

Consent Decree and Cleanup Action Plan Available for Review and Comment

The Washington Department of Ecology (Ecology), Chevron Chemical Company, and American Oil Company propose to enter into an agreement, called a Consent Decree, to clean up contaminated soil and groundwater at the Bee Jay Scales site.

Public Comment Invited

Ecology is asking for your comments on the Consent Decree and draft Cleanup Action Plan. The Bee Jay Scales Site is located near the corner of First Street and Warehouse Avenue, in Sunnyside. You are invited to:

- **Review** the Consent Decree, draft Cleanup Action Plan, and SEPA Checklist and Determination of Non-Significance.
- **Send** your comments to Ecology for consideration. Comments will be accepted *January 30, 2013 through March 4, 2013*.

See the box at the right for details about where to review documents and submit comments.

Site Background

The Site and adjacent properties have been the location of agricultural warehouses, lumber yards, coal storage, and railroad transportation activities since approximately 1906.

An agricultural distribution facility operated at the Site from the 1960s through at least 1986. This facility consisted of buildings and above ground storage tanks (ASTs). A lagoon was constructed in the early 1980s to collect water from the washdown of farm chemical applicator vehicles.

Site investigations have shown that past operations have contaminated soil on the property and groundwater within the vicinity. The primary contaminants are nitrate and ammonia in soil and groundwater.

Comments Accepted

January 30, 2013 through
March 4, 2013

Submit Comments and Technical Questions to:

Norm Hepner - Site Manager
WA Department of Ecology
Toxics Cleanup Program
15 W Yakima Avenue, Ste 200
Yakima, WA 98902-3452
Phone: (509) 457-7127
E-mail: Norm.Hepner@ecy.wa.gov

DOCUMENT REVIEW LOCATIONS

Yakima Valley Regional Library Sunnyside Branch

621 E Grant Avenue
Sunnyside, WA 98944
Phone: (509) 837-3237

Hours:

Monday-Thursday: 10 am – 7 pm
Friday-Saturday: 10 am – 5 pm
Sunday: 1 pm – 5 pm

WA Department of Ecology Central Regional Office

15 W Yakima Avenue, Ste 200
Yakima, WA 98902

By appointment only:

