

Maureen Howard
3320 S. 8th St.
Tacoma, WA 98405

April 27, 2017

Kerry Graber, Site Manager
Washington State Department of Ecology
PO Box 47775, Olympia, WA 98504-7775
kerry.graber@ecy.wa.gov

Re: Public Comments on Feasibility Study, Occidental Chemical Corp. Superfund Cleanup

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to provide comments on the Occidental Chemical Superfund Commencement Bay Cleanup.

I moved to Tacoma in 1980 and have owned a home in Tacoma for 37 years. For four of those years, I served as a U.S. Foreign Service officer in the Republic of South Africa. In that capacity I managed joint US - South Africa science and environment programs at all levels of government, corporate, academic and community levels. I have seen first hand the the tremendous environmental damage from corporate and governmental decisions and the cost and difficulty of mitigating such damage.

I am reminded of this experience when I review the staggering toxic contamination from the Occidental Chemical Corporation and the inadequacy of their proposed cleanup plan.

I urge the Department of Ecology to exercise its authority to order a cleanup plan that ensures Occidental conduct a cleanup to the "maximum extent practicable" as required by the Model Toxics Control Act and which:

1. removes as much toxic pollution as possible, as soon as possible.
2. creates a performance bond, reserve account or an equivalent fund to ensure that cleanup costs will be covered regardless of the company's future financial, corporate or ownership status.
3. includes the use of and funding for yet-to-be-developed cleanup technologies.
4. commits to continuing this cleanup irrespective of changes in federal or state law which might reduce corporate responsibility.
5. has a real time publicly available status of the cleanup process.

Sincerely,

Maureen Howard
maureenahoward@hotmail.com