

City of Castle Rock

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September 28, 2017

Washington State Department of Ecology
Attention: Kerry Graber
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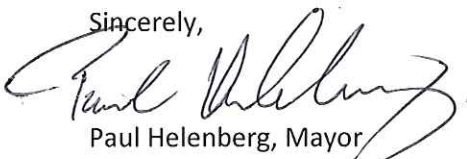
Subject: Comment on Remediation Alternatives for Port of Longview Maintenance Facility Area Site (Facility Site ID#1080); Comments on Draft Report for Remedial Investigation And Feasibility Study (RI/FS); former International Paper Company Facility.

As mayor of the City of Castle Rock, I fully support the remediation alternative proposed by the Port of Longview for contaminant clean up of their Maintenance Facility Area (MFA). There is no dispute that the site was contaminated by International Paper Company (IP) wood treating operations. The option proposed by IP would not require removal of contaminated soils; instead, IP proposes to leave a significant volume of contamination on the site. The Port of Longview – or more specifically - the taxpayers of Cowlitz County, should not be expected to bear the costly burden of any additional remediation costs that may be required should the Port of Longview decide to redevelop this area.

Washington State Department of Ecology is now requesting public comment based solely on remediation alternatives submitted by IP. The public was not provided with any information on the Port of Longview's mitigation proposal option, which is intended to significantly eliminate the contaminated soil, protect public benefits (both environmentally and fiscally), address IP mitigation cost concerns and allow facilitation for future redevelopment of this public property.

I believe the Port of Longview's mitigation is a better solution to protect, preserve and enhance this site for long-term future development. I strongly encourage Washington State Department of Ecology to support the Port of Longview's remediation alternative, including their offer to assist IP in addressing their cost concerns for this proposal. If you have any questions or wish to discuss this further, please contact me at 360-957-6899.

Sincerely,


Paul Helenberg, Mayor
City of Castle Rock, Washington