

# Sharon Bell

I just got the message from CHB forwarded to me and went to their website to read their fact sheet. There were two statements in the fact sheet that I am questioning and would appreciate a reality check on.

1. Does the plume in fact "stretch underneath the Hylebos to Marine View Drive"?
2. Is there any seepage of contaminants into the water of the Hylebos or Commencement Bay? (I thought the porewater study found evidence to the contrary)

From: Environews [mailto:environews-bounces@healthybaylist.org] On Behalf Of Ryan Cruz  
Sent: Thursday, March 02, 2017 9:37 AM  
To: environews@healthybaylist.org  
Subject: [Tacoma-EnviroNews] The Worst Pollution in Commencement Bay

Hello all,

I'm emailing you today about the worst toxic pollution in Commencement Bay: The Occidental Chemical Superfund site.

For nearly 100 years, Occidental Chemical Corp. manufactured a slew of chemical solvents along the shores of the Hylebos Waterway in the Tacoma Tidelands. Over time, an unthinkable amount of these toxic chemicals entered the soil and groundwater below the site, where they remain to this day.

The resulting pollution plume truly has no comparison in the country. It's massive, and contains a variety of dangerous pollutants, including a particularly nasty group of volatile organic chemicals. Over time, these can release cancer-causing gas into our water and air. Needless to say, Occidental's pollution poses a serious and ongoing threat to wildlife and people alike.

Decades after the site was designated for cleanup, we are finally close to the start of work. The current stage in the process is tremendously important, because officials from the WA State Department of Ecology are deciding on a cleanup plan. This will determine how much of Occidental's mess gets removed, and how much stays in the ground forever.

But, here's the kicker: in order to cut costs, Occidental Chemical is pushing the state to select a cheap cleanup plan instead of an effective method. This is absolutely unacceptable. We cannot afford to put Occidental's profits above our health and natural resources. That's why we need you to push for the strongest cleanup possible.

Ecology is holding an open house and public hearing, which will be our best chance to influence the cleanup. Tell your friends and show up for the health of your community

What: Open house and public hearing for Occidental Chemical cleanup  
When: 5pm (open house) and 6pm (public hearing) Wednesday, March 8th  
Where: The Center at Norpoint (4818 Nassau Ave NE, Tacoma)  
Facebook: <http://bit.ly/2mEIUZx>

Visit [healthybay.org/occidental-chemical-cleanup-site/](http://healthybay.org/occidental-chemical-cleanup-site/) for a brief fact sheet. Please give it a read, share it with friends, and join us at the public hearing on March 8th!

As always, don't hesitate to reach out to me with any questions.

Ryan Cruz

Conservation Engagement Coordinator

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