



# EPA has downgraded toxic level of benzopyrene (a) or BaP,

a petroleum byproduct that is part of the PAH family of pollutants. It is now considered seven times less toxic. The superfund could be affected by the downgrade.

The change is open to EPA interpretation.

Public comment period lasts until Dec 21, 5pm

Interpretation should consider the goal of a multi-use lower river: we expect our beaches, fish, recreation to be as safe as the rest of the river

## WHAT DO WE WANT?

PAH toxic levels should be cleaned to the same level as the rest of the urban river, for equity and safe river access in north Portland

Skin contact safety has not been studied. We will not accept less cleanup with no assurance that beaches are safe for swimming

Interpretation must include safety for endangered species & habitat, not just dock workers

EPA has not studied PAH mixtures which can be more toxic than the original. We expect assurance that levels would be safe

Breakdown byproducts can be more toxic than the original pollutant, yet EPA has not studied them. We expect assurance they would be at safe levels

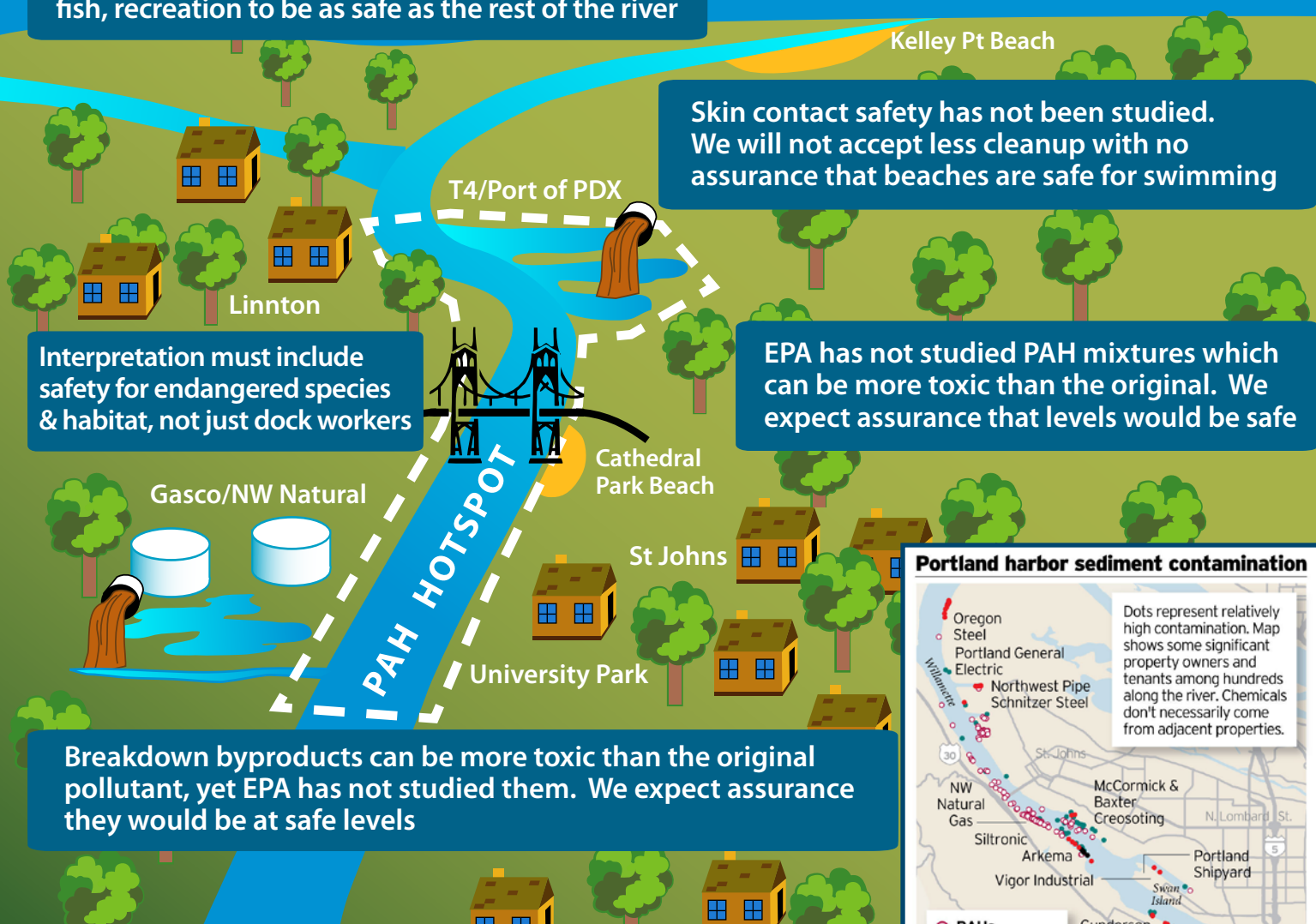
## Public Comment until Dec. 21, 5pm



Email: [HarborComments@epa.gov](mailto:HarborComments@epa.gov)

Mail: Attn: Portland Harbor Comments / EPA / 805 SW Broadway, Ste 500 / Portland OR 97205

EPA Public Forum, Dec 12, Revolution Hall, 1300 SE Stark, 5:30pm



### Portland harbor sediment contamination

