



PORT ANGELES CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

121 East Railroad

Port Angeles, WA 98362

(360) 452-2363

November 21, 2006

Mr. Jay Manning
State Dept. of Ecology
PO Box 47600
Olympia, WA. 98504

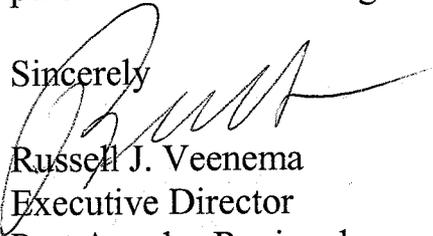
Dear Mr. Manning:

The Port Angeles Regional Chamber of Commerce has been following the progress or in some cases it seems lack of progress in reference to the clean up of the former Rayonier Mill site here in Port Angeles. Recently we had an opportunity to review the proposed changes by Washington State DOE with regard to what is considered acceptable levels of Dioxin in the soil, not only at the mill site specifically, but in all areas of the community.

This is a very complex issue and I am sure a great deal of work has gone in to your studies, however it appears the new regulations being proposed could cause serious problems for Port Angeles, because they are unnecessarily stringent. We see no reason why State DOE should go beyond the acceptable levels that are being used on a national level by EPA. Dioxin is found in microscopic amounts in soil at a variety of areas, which has not been caused by any commercial or toxic fall out. The proposed regulations would cause an unnecessary hardship to land owners and City and County Government.

The Port Angeles Regional Chamber of Commerce encourages you to not pursue these more stringent levels of dioxin evaluation.

Sincerely


Russell J. Veenema
Executive Director
Port Angeles Regional
Chamber of Commerce

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OFFICE OF DIRECTOR

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