

Sara Bhakti

I have been in love with nature since early childhood. It has been a major restorer and nourisher in my very long life.

I am writing about the toxic chemicals intentionally put in consumer products, including PFAS, flame retardants, PCBs, phenolic compounds, like BPA, and phthalates. As you may know, the Pollution Prevention for our Future Act passed the legislature last year. I am written to comment on the draft priority product list.

The draft priority product list identifies many consumer products that expose humans and orcas to the five toxic chemicals. Thank you for considering the impacts of these consumer products to both the Southern Resident orcas and disproportionately impacted communities. I support the inclusion of all the consumer products on the draft list.

I urge Ecology to consider a more comprehensive list of consumer products with toxic chemicals, not just the selected few. I believe the proposed list does not represent enough of the major sources for toxic exposure. If only the currently proposed products are considered, toxic exposures will still cause significant harm to our communities and the natural world.

Of specific concern are Southern Resident orcas, on the brink of extinction. There is no time to lose - strong regulations to control toxic chemicals are urgently needed now. Orcas need protections now to give their population a chance to recover. Please expand the list, exclude these toxic chemicals from consumer products.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.