



Gina McCarthy, Administrator
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20460

September 2, 2016

RE: Portland Harbor Superfund Cleanup

Dear Administrator McCarthy:

I'm Robert F. Kennedy Jr., President of the Waterkeeper Alliance and I'm writing on behalf of Willamette Riverkeeper. The current Draft Plan for the Portland Harbor Superfund Cleanup is very important to the future of the Willamette River's health and at present this draft does not do enough to reduce risk to people and wildlife.

As the chief attorney for Hudson Riverkeeper I've been involved for 30 years in the PCB cleanup on the Hudson River. We are grateful that in that case, EPA required General Electric to dredge the contaminated sediments. The same remedy is appropriate on the Willamette where so many people rely on the safety of the fishery. The companies and entities that loaded the Willamette and profited from the pollution should be responsible for it's clean up down to the last toxic molecule if necessary. The public should not be forced by EPA to shoulder the burden of their calculated recklessness.

I urge you to select Alternative G, with amendments put forward by Willamette Riverkeeper and others. Removing more contaminated sediment from the Willamette is the only way to ensure the long-term protection of this river. The mass of pollutants in the Willamette River today merit a more aggressive approach to reducing the risks from the toxic pollutants for the long-term.

I urge you to take a close look at Willamette Riverkeeper's full comments, as well as those of other community organizations working on the river's health, and to incorporate their recommendations.

I appreciate your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Robert F. Kennedy Jr.

CLEAN WATER  **STRONG COMMUNITIES**