Harris, William W.

From: steve rodrigues [olympicforum2000@usa.net]
Sent: Thursday, November 30, 2006 2:57 PM
To: Harris, William W.
Cc: steve rodrigues
Subject: Rayonier Mill Cleanup Port Angeles Public Comment due before Dec 1, 2006

I attended the November 8, 2006 Open House and Public Meeting held in Port Angeles.

I elected to email my public comment for the record.

My comment follows that of the gentleman Nov. 8, 2006 who stated, in part, the community and economic losses to the community are measureable related to past and future Rayoniers site cleanup delays. And that the site is one of the major commercial properties within the heart of the community.

It is important that State environmental governing levels, as stated in the meeting, related to permissive dioxin levels being considered to become more stringent not to enforce the change from 66.7ppt to 6.7 ppt.

The State over the past decades, since the the early 1980's, have cleaned up mills to federal and state environmental regulatory standards. The previous set levels of cleanup ensured public safety and health to date. If you change the criteria to become more strigent then the past must be reviewed at hundreds of other sites that were cleaned up and on record to date.

Therefore, the 66.7 ppt should be acceptable and the 6.7 ppt level proposed should be eliminated from further study. The State actions must be legal and take the responsibility for assurances to clean up the Rayonier site.

A critical community comment related to the shut down of the Olympia Brewry must be mentioned as an example for Port Angeles DOE levels of cleanup. The State, Olympia, Lacey, and Tumwater all were involved with the shut down of the brewery due to unacceptable levels of effluent temperature and volumes. Their decisions shut down the brewery perpetually. The brewery was operated for over 125 years. We are able to determine the communities losses over the next 100 years, and it is not all related to environmental protections in the State.

Mr. Peter Kemetz was involved with the brewery decisions. And, today he is the man setting the decisions regarding the Port Angeles Rayoiner Mill site. He is a City Council member with the City of Tumwater, and has witnessed a major communtity loss of diverse means and a loss of citizens jobs and quality of life due to the brewery shutdown. Now, he is one person that should help Port Angeles to determine the communities losses due to his new levels of environmental cleanup stardards as proposed.

He and the State must project all the realistic losses or gains since the Port Angeles Rayonier site closeure to the day that the State can determine the site ready to be developed in the future. This period of time is not just about field studies, but about the impacts of the community. Tremendous financial losses and human factors can be proven form a study of both delays of primary and secondary economic impacts that should be included within your final decisions for tomorrow.

Today, the brewery and community have fallen apart. They will continue to struggle for many years to come. The facts are the regulatory entities drove the owners away due to simple management of temperature and volume discharges.

The plant is similar to Rayonier Mill site if the State controls levels of cleanup that impacts costs to remove. More delays caused by the State will force an inability to consider development and the sites best use for the best economic future within the next 100 years.

Mr. Kemetz should not be involved in this decision nor take responsibilty within any future DOE decisions. He should not be allowed to jeopardize another communtiy ever again. Please revisit the 66.7ppt vs the 6.7ppt cleanup standards without him.

Also, the alternative levels of cleanup should be studied and compared before making any final decisions. The studies should include volumes of environmental cleanup, construction cleanup costs, loss or gains of community revenues based upon the tax base delays, and health and safety issues.

Thank you,
Steve Rodrigues