Shingo Yamazaki,

Dear Ecology,

I am writing to you regarding the WestRock Tacoma Steam Limit Project, Air Quality Notice of Construction Order No. 4153.

Plenty of people have already weighed in with specific reasons why granting such a permit will harm Tacoma's people and environment. So I'd like, instead, to simply remind you that your agency is called The Department of Ecology, not the Department of Industry. Everyday citizens count on you to act on our behalf, to protect us from harmful actions by corporate interests, and to champion clean air and water.

I have lived in the Puget Sound region for a half century, and during much of that time, I have watched you reward one polluter after another while closing your eyes and ears to the people who live and work here. It has been a death by a thousand cuts, and now what's left? Anyone who grew up here recognizes how much has been lost and can never be recovered.

If our region is to survive the damage wrought by rampant growth and predatory industries, the Department of Ecology will need to step up and do the right thing. Why not start now, while a sliver of the character that once defined Puget Sound still remains?

Matt Kite twba1@msn.com 4303 S. 7th St. Tacoma, Washington 98405 Angie Fritz,

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