

Dr. Tom Peet

I am a resident of East Port Angeles and I have attended a number of informational sessions on the cleanup of the former Rayonier Mill site since my wife and I moved here from Ohio 5 years ago.

I was appalled to learn that this situation has been allowed to stay unmitigated for almost 30 years. And that after over a century of dumping toxic chemicals into the harbor and Juan de Fuca Strait.

It is clear to me that only one of your proposed levels of cleanup is satisfactory, and that is the highest level of cleanup: Option 5. I will accept nothing less. To accept less would leave and "cap" 10 acres of toxic waste on site. Given the indisputable global warming that is right before our eyes, the risk of site damage or catastrophic failure of this "cap" from sea-level rise, storm surge, and tsunamis is simply too much. Would you like 10 acres of capped toxic waste in your backyard, or is it simply that it isn't in YOUR backyard that makes the risk acceptable to you?

I ask that ALL costs be accounted for, including costs of not achieving full restoration of Ellis Creek and the costs of future damage to the site.

All toxic contaminants must be removed, if not, they will plague our community for the indefinite future! Only Option 5 accomplishes this reasonable request.

Option 5 is what the City Council of Port Angeles voted to recommend, and I stand with my community and our city council.

Dr. Tom Peet
Port Angeles