From: HarborComments
To: PortlandHarbor
Subject: Reject changes to Proposed Portland Harbor Superfund Site Cleanup Plan
Date: Friday, December 14, 2018 3:21:12 PM

From: (b) (6) Sent You a Personal Message <automail@knowwho.com>
Sent: Thursday, December 13, 2018 12:22 PM
To: HarborComments <HarborComments@epa.gov>
Subject: Reject changes to Proposed Portland Harbor Superfund Site Cleanup Plan

Dear EPA at Portland Harbor Superfund Site,

I am a physician. Little is more fundamental than the assurance to our communities that our water is safe to drink and our air safe to breathe. The area previously approved for Superfund cleanup is polluted and that pollution carries both long and short-term health risks. To fail to do this is an abrogation of responsibility to the present public and to coming generations

Your plan to reduce cleanup based on a new review of the cancer risk of benzo(a)pyrene does not measure up to the standard that we deserve to protect the river and its users. These findings do not change the fact that benzo(a)pyrene exists in our river and is a known carcinogen, nor does it take into account the threat it poses to other aspects of heart, respiratory, and reproductive health.

What your plan does is limit important cleanup efforts based on a scheduled toxicity review of a chemical that was already flagged as dangerous and in need of cleaning. This change would only benefit polluters who are responsible for that cleanup cost in the first place, showing a priority for industry profits over public need. The proposed plan also does not account for the chemical's other dangers, especially when interacting with the many contaminants within the Portland Harbor, including other PAHs, PCBs, dioxins, and more.

The community surrounding the Portland Harbor have dedicated time, effort, and resources for a cleanup plan that will restore the river to safe levels. It should not be expected to compromise its health and the health of the river, not for $35 million and 17 acres of reduced effort. Maintain the plan outlined in the 2017 Record of Decision and abide by the timeline for revisions that are established in the Superfund cleanup process.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

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Portland, OR 97221
(b) (6)

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