Dick Cluster, San Francisco Chronicle, June 29, 2016: Letter to the Editor

Regarding “Official opposes coal plan; health at risk, she tells Oakland City Council” (June 25):

Your reporter states that “the coal-shipping plan has for months pitted environmentalists and health workers against labor groups that accuse the city of trying to chase out a project that could generate thousands of jobs.” How strange then that the very next day, at a rally outside Oakland City Hall, officials from both the International Longshore and Warehouse Union and Service Employees International Union locals representing workers at the Port of Oakland spoke in favor of the proposed city ordinance banning coal shipments. More labor groups, including the Alameda Central Labor Council, have — for many months now — opposed projected coal shipments than have supported them, and the effect of a coal ban on port jobs is very much a subject of debate. Repeating the conventional wisdom of jobs and labor versus environment and public health is a great disservice.

Dick Cluster, Oakland