

Superfund

Polluters Pay So Children Can Play – Quotes

Site	Quote
<p>Fort Ord – Marina, CA</p>	<p><i>“The polluter pays fees should be reinstated to fund the Superfund program. We desperately need Technical Assistance to participate in decisions that are greatly impacting and exposing our communities to toxic smoke from prescribed burns, contaminated groundwater, Vapor Intrusion, Lead-laced soil, and Methane. Our community based organization is expected to communicate with dozens of agencies, local impacted residents, and elected officials without any available legal help, funding, or resources available to us for military sites and other industrial sites around the country which are causing detrimental health impacts to their surrounding local communities. We need to Re-enact SUPERFUND, not later, but NOW!”</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">- LeVonne Stone, Fort Ord Environmental Justice Network</p>
<p>Laurel Park, Inc – Naugatuck, CT</p>	<p><i>“Water, Water Everywhere... But what is in the water? We pay for our water. We pay our taxes! The polluters are costing those living downstream, with no thought for public health.”</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">- Mary Lou Sharon, Pollution Extermination Group (PEG), Inc.</p>
<p>Escambia Treating Company- Pensacola, FL</p>	<p><i>"All along, Escambia Treating Company Superfund site (Mt. Dioxin) was handled on the cheap: a careless soil removal spread toxic wood treating wastes, urgently needed relocations of nearby families cheated them on property values, and toxic soil was buried onsite instead of being detoxified. When polluters don't pay for real cleanups, Superfund's great promise is just a cruel joke."</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">- Francine Ishmael, Citizens Against Toxic Exposure (CATE)</p>
<p>LCP Chemicals - Brunswick, GA</p>	<p><i>"Since the Polluter Pays legislation has been allowed to expire, we have seen the poison spread onto neighboring properties as the State of Georgia and the EPA use their limited funds elsewhere. What was a smaller problem is now much larger and much more expensive to get under control."</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">- Daniel Parshley, Glynn Environmental Coalition</p>
<p>Bunker Hill Mining and Metallurgical Complex – Kellogg, ID</p>	<p><i>“Region Ten EPA with extraordinary and consistent actions of the Silver Valley Community Resource Center, CHEJ as well as other environmental justice groups have been recipients of millions of dollars of Superfund money at the nation’s largest Superfund site, Bunker Hill Metallurgical site. There is huge disappointment as to the quality of cleanup taking place, the human health issues ignored as well as civil and human rights being violated.”</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">- Barbara Miller, Silver Valley Community Resource Center (SVCRC)</p>
<p>Neodesha Refinery – Neodesha, KS</p>	<p><i>Taxpayers should not have to pay for the dirty deeds of unscrupulous, greedy companies! The reinstatement of polluters being held financially responsible for damage from their pollution should be completed and strictly enforced.</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">- Lucille Campbell, Neodesha Environmental Awareness Team</p>

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<p>Petro Processors/Devils Swamp- Baton Rouge, LA</p>	<p><i>"It's critical to reinstate the polluter pays fees to hold polluters accountable for the contamination they create."</i></p> <p><i>"For years people relied on fishing in the swamp for food for their families. Now with the contamination and health advisories people can't feed their families the fish or wildlife from that area. A beautiful ecosystem is contaminated, a food source is lost. Something has to be done about it."</i></p> <p>- Marylee Orr, Louisiana Environmental Action Network</p>
<p>Agriculture Street Landfill – New Orleans, LA</p>	<p><i>"We are the forgotten community of Agriculture Street Landfill. The forgotten community needs to be relocated. It's just a shame that we can't get our political leaders to help us with this situation. There are 57 home owners who wish to be relocated ASAP."</i></p> <p><i>"The forgotten community, which is Agriculture Street Landfill, filled a class action lawsuit. At the beginning, the community hired one attorney, but when it came time for the settlement, there were four attorneys added. After each attorney received \$1.7 million, the residents received from \$200 to \$7,000. As you can see, the homeowners got a slap in the face. Now the attorneys and the Special Master have become millionaires and the community is still in the same predicament."</i></p> <p>- Shannon Rainey, Gordon Plaza Community</p>
<p>General Electric – Housatonic River – Pittsfield, MA</p>	<p><i>"It is a decade overdue for Congress and the President to reinstate the critically important polluter-pays fees", said Audrey Cole, President of the Housatonic Environmental Action League (HEAL) of Cornwall Bridge, Connecticut. She continued: "In the absence of the polluter-pays program, taxpayers will continue to suffer the unfair financial burden of footing the bill for remediating hundreds of toxic sites abandoned by irresponsible polluting companies."</i></p> <p>- Judy Herkimer, Housatonic Environmental Action League</p>
<p>New Bedford Harbor – New Bedford, MA</p>	<p><i>The polluter needs to pay for ALL COSTS FOR A COMPLETE CLEANUP OF THE TOXIC MATERIAL, not a partial settlement with no re-opener clause as was done here for New Bedford Harbor. It's not even removal as the EPA will just relocate the PCBs by burying them in another area within the harbor.</i></p> <p>- Karen Vilandry, Hands Across the River Coalition</p>
<p>Velsicol Chemical – St. Louis, MI</p>	<p><i>"Like so many sites nationally, ours is only waiting implementation of a remedy, yet we are in competition with others for too few funds. The funds are only going to be adequate if the polluter pay tax is restored. It was the height of fiscal irresponsibility to abolish the tax. Our sites (there are three Superfund sites in our town of 4,000) have been having known migration of contaminants into aquifers for nearly two decades without sufficient funds to halt the migration; yet the former owners of the responsible party escaped with large fortunes, shielded by corporate bankruptcy. Without the Superfund tax, our remediation is being paid by future generations, not the responsible party."</i></p>

