



FACT SHEET: EMERALD KALAMA

From Ecology's Industrial Section 07-07-052

RCRA ID: WAD092899574

Proposed Consent Decree and Permit Modification Comment Period

The Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) proposes a Consent Decree to settle liability under the Model Toxics Control Act, RCW 70.105D (MTCA) for the cleanup of the Emerald Kalama site. The site is at the chemical manufacturing facility on 1296 Third Street Northwest, Kalama, WA 98625.

The Consent Decree is a formal legal agreement between Ecology, past facility owner Goodrich, and the current facility owner Emerald Kalama Chemical. The Consent Decree provides for the implementation of the Cleanup Action Plan, as approved by Ecology on October 11, 2004. The cleanup follows the requirements of MTCA, the state corrective action requirements under the Hazardous Waste Management Act, RCW 70.105 (HWMA), and the facility's existing permit issued under the HWMA and the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA).

Ecology also proposes to modify the facility's HWMA/RCRA Permit. The modification will incorporate by reference the Consent Decree to satisfy the facility's corrective action (cleanup) requirements under the HWMA and RCRA. The modification will also reflect the Permittee's submittal under permit condition IV.D.1, regarding the protection of the environment and at-risk species.

Ecology is providing a concurrent public comment period for the Consent Decree and the permit modification from December 24, 2007 to February 22, 2008.

This fact sheet describes the site overview, historical releases, and interim actions.

Review the draft Consent Decree, permit modification request, and supporting documents at these information repositories:

Industrial Section	Kalama Library
Department of Ecology	312 North First
300 Desmond Drive SE	Kalama, WA, 98625
Lacey, WA 98503	(360) 673-4568

Or online at:

http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/tcp/sites/emerald_kal/e_k_hp.htm

Public comment period for Consent Decree and RCRA permit modification:

December 24, 2007 through February 22, 2008

Public hearing will be held on January 8, 2008 7:00 PM at Port of Kalama, 380 West Marine Drive, Kalama, WA 98625.

Send written comments to:

Ha Tran, Department of Ecology Industrial Section
PO Box 47600
Olympia, WA 98504-7600
Ph. (360) 407-6064, fax (360) 407-6102
htra461@ecy.wa.gov

Linda Meyer, U.S. EPA Region 10
1200 Sixth Avenue, Suite 900, AWT-121
Seattle, WA 98101-3140
Ph. (206) 553-6636, fax (206) 553-8509
meyer.linda@epamail.epa.gov

For questions on the permit, also contact:

Chris Wrobel, Emerald Environmental Manager
1296 Third St NW
Kalama, WA 98625
Ph. 360-673-0289
chris.wrobel@emeraldmaterials.com

Site Overview

The Emerald Kalama property is a 155-acre parcel northwest of Kalama, Washington, between I-5 and the Columbia River. The property is in the Kalama Industrial Park, south of the Peavy Grain Terminal and north of the Central Port of Kalama. Most of the property consists of wetland areas. The organic chemical manufacturing plant occupies 35 acres on southern part of the property. The plant uses toluene to produce food preservatives, flavors and fragrances, plasticizers, and pharmaceuticals.

Dow Chemical Company constructed the chemical plant in 1962. Kalama Chemical, Inc. bought the property from Dow in 1971. BC Sugar bought part of Kalama Chemical in 1986 and acquired full ownership in 1990. Freedom Chemical purchased the company from BC Sugar in May 1994 and sold the company to BF Goodrich (Goodrich) in March 1998. Noveon acquired the company in February 2001. In April 2006, Noveon sold the land and facility to Emerald Performance Materials, a subsidiary of Sun Capital. The facility is now Emerald Kalama Chemical.



