



Kerry Graber  
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June 26, 2017

**The Puyallup River  
Watershed Council**  
is a tax exempt  
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Washington corporation

Re: Occidental Chemical Corp. Site Cleanup Draft Feasibility Study – Public  
Comment Period

**Board of Directors**

Linda Burgess  
Patty Denny  
Kurt Fremont  
Mark Heckert  
Carrie Hernandez  
Tom Kantz  
Russ Ladley  
Laurie Larson-Pugh  
Mark LaVergne  
Julie Masura  
Ryan Mello  
Mark Palmer  
Pablo Ugas

Dear Kerry,

Thank you for providing the “Occidental Chemical Tacoma Project” presentation to the Puyallup River Watershed Council on May 25, 2017. We very much appreciate your time and your Department’s oversight of the Occidental Chemical Corp.’s potential remedial actions as described in the Draft Agreed Order and Draft Feasibility Study. We also appreciate this opportunity to provide comments on the proposed cleanup plans.

In your presentation, you expertly described the complex nature and extent of contamination at the former Occidental Chemical site. It is apparent it will take generations of diligent oversight to remediate this Superfund site known as the *Mouth of Hylebos Problem Area*.

The Puyallup River Watershed Council believes a high degree of committed oversight by your Department must be financially secured to ensure the long-term implementation of any current or future Cleanup Action Plans. We also believe a few key actions must be deliberate in nature of any Cleanup Action Plan for the Occidental site. These are:

- Secure long-term funding for Department of Ecology oversight and to ensure cleanup actions remain financially viable.
- Maintain effective long-term monitoring of contamination migration within and around the site, including the effects of contamination on benthic species
- Return the property to a beneficial use, but ensure future development on or adjacent to the site does not prevent access for necessary cleanup activities.
- Remediate any contamination identified as posing an exposure or threat to human health and the environment

**Address**

c/o Mark Palmer  
City of Puyallup  
333 N. Meridian  
Puyallup, WA 98371

Thank you again for your presentation to the Puyallup River Watershed Council, and the opportunity to provide these comments. We look forward to a finalized Agreed Order and Cleanup Action Plan that begins to reverse the historical damage that has been done at the Occidental Chemical Corp. site.

Sincerely,



Kurt Fremont  
President, Puyallup River Watershed Council  
(253) 502-2238 [kfremont@cityoftacoma.org](mailto:kfremont@cityoftacoma.org)