Nancy Lust

I want to commend the Dept of Ecology for recognizing the dangers associated with PFAS getting into the groundwater, but I think they need to broaden their scope. This DEIS focuses on what to do with existing supplies of firefighting foam contaminated with PFAS, but my concern is how soils contaminated with petroleum and PFAS have already been disposed of in Yakima County. Right now, all levels of government are working to figure out a way to get clean water to residents in East Selah, who have the misfortune of living near the US Army Training Center, where the Army trained soldiers to put out gas fires with PFAS foam. Their wells are contaminated now. The Army has stopped this practice, but much of the contaminated soils generated for years at the US Army Training Center were disposed at the Anderson limited purpose landfill, now owned by DTG Recycle. These soils were put into an UNLINED LANDFILL. I live near this landfill and very little exploratory work has been done to determine if the groundwater has been contaminated. At a minimum, I would like Ecology to determine where other PFAS-contaminated soils may have been disposed of in Washington State, and develop a protocol for testing the groundwaters around these sites. As of now, it is my understanding that DTG will be adding PFAS to the list of chemicals it tests when it does routine groundwater sampling, but there are no plans to my knowledge for testing neighboring wells. I would support such testing of neighboring wells to make sure PFAS has not seeped into our water supply.

I know this is beyond the scope of this particular DEIS, but I want it in the record that this problem with PFAS is bigger than this program will address.