

**From:** [MARY LOU DICKERSON](#)  
**To:** [Office State Actuary, WA](#)  
**Subject:** Testimony before Select Committee on Pension Policy 11/12/24  
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Below is a copy of my testimony before the Committee. Thank you for the opportunity to present this important issue. Please share with the Committee

Retired Rep. Mary Lou Dickerson

**TESTIMONY BEFORE SELECT COMMITTEE ON PENSION POLICY  
11/12/24**

Good morning, I am retired State Representative Mary Lou Dickerson. I am here to tell you that shockingly, our State Pension Investment Fund has **poured billions of public and private dollars into coal**. We now know that the WSIB has an amazing **\$2.6 billion** in public investments alone, in coal. This is based on data from the Global Coal Exit List.

As you no doubt are aware, coal is one of the dirtiest forms of fossil fuels which causes climate change. That fact inspired the Washington State Legislature through SB 5116 to **eliminate coal fired power used by our utilities by 2025**.

Other states and major cities have chosen to divest from coal. This year Oregon passed legislation to divest and NYC Comptroller, Brand Lander announced he would end all further fossil fuel investments including coal.

Isn't it time for our state's public pension fund to rid itself of dirty coal? I ask the Committee to request that the WSIB begin a time-limited process to rid itself of both private and public coal investments. Thank you.

Former Rep. Mary Lou Dickerson  
Policy Lead, Third Act Washington

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