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	<p>- Edward Lorenz, Pine River Superfund Citizen Task Force</p>
<p>Newsom Brothers/Old Riechhold Chemicals, Inc. – Columbia, MS</p>	<p><i>“The Polluters Pay Fees are important to reinstate because the community that the Corporations poisoned are not able to defend themselves from corporate greed. Why should communities bear the burden from polluters poisoning their health and livelihood? All corporations polluting our health and environment need to pay any and all fees associated with their damaging impact.”</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">- Charlotte Keys, Jesus People Against Pollution</p>
<p>West Lake/Bridgeton Landfill – St. Louis, MO</p>	<p><i>“Gina McCarthy, EPA Administrator and the EPA must do their jobs and fulfill EPA’s stated mission “to protect human health and the environment.” The only option at this point is for the U.S. EPA to use its legal right under the Superfund act to move families away from the landfill. The poison has spread so far and wide that there is no way they can be cleaned up. The EPA has moved families many times before—starting with Love Canal. There’s never been a community that warrants the use of these legal powers more than Bridgeton. It doesn’t even have to cost taxpayers any money — the EPA has the legal right to send the bill to the two very profitable corporations that are responsible for this landfill. “</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">- Dawn Chapman, Just Moms STL</p>
<p>Clark Fork River/Milltown Dam – Milltown, MT</p>	<p><i>The Clark Fork River Superfund site complex is still in the process of being cleaned up. (ongoing work for the last 20 yrs.) EPA has cut funding to the Clark Fork River TAG group which we wish would be reinstated.</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">- Kathy Hadley, Clark Fork River Technical Assistance Committee (CFRTAC)</p>
<p>Cornell-Dubilier Electronics – Edison, NJ</p>	<p><i>“Our state is number one in Superfund and toxic waste sites in the nation. Many of these leaking toxic slop pits are not under control and in the middle of residential neighborhoods. When the modest Superfund fees on the oil and chemical companies were being collected sites were being cleaned up, creating jobs and revitalizing blighted communities. Superfund site cleanups should be funded by those companies who poison for profit. Any objective observer would agree that the companies that caused the pollution must pay for its cleanup.”</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">- Robert Spiegel, Edison Wetlands Association (EWA)</p>
<p>Dewey Loeffel Landfill – Nassau, NY</p>	<p><i>“On the 35th anniversary of the Federal Superfund, we call upon Senator Chuck Schumer, Senator Kirsten Gillibrand, Congressman Paul Tonko and Congressman Chris Gibson to take the lead on reinstating the polluter pay fees to replenish the bankrupt program. At the same time, we call upon General Electric to fully clean up the GE Dewey Loeffel Superfund site, their leaking dump of 46,000 tons of toxic waste, by excavating the dump and treating the hazardous waste, and cleaning up the nearby polluted Nassau Lake.”</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">- Kelly Travers-Main, United Neighbors Concerned about GE</p>

