

Ellen Menshew

I have lived in this community for 35 years. My husband has lived in Port Angeles for 55 years and grew up just a block west of the Rayonier Mill.

It has been almost thirty years since the Rayonier Mill was razed in Port Angeles, WA. In the years since, the devastating effects of toxic waste - from the 4,000 creosote covered pilings and other contaminants - leaching into the water and surrounding areas has grown exponentially. The harm to our environment, the risks and exposures to humans and other species cannot be overstated. Clean up and restoration of this site is long overdue.

I've attended public meetings and forums throughout our community and the consensus has been unanimous in support of a total cleanup of this former mill site. It is incumbent on the Department of Ecology to act in full support of the will of the people in moving this effort forward and to hold the property owner, Rayonier and its subsidiaries, accountable to pay for Level 5 cleanup at this site. The protection of the health and well being of the citizens in our community, the waters, marine life, and surrounding environment demands total remediation. No more negotiating, act now! We can't afford to suffer through this for another generation.