

**News from: Offices of the Mayor
Libby Schaaf & City Councilmember
Dan Kalb**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Mayor Libby Schaaf & City
Councilmember Dan Kalb Seek Ban on
Coal, Citing Health & Safety Impacts**

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OAKLAND, CA – Today, Oakland Mayor Libby Schaaf and City Councilmember Dan Kalb (District 1) announced the introduction of an amendment to the City of Oakland’s Municipal Code that would prohibit the transport, transloading, handling and storage of coal and petroleum coke at bulk material facilities or terminals throughout Oakland.

“I am firmly committed to adopting the strongest health and safety protections allowed by law,” said Oakland Mayor Libby Schaaf. “As passionate stewards of the environment who are committed to equity, Oaklanders know that it’s a false choice to say we have to pick between jobs and this community’s health and safety. We can, and we will do both.”

The [coal proposal](#) is co-sponsored by Mayor Schaaf and

Councilmember Kalb who is carrying the legislation. The item will be heard at a special meeting of the Oakland City Council on [June 27, 2016](#).

“For most of my adult life, I have fought for environmental justice and smart climate policy,” said Oakland Councilmember Dan Kalb. “Oakland cannot afford to ignore the scientific evidence that clearly show the harmful effects and risk associated with coal. With this new law, we’re taking the steps needed to protect our community, our workers, and our planet.”

Councilmember Dan Kalb commissioned a [comprehensive health and safety report](#) to examine the local impacts and risks of coal and petroleum on the health and safety of residents and the environment.

The report by Dr. Zoe Chafe, MPH, Ph.D., outlines the characteristics of coal and its components, the human health effects and safety risks, the health effects and safety risks of coal or petcoke in Oakland, information on coal-related emergencies, challenges with coal dust mitigation proposals, harms associated with Transpacific pollution from East Asia to the Bay Area, and finally, some of the global and regional effects of burning coal, including global warming.

Mayor Schaaf oversaw the Administration’s analysis of the [health and worker safety impacts](#) of coal put forward in a study conducted by Environmental Science Associates.

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