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According to a [Chevron news release](#) today, Richard Cabrera's recommendations and independence were already compromised prior to the discovery of his conflict of interests:

- The Amazon Defense Coalition, the named financial beneficiary of the lawsuit, directly and improperly paid Cabrera more than \$200,000 for his work;
- Sections of Cabrera's \$27 billion claim are copied word-for-word from documents written by Amazon Defense Front lawyers;
- Photographs and video show representatives of the ADC conducting Cabrera's field work as well as preparing soil and water samples for Cabrera, who had promised to carry out his work independently;
- Nearly 90 percent of Cabrera's \$27 billion figure is allocated to issues that he was not directed to examine and that are unrelated to the actual claims in the Ecuador lawsuit;
- Cabrera assessed more than \$9 billion as compensation for cancer deaths without providing any medical evidence or even the name of a single alleged victim or family member beneficiary to support his recommendation;
- Cabrera recommends Chevron pay more than \$8.4 billion for what he deems "unjust enrichment," despite the fact that Texaco Petroleum earned less than \$500 million in profits during the life of the consortium while the government of Ecuador received more than \$24 billion, more than ninety percent of the total revenue generated by the consortium. Moreover, there is no basis in Ecuadorian law for such an award;
- Cabrera assessed \$3.2 billion for groundwater remediation and \$428 million to improve potable water systems even though he did not take any samples of streams, rivers, municipal water sources or drinking water wells, and states in his own report that he did not have enough data to develop a groundwater remediation plan;
- Cabrera recommends more than \$2.7 billion dollars for pit remediation, averaging more than \$3 million per pit. This figure is vastly inflated compared to the \$85,000 per-pit actual cost for Petroecuador's recent remediation work that has been implemented to the full satisfaction of the government. Proper remediation, therefore, of every pit that Petroecuador is obligated to clean up would cost well under \$100,000,000;
- Cabrera claims \$1.7 billion in damages for oil infrastructure sites that have been in constant use by Petroecuador for nearly two decades and substantially expanded by Petroecuador since Texaco Petroleum's departure in 1992; and
- Cabrera assessed more than \$1 billion in soil remediation for sites he never visited.

To read more about the Chevron-Ecuador lawsuit, [click here](#).

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