

Shawn Canepa

As a concerned citizen and member of the Port Angeles community, I strongly urge the selection of Alternative SL5 for the cleanup of the former Rayonier mill site. This decision is critical to safeguarding the health of our community and the irreplaceable marine ecosystem along our waterfront.

The Port Angeles waterfront is a cornerstone of our region, supporting endangered Southern Resident killer whales, salmon, and migratory birds. The contamination at the mill site—PCBs, dioxin, and heavy metals—poses a severe and persistent threat to this fragile environment.

Alternative SL3, which relies on capping the site, is a shortsighted measure that fails to address the risks of sea-level rise, coastal erosion, earthquakes, or flooding. These could easily compromise the cap, releasing toxic pollutants back into our waters and endangering our ecosystem.

Alternative SL5, involving the complete removal of contaminated soil, is the only responsible, long-term solution. It ensures permanent protection for our community and environment, preventing future generations from inheriting this toxic legacy.

The benefits of SL5 are profound, far outweighing the understated risks and underestimated costs of SL3. A clean and safe waterfront is an invaluable asset that supports our health, economy, and way of life.

This issue matters deeply to me because the waterfront is where I walk with my family, where I find solace in nature, and where I hope future generations will thrive. Its beauty and biodiversity are treasures we cannot afford to lose.

For the sake of our community, our environment, and our future, I implore you to choose Alternative SL5.

Sincerely,

-Shawn