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WA State Department  
of Ecology (SWRO)

January 16, 2020

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George Titterness  
97 Deer Trails Way  
Sequim, WA 98382

Connie Groven  
Cleanup Project Manager  
Department of Ecology  
PO Box 47775  
Olympia, WA 98504-7775

Re: Western Port Angeles Harbor Cleanup – Public Comment  
Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study  
Facility Site ID: 18898  
Site Cleanup ID: 11907

**Ms. Connie Groven**

Thank you for the Department of Ecology's effort to clean up the important environmental, cultural, and multi-use site known as Western Port Angeles Harbor. I would like to provide comments for your considerations on a location upland of the subject cleanup site but having the potential to affect the western harbor for years to come.

Shown on some old photos and waterfront maps, you can find a 50,000 gallon wood stave fuel tank located in the vicinity just north of the intersection of W Hill St and Marine Drive. This tank was removed decades ago. For many years, the tank provided fuel for the railroad that served timber related industries adjacent to the subject cleanup site. This wood stave tank leaked fuel oil into the surrounding soil for decades.

In 2003-04, a trench was excavated to a depth of 4 to 5 feet below ground surface in close proximity to the fuel tank site. The trench very quickly filled about a foot deep with a very odorous blackish-brownish gooey fuel oil/water emulsion. The trench was backfilled. I am not aware of any cleanup of this area.

If the 50,000 gallon wood stave fuel tank leaked between one percent and five percent of its volume, per year for twenty years, there could be 10,000 to 50,000 gallons of fuel oil

Western Port Angeles Harbor Cleanup - Public Comment

underground and slowly working its way to the harbor. There are several abandoned pipes and culverts on this former industrial site that can act as conduits to transport the goo to other parts of the area.

This area is a valuable historic and culturally sensitive site. Any consideration of cleaning up this area would likely require the consultation and participation of the Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe.

I urge the Department of Ecology to pursue the cleanup of the area surrounding the location of the former 50,000 gallon wood stove fuel tank. It is a toxic site in need of cleanup.

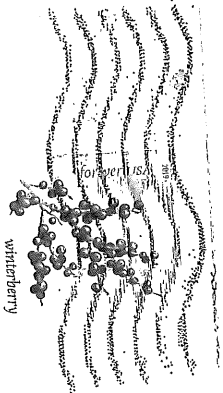
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "George Titterness". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name.

George Titterness  
97 Deer Trails Way  
Sequim, WA 98382

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Sequim, WA 98382

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