

## Susan Wright

The cleanup of toxic waste on Bellingham's downtown waterfront is an ongoing process that is well into its second decade. Efforts to develop housing, recreation and business in the same area are dependent on assurance that the cleanup is doing its job. The Port of Bellingham recently entered into a long-term contract with a company to ship scrap metal, replete with residues of unknown toxicity, from the dock adjacent to Bellingham's new downtown development. Unless it can be determined that scrap metal shipping has no negative environmental impacts on our air, water and soil quality, the shipping of scrap metal should be discontinued. Industrial activity on the waterfront must be compatible with the ongoing development of the waterfront for housing, commerce and tourism. DOE should have an interest in assuring that the integrity of the cleanup effort on Bellingham's waterfront is not jeopardized by the contract the Port of Bellingham entered into apparently without concurrence from its partners in the cleanup effort.