From: HarborComments
To: PortlandHarbor
Subject: Reject changes to Proposed Portland Harbor Superfund Site Cleanup Plan
Date: Friday, December 14, 2018 2:59:08 PM

From: (b) (6) Sent You a Personal Message <automail@knowwho.com>
Sent: Wednesday, December 12, 2018 10:00 AM
To: HarborComments <HarborComments@epa.gov>
Subject: Reject changes to Proposed Portland Harbor Superfund Site Cleanup Plan

Dear EPA at Portland Harbor Superfund Site,

Our communities, our biological systems, and our economies all work better when sites like the Portland Harbor are cleaned up to the highest standards, not to a subjective, industry-biased, un-empirical lowest standard. Science does not support your efforts to downplay the seriousness of benzo. Your plan just confirms that you care more about industry and easing regulations than you do about the health of our social-ecological systems.

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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Vancouver, WA 98685
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