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<p>Gowanus Canal – Brooklyn, NY</p>	<p><i>“We see the Superfund clean-up as a great opportunity to involve more volunteers in stewardship of the Gowanus Canal and watershed. While the clean-up will remove old industrial waste and provide a benthic habitat layer in the canal, combined sewer overflow will still pollute the canal during most rainfalls. We are working to create more green space that soaks up stormwater — decreasing CSOs and making a healthier urban ecosystem — and we need to engage our watershed neighbors in this work.”</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">- Andrea Parker, Gowanus Canal Conservancy</p>
<p>Love Canal – Niagara Falls, NY</p>	<p><i>The plight of citizens at Love Canal outraged the American public and led to the passage of the Superfund law to find and clean up the nation’s worst toxic dumps. Love Canal is one of hundreds of dumps and adequate Superfund resources are essential to clean up the nation’s sites. “The core principle of the Superfund program is that polluters, not taxpayers should pay to clean up these deadly toxic waste sites. In addition to providing funding for the cleanups, the polluter pays principle creates a powerful disincentive against the reckless dumping of toxic wastes.”</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">- Lois Gibbs, Center for Health, Environment and Justice</p>
<p>CTS of Asheville – Asheville, NC</p>	<p><i>“CTS Corporation successfully put off having to clean up toxic pollution in Buncombe County for decades!” says Katie Hicks with Clean Water for North Carolina. “The EPA is finally poised to force the polluter to act and remove part of the source of offsite contamination, but it comes to many residents whose health has been impacted by toxins. Cleanup could have happened years ago under a stronger, fully-funded Superfund program – let’s give the program the funds and teeth it needs to prevent tragedies like this!”</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">- Katie Hicks, Clean Water for North Carolina</p>
<p>Tremont City Barrel Fill – German Township, OH</p>	<p><i>“This site has been closed for more than thirty-five years, yet no cleanup is on the horizon. Superfund needs more muscle and teeth to protect our people and our irreplaceable water supply.”</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">- Marilyn Welker, People for Safe Water</p>
<p>Portland Harbor Portland, OR</p>	<p><i>"A reinstated superfund trust would ensure that polluters pay for cleanup rather placing the burden unfairly on taxpayers. It would create secure funding for orphan sites and assure a quicker pace for remedial action. Portland's lower Willamette is now several months away from a Proposed Plan. After 15 years, citizens would like to see the cleanup of the river move forward more fairly and efficiently."</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">- Barbara Quinn, Portland Harbor Community Advisory Group</p>
<p>Tar Creek – Ottawa County, OK</p>	<p><i>“We have the equivalent of one Animas River spill every three days (since 1979) going down Tar Creek. Where is the outrage for this?”</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">- Rebecca Jim/Earl Hatley, Local Environmental Action Demanded (LEAD) Agency</p>
<p>Occidental Chemical</p>	<p><i>“The Alliance for a Clean Environment (ACE) encourages the reinstatement of the</i></p>

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<p>Corporation – Lower Pottsgrove Township, PA</p>	<p><i>polluter pays fees to fund the Superfund Program. This program was vital to our research, education, and outreach on the Occidental Chemical Superfund site in Pottstown, PA. Without this program, the truth about the widespread high levels of vinyl chloride and TCE contamination of the groundwater would have gone undisclosed and largely unaddressed.</i></p> <p><i>While the 17-acre hazardous landfill and the highly contaminated groundwater were never really cleaned up before our funds were depleted, we along with our Technical Assistance Advisor, Dr. Henry Cole, were successful in getting Occidental's hazardous lagoons moved off-site, in getting more EPA scrutiny on the pump and treat system being used before the toxic water entered a public drinking water resource, and in educating adjacent communities around Occidental about the risks left behind.”</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">- Donna Cuthbert, Alliance For A Clean Environment (ACE)</p>
<p>Atlantic Fleet Weapons Training Area – Vieques, Puerto Rico</p>	<p><i>“The community feels strongly that the EPA lacks the resources to monitor or otherwise supervise the current cleanup process. We energetically demand the Superfund monies be used to support efforts to monitor the cleanup of more than half a century of U.S. military contamination and that the Navy carry out a full scale cleanup. Recent protests have focused on the health crisis due to exaggerated levels of cancer and other ills related to the military toxics”.</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">- Myrna Veda Pagan, VIDAS VIEQUENSES VALEN (English: Vieques Lives Matter)</p>
<p>Memphis Defense Depot – Memphis, TN</p>	<p><i>“The polluter needs to pay. The polluter pays fees should never have been allowed to expire.”</i></p> <p><i>“The government is not above the law. They are responsible for the contamination and they are responsible for the cleanup. They are also responsible for health care in the community.”</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">- Doris Bradshaw, Defense Depot of Memphis Tennessee Concerned Citizens Committee</p>
<p>San Jacinto River Waste Pits Superfund Site – Channelview, TX</p>	<p><i>“Our country is littered with toxic waste sites that are harming our health, our environment, and our natural resources. Polluter pays fees must be reinstated so the EPA can clean-up abandoned toxic waste sites. The burden of cleaning up these sites should not fall on the backs of American taxpayers.”</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">- Jackie Young, San Jacinto River Coalition</p>
<p>Koppers Co. & Texarkana Wood Preserving Co – Texarkana, TX</p>	<p><i>“These two old creosote treating sites have left a permanent blotch on the city's face, while the Koppers (Carver Terrace) site has brought widespread death and sickness among its residents and former residents. EPA closed the sites, but their residues of poisons remain as a red flag to the future.”</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">- James Presley, Friends United for a Safe Environment (FUSE)</p>
<p>Lower Duwamish Waterway – Seattle, WA</p>	<p><i>Without a fund to pay for the baseline testing and other steps of remedial design, EPA must delay activity until negotiations are complete and agreed orders are signed with potentially responsible parties. At this site, it is an estimated two years before this work</i></p>

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	<p><i>can begin. This delay is an unnecessary burden on an already over-burdened community that wouldn't be necessary if there was once again a fund in Superfund.</i></p>
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- **James Rasmussen, Duwamish River Clean Up Coalition**