



117 N Lincoln St  
Port Angeles, WA 98362  
360-670-4173

August 7, 2025

Re: Rayonier Mill Cleanup – Support for Option SL-5 (Full Removal)

Dear Department of Ecology Team,

At The Hub, we are committed to creativity, community, and building a future that honors both people and place. We are writing to strongly urge the Department of Ecology to adopt Option SL-5—the full removal of contaminated materials from the former Rayonier Mill site in Port Angeles. Anything less is not just short-sighted—it’s a failure to reckon with the full weight of this site’s toxic legacy.

For decades, the Rayonier Mill discharged waste and chemicals into Port Angeles Harbor and the surrounding lands. Our community has lived with the consequences: polluted shorelines, long-term ecological damage, and a profound erosion of public trust. Today, we have a chance to restore that trust—not with temporary fixes or buried problems, but with decisive action that clears the way for a truly healthy and revitalized waterfront.

We cannot build a vibrant, resilient future on a capped landfill of toxic waste. Option SL-3—the proposal to simply move and cover the contamination on-site—might check a regulatory box, but it leaves behind the same burden we’ve carried for generations. It’s a half-measure that perpetuates harm and hinders meaningful redevelopment.

Option SL-5 is the only reasonable pathway forward. It’s the only option that fully removes contamination and allows Port Angeles to begin again—with transparency, integrity, and clean ground beneath our feet. It sends a powerful message: that state agencies are willing to prioritize public health over corporate convenience, and that the future of our harbor is not for sale.

The Rayonier site should be a place where children can safely play, where salmon can thrive, and where local businesses can grow without fear of hidden toxins. Port Angeles deserves a waterfront we can proudly reclaim—not just cosmetically, but completely.

We urge you: choose SL-5. Rebuild trust. Restore the land. Let this be a turning point we can all believe in.

Sincerely,

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