

# Norma Ramirez

Dear Kerry Graber,

I am Norma Ramirez. I have lived at my current home, 819 N. Washington Street in Tacoma, since 1982. I am a recently retired teacher of the Tacoma Public Schools, mother of 2 grown children, and hope to be a grandmother someday. I am very concerned about providing a healthy, clean environment for me and my family, for all school children and their families, for all residents of our beautiful area. I love Tacoma and I celebrate its history of cleaning itself up after being used as a long time, industrial dumping ground.

I appreciate the opportunity to comment on the Occidental Chemical Superfund cleanup of the worst pollution we have in Commencement Bay. We are saddled with hundreds of thousands of pounds of toxic, cancer causing chemicals, PCBs, and heavy metals stretching deep underground and from the Hylebos Waterway to Marine View Drive. It can dissolve rock into jelly, it's so strong in some places.

Occidental didn't think it was responsible for the environmental disaster it has caused in all the years it was profiting from it. They need to be held ACCOUNTABLE now. Occidental should not be able to get away with the minimal cleanup that they are proposing which would leave all of us in Tacoma and surrounding areas in a very vulnerable position.

I urge Ecology to choose a cleanup plan that requires Occidental to clean up as much of the toxic pollution as possible and as soon as possible. Also, require Occidental to set up a performance bond, reserve account or an equivalent fund to pay for all the cleanup costs regardless of the company's financial status in the future. Ecology can do this with an unilateral order.

Occidental admits that this is too big of a mess that they want to leave us with. They're right, it is an overwhelming mess. They have the knowledge, research and wherewithal to clean it up and make it right for the harm they have caused to the environment. Please have them clean it up to the "maximum extent possible" as required by the Model Toxics Control Act. They need to pay the full cost and well as benefit from their immense profits of their nearly 100 years of chemical manufacturing here in Tacoma.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Norma Ramirez