Contact Roger Johnson,
Roger.Johnson@ecy.wa.gov or
(509) 454-7658

Ecology's Toxics Cleanup Website

<https://fortress.wa.gov/ecy/gsp/Sitepage.aspx?csid=3641>

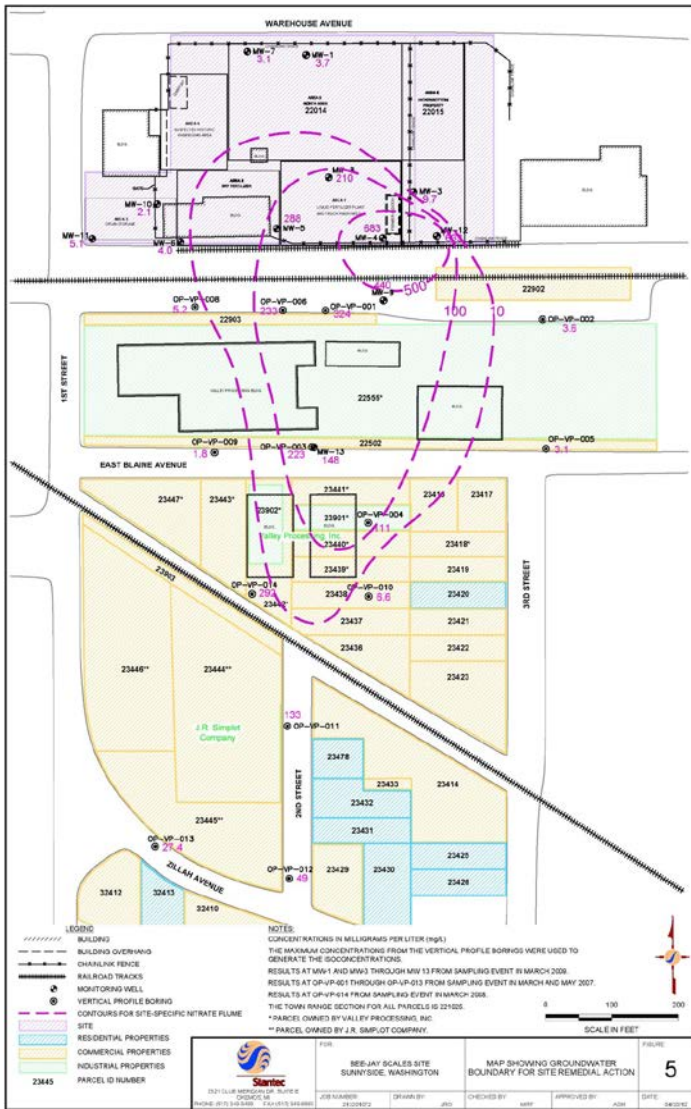
Facility/Site ID #: 504

Cleanup Site ID #: 3641

Investigation Results

The results of the investigations have shown high levels of nitrate and ammonia in soil and groundwater. Soil contamination is only found within the property boundaries; however, groundwater contamination extends beyond the property boundaries as shown in the figure.

Bee Jay Scales Estimated Nitrate Groundwater Plume



Cleanup Alternatives

A draft Cleanup Action Plan has been developed for the site. A Cleanup Action Plan provides different scenarios, called alternatives, detailing

what will be done to clean up the contamination. Several cleanup alternatives were evaluated for the site including:

- Permeable Reactive Barrier, Groundwater Monitoring, Natural Attenuation and Capping of Soil, and Institutional Controls.
- In Situ Bioremediation, Groundwater Monitoring, and Soil Excavation with Off-site Disposal.

Ecology evaluated the alternatives based on several factors, including protection of human health and the environment, effectiveness, time to complete, potential for implementation, cost, compliance with all applicable laws, and long-term monitoring.

Ecology has selected the following alternative for cleanup of the Site: A combination of shallow soil removal, in situ bioremediation injection wells/borings (for delivery of a sodium acetate solution or calcium acetate), institutional controls, natural attenuation, and construction of vertical barrier wall treatment system(s) or other Ecology approved treatment method for the off-property groundwater plume.

The active portion of the cleanup, including soil excavation, injection wells, and barrier wall for groundwater treatment, will take place over the next three years. The soil removal is anticipated to be completed by spring 2014 and groundwater treatment systems installed by late 2015. Groundwater monitoring will continue thereafter.

Determination of Non-Significance

After reviewing a State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) environmental checklist, Ecology has made a decision that the cleanup will not have a significant negative impact on the environment. Therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is not required.

Why This Cleanup Matters

Soil and groundwater contamination exceeds state standards for protection of human health and the environment. Cleanup improves soil and groundwater conditions at the site and reduces exposure to contaminants.

What Happens Next?

Ecology will review all comments received. At the end of the comment period, Ecology will respond to comments in a responsiveness summary. We will send this document to those who commented and post it online. We will make changes to the consent decree and cleanup action plan if needed based on public comments.

For information about other opportunities for public involvement such as meetings, hearings, open houses and workshops, please visit Ecology's Public Involvement Calendar at <http://apps.ecy.wa.gov/pubcalendar/calendar.asp>

While you are at the calendar page, you may click on the link Frequently Asked Questions about Effective Public Commenting and learn more about the public comment process.

What can you do?

1. Read about the cleanup in this handout.
2. To get more detailed information, review the supporting documents at the locations listed in this document.
3. Write down your comments and questions. Send them to the Department of Ecology at the address provided in this document.

We appreciate your comments and concerns.
Thank you.

Help with other languages and formats?

Para asistencia en español: (509) 575-2490

If you need this document in a version for the visually impaired call the Toxics Cleanup Program at 509-454-7841. Persons with hearing loss, call 711 for Washington Relay Service. Persons with a speech disability, call 877-833-6341.

