

Rebecca Winn

Hello,

My name is Rebecca Winn and I am a resident of Port Angeles, Washington. I belong to a running group that uses the Discovery Trail along the waterfront on a weekly basis. I think about the contamination at Rayonier Mill often because of how frequently I run right by it. I attended the community forum on July 22nd with the Port Angeles City council where I learned about "option 3" and "option 5".

Please ensure that the toxic waste left by the Rayonier mill site is removed and disposed of as described in "option 5". I would like future generations to be able to enjoy the Port Angeles waterfront without a toxic waste dump on site. Capping, or option 3, is not a solution, it is an insufficient band-aid that will leave my great grandchildren with the same waste and the same problem.

The financial figures used to estimate the costs of "option 3" and "option 5" should be reassessed by an independent entity, prior to economic costs being used as part of the decision making. The figures as they stand are flawed. Option 3 seems to be deflated in its costs, option 5 seems to be inflated.

I have lived in Port Angeles for six years but my roots are in Upstate New York where I lived for 30 years. We had a similar situation, but on a much larger scale. A company named General Electric (GE) dumped toxic waste into the Hudson River for years and communities along the Hudson were impacted by this pollution. The cleanup effort along the Hudson is still ongoing and the river and economy are still impacted by PCB's. One of the lessons I learned from this multi billion dollar project, is that if the decision making and the planning are in any way compromised by motivations other than achieving full restoration, such as primarily considering time and money saving measures, years down the line the cleanup effort will have underwhelming results and will waste both.

The little details will be important. Please don't allow corners to be cut in regards to cleaning up this site. Please learn from mistakes made in other projects. For instance, in the case of the Hudson, clamshell dredge buckets exacerbated cleanup efforts. Please use the right tools even if they cost a little more-it will be worth it in the end. The impact of the decision made today will be felt for generations to come. It is critical that the methods used in the cleanup effort are supported by the latest science and environmental engineering knowledge.

Do the right thing. Hold Rayonier accountable for fully restoring the damage done to our waterfront. Please dredge and remove contaminated sediment as explained in option 5.