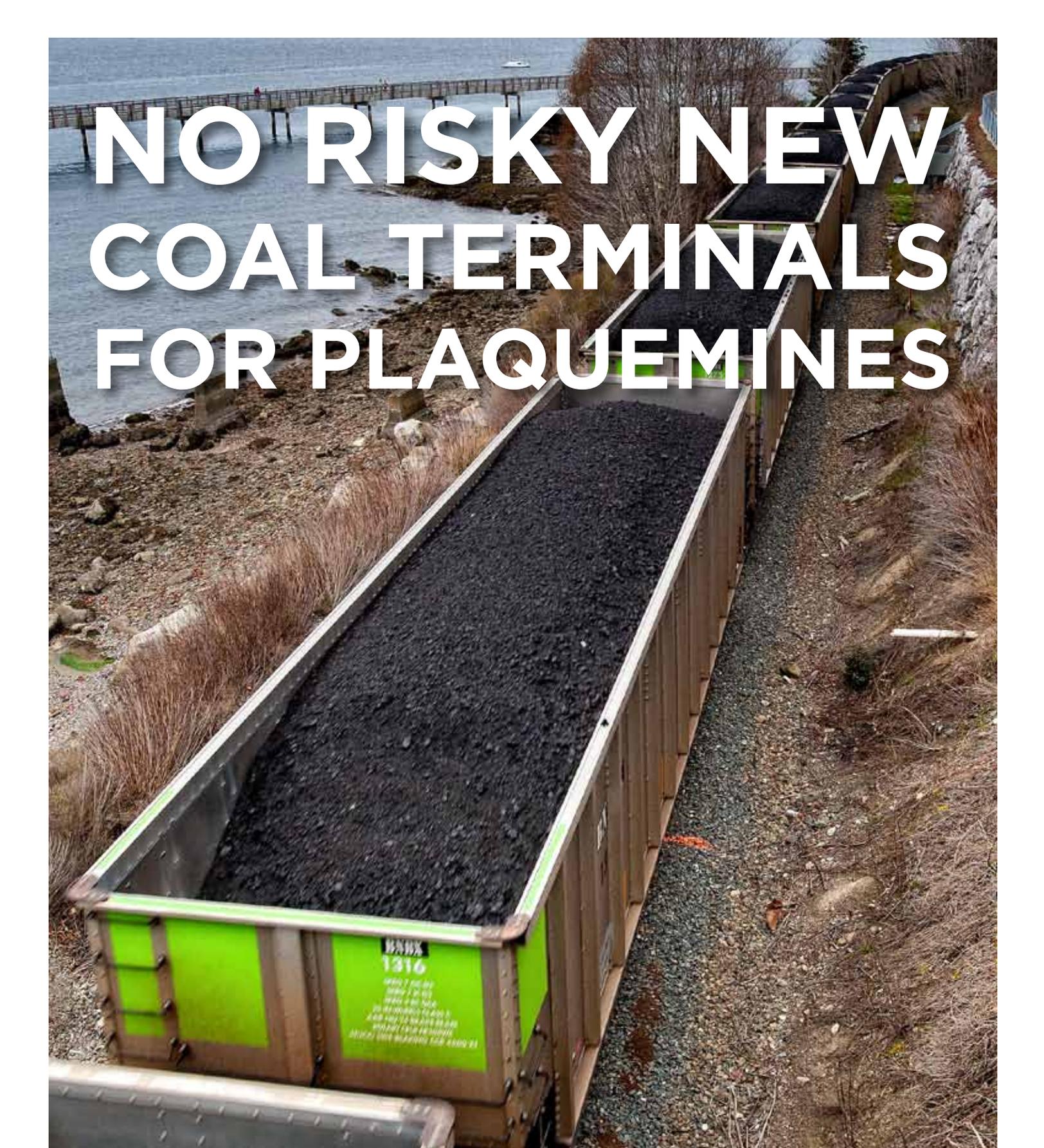
Missouri-based Armstrong Energy wants to ship millions of tons of coal each year through the RAM terminal proposed for the Lower Mississippi River near Myrtle Grove. The terminal would bring train and barge traffic, risk of catastrophic coal spills, and pollute local air and water.

Major ports in Texas and the U.S. Northwest have rejected similar terminals because they present too many risks for too little gain. Plaquemines Parish residents and citizens from across the state are joining forces to stop the RAM terminal permits. Will you join us? Voice your concerns at the public hearing Wednesday, Aug. 14, 6:15 pm, Percy M. Griffin Community Center, Davant, Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana. If the RAM terminal is built, overseas coal sales revenue will go to Kentucky-based Armstrong but Plaquemines will get the problems:

- **Railroad traffic** If the RAM terminal is operating in 2015 as planned, it will bring diesel-fueled train traffic into the parish. That could slow response times from police, firefighters and medical emergency vehicles and block residents who cross the tracks to get to Highway 23.
- **Airborne coal dust** A single uncovered coal train car can lose 500 to 2000 pounds of coal dust along its route, and more dust is generated when coal is moved by bulldozers at export terminal sites. Inhaling it can trigger asthma attacks, wheezing and coughing. And exposure to coal toxins has been linked to cancer, birth defects, and heart and lung disease.
- **Pollution of water and wetlands** Coal terminals flood during storms, sending coal-laced water into surrounding areas. Hurricane Isaac was only a Category 1 storm, but two existing Plaquemines coal terminals - International Marine Terminal and United Bulk Terminal - flooded, sending coal-contaminated water into Wood Park and nearby wetlands.
- **Interference with wetlands restoration** The RAM terminal would be built alongside the Myrtle Grove Medium Diversion, a federal and state project to restore hundreds of acres of wetlands that absorb floodwaters and provide a vital habitat for shrimp, blue crab and oysters. Barges and ships could damage the diversion structure, and coal-contaminated river water would undermine restoration efforts.
- **Coal train derailment** Coal dust accumulates on tracks to create dangerous conditions that have led to derailments. There have been more than 50 coal train derailments in the United States in the past two and a half years alone. That's roughly four derailments a month. Can Plaquemines afford a coal train derailment when so many live near the tracks?
- **Extreme weather** The six to 10 million tons of coal shipped through the RAM terminal annually would fuel coal-fired power plants elsewhere in the world. But those power plants contribute to environmental problems affecting everyone - like climate disruption and sea level rise that sink our wetlands and heighten the risk of violent weather events like hurricanes.
- **A no-coal coalition** The newly formed Plaquemines Residents for Environmental Integrity is working with the Gulf Restoration Network, the Louisiana Environmental Action Network (LEAN), the Lower Mississippi Riverkeeper (LMRK), Sierra Club, and Public Citizen. To stop coal trains and export terminals in our area, we need your help!

Attend the public hearing on Armstrong Energy's coal terminal Wednesday, Aug. 14, Percy M. Griffin Building, Davant, Plaquemines Parish. Pre-hearing rally 6:15 p.m. For more information, contact Devin Martin, 985-209-5454, devin.martin@sierraclub.org.





NO RISKY NEW COAL TERMINALS FOR PLAQUEMINES

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Clean Gulf
COMMERCE COALITION

