

1 encroaching on the homes of Belauan people. Recently a
2 large and important taro plant garden that provides a
3 traditionally sacred and critical food supply to an
4 entire village has begun dying. This is due to the
5 elevation of sea levels and acidification impacting
6 coasts and islands.

7 Climate change from the most pernicious of fossil
8 fuels, the coal we are meeting about today, has begun
9 ringing the death knell of a peoples thousands of miles
10 away, the Belauans, the Yapese, the Chuukese,
11 Marshallese, Saipanese and Pohnpeians.

12 I call on you to work for the cessation of coal
13 mining, and I thank all the people who spoke earlier
14 today and I thank you for your work on behalf of all
15 humanity.

16 Thank you.

17 MR. BATTIS: I apologize. I think I
18 had card 129. I'm sorry, sir. We'll get her up and then
19 you'll be next.

20 MS. WILSON: It's okay. I'm here
21 until the end anyways, so I was here at the beginning and
22 passed along earlier numbers so that everybody would have
23 an opportunity to speak.

24 My name is Bea Wilson. I'm a great-grandmother and
25 my youngest great-grandchildren live in South Dakota,

1 North Dakota, Missouri. My very youngest grandchild,
2 great-grandchild who is now a year and a half was born
3 two months prematurely, very small, spent more than six
4 months in NICU and battled to live. But he's a fighter,
5 and I thank medical technology who saw him through that
6 battle.

7 Yes, we can right a lot of wrongs, but why? Why do
8 we have to when we also have technology to -- and the
9 education to stop it? Prevention is always cheaper in
10 the long run.

11 I've heard speakers tonight that I absolutely
12 applaud. My mind is full, but my heart is fuller. I'm
13 here representing the Duwamish Tribe to pay homage to
14 them. They are unrecognized, but this is their land.

15 I'm a volunteer on the Duwamish River cleanup
16 committee. I use my kayak. I'm a kayaktivist as well,
17 but I use that kayak to clean the waterways and pick up
18 debris.

19 And I also belong to the Puget Soundkeepers Alliance
20 and I go on water watches and watch to see where illegal
21 dumping is taking place and report it. I'm a beach
22 naturalist. I'm a WSU beach naturalist, a citizen
23 scientist dedicated to education, research, and
24 restoration.

25 And as a naturalist I work with the families that

1 come down to the beach to teach beach etiquette to teach
2 them to appreciate what we have. And it starts as much
3 as turning that stone, we put it back. And now those
4 youth are coming down educated. I plant trees with --
5 with the youth that are out globally planting trees to
6 replace those trees and I'm inspired by them.

7 I'm inspired by our youth who have gone all the way
8 to our highest courts and demanded their rights because
9 they have rights, just like every other person has a
10 right to clean air, clean water. Water is the fluid of
11 life. We are one people on one living planet and it's up
12 to us as stewards to keep it living. That's the only way
13 it's going to sustain us.

14 We're thinkers. We need to think about these
15 things. Yes, there are a lot of mindless people out
16 there. I was a mindless person for a long time. My
17 family, my late husband who died of lung cancer, and I
18 cared for him in the last ten years of his life when the
19 quality of his life was so hindered, the week before he
20 died he was diagnosed with lung cancer.

21 He had been working all his life providing the food
22 service and training the cooks for the camps in Alaska.
23 He was mindless at the time to what was happening because
24 he thought what he was doing was supporting and raising
25 his family and doing good for the community, bringing us

1 oil. He's not here to speak today, but I have two sons
2 who are marine engineers and they say, Mother, we're not
3 going to pay your fine when they haul you out of that
4 kayak, but we're concerned about your safety.

5 And I said, Sons, I am thinking and concerned about
6 your safety and those little vessels with the
7 supertankers hauling all that coal and all those
8 petroleum products that are killing the world. I'm
9 concerned about your safety. I'm concerned about fellow
10 kayaks out there and families who are recreating.

11 I also have commercial fisherman in my family who
12 raised their families on that. What are they to do when
13 there are no fish to put on the plates? I teach crabbing
14 education as people are buying expensive equipment to
15 collect crabs. Well, how long are they going to be safe
16 if the waters are so polluted, when our food chain is
17 dying from the bottom up, when necropsies of the whales
18 show in the whale fat that there are carcinogenic
19 toxigen -- toxins.

20 Who else are eating those? We are.

21 And my time is up.

22 But I forgot to thank you and to thank all those
23 speakers today because it's been excellent. The quality
24 has been excellent. But I hope you feel the passion.

25 I'm also on the Earth Justice Committee of the

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1 Social and Environmental Justice Team for the United
2 Church of Christ, and that's one of the reasons I do what
3 I do, but mainly community education is what it's all
4 about. And thank you so much for being here today.

5 MR. BATTIS: Thank you.

6 Sir, thank you for your patience on that.

7 MR. CARLTON: Hello. My name is Lee
8 Carlton [phonetic]. I'm a father and a veteran of the
9 United States Navy. I served aboard submarines and --
10 oh, sorry. There it is.

11 Hi. My name is Lee Carlton. I'm a father, resident
12 of Seattle, and veteran of the United States Navy where I
13 worked aboard a nuclear submarine as a reactor operator.

14 And I would also like to acknowledge that we are on
15 Duwamish land and that we ought to all recognize,
16 especially the Department of Interior and the federal
17 government should recognize the Duwamish people and grant
18 them federal recognition. They are -- their long houses
19 were burned by white settlers, and they were chased from
20 this land. And now the land, the waterway that bears
21 their name, the Duwamish River, is being affected by
22 climate change, which is being driven by coal, the coal
23 industry, as the largest single segment.

24 And I think it is essential that we recognize that
25 never in any of the wars that have been fought on this