

Kathleen Sears

I am writing to express my concern that the toxins remaining on Mill Site E and the Uplands area in Everett pose a significant risk to human health and must remain a top priority for study and cleanup. Arsenic, lead, and other toxins at Mill Site E endanger not only human health, but plant and animal life in the Snohomish River and Puget Sound as well, since the site is just 2 miles away from the river mouth. How do we know that toxins are not already leaching into the river? I did not see any testing of river water or sediment in the plan.

I am also concerned that Covid-19 will result in a budget shortfall that may delay or derail some projects. I urge Ecology to ensure that the environmentally critical Mill E site remain a high priority and that testing and monitoring continue as currently scheduled.