An aerial view of the Emerald Kalama plant

In July 2001, Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Ecology issued a joint HWMA/RCRA permit to the facility. The permit will expire in August 2011. EPA administers the Boiler Industrial Furnace (BIF) portion for the incineration of

hazardous waste; Ecology administers the corrective action (cleanup) portion of the permit. The cleanup portion incorporates the Agreed Order DE 98HW-S327. Ecology issued this Agreed Order in 1998 under MTCA. The Agreed Order is an administrative order issued to the Potentially Liable Persons (PLPs). The PLPs are former plant owners Goodrich and Rogers Sugar (BC Sugar). Under the Agreed Order, the PLPs completed the Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study, the Compliance Monitoring Plan, and the Cleanup Action Plan (CAP). The CAP went through public comment from July 15 to August 13, 2004. Ecology approved the CAP on October 11, 2004. In 2007, Ecology, Goodrich, and Emerald drafted the Consent Decree to implement the cleanup as outlined in the CAP. The Consent Decree will replace the Agreed Order in the cleanup portion of the permit.

Historical Releases

EPA conducted a federal RCRA Facility Assessment (RFA) in January 1989 and found significant releases of hazardous substances at the site. In 1994, RCRA facility investigation (RFI) found toluene, benzene, diphenyl oxide, phenol, benzoic acid, arsenic, and copper in the soil and groundwater under the chemical plant. Releases in the west area next to the Columbia River came from a former tar residue area, transfer sump, and the west tank farm. Releases from the central area came from the facility's sewer system. Hazardous substances in the groundwater migrated north toward the wetland area and west toward the river.

Interim Actions

Interim actions are measures taken before the final cleanup to reduce the impacts of the releases. A soil vapor extraction system operated from May 1997 through October 1999 and treated contaminated soil by the plant's west tank farm. In 1995, Kalama Chemical built a shallow trench north of the plant to catch contaminated groundwater and prevent it from entering the wetland. In 1997, Kalama Chemical constructed a second shallow trench parallel to the Columbia River and installed seven recovery wells in the intermediate aquifer. The second trench and

recovery wells help capture contaminated groundwater flowing toward the river.

The facility's wastewater treatment plant treats groundwater from the trenches and recovery wells along with process wastewater and storm water. Emerald mixes the treated effluent with cooling water and discharges to the Columbia River under its existing NPDES permit.

What's Next

Ecology proposes the Consent Decree as the legal agreement to implement the CAP. The CAP has already undergone prior public review and comment and was approved by Ecology on October 11, 2004. The CAP includes:

- Soil vapor extraction in the most highly contaminated soils, with paving or other physical barriers to protect wildlife
- Continue operation of shallow trenches to protect the wetland and Columbia River.
- *In-situ* ("in place") treatment in the central area using Waterloo Emitter wells to treat contaminated groundwater
- Upgrade of the intermediate recovery well system by installing new wells and replacing an existing well
- Deed restriction on the property to protect the public and site workers from exposure to hazardous substances

The Consent Decree includes a draft of the restrictive covenant, the scope of work, and the Compliance Monitoring Plan. Ecology will incorporate the Consent Decree to the RCRA permit through a permit modification.

How to Participate

Ecology invites you to read and comment on the draft Consent Decree. The public comment period is an opportunity to offer your ideas and concerns to Ecology's decision-makers.

For comments to be considered by Ecology, they must be postmarked or received at Ecology by January 3, 2008. The most effective comments:

- Give specific information describing the conditions believed to be inappropriate
- Give factual and regulatory support
- Suggest changes to fix the problem
- Include supporting material, unless Ecology already has the material (e.g. a state or federal rule). If the comment references a document not Ecology's files or is not a commonly available reference, then Ecology likely does not have it. In such cases, the person commenting needs to provide a copy of the reference.

To review the draft Consent Decree and permit modification documents, make an appointment to visit the information repositories listed in the right hand box on page one. To view the documents at Ecology's Industrial Section office in Lacey, call Kathy Vermillion at (360) 407-6916. The facility's compliance history during the life of the permit being modified is available from the Department of Ecology at Ecology's Industrial Section office in Lacey. To view this history, call Kathy Vermillion at (360) 407-6916.

Please note that this comment period does not include review of the CAP, which has already undergone public review and comment and has already been approved by Ecology.

Send your comments to Ha Tran at the Ecology address listed on page one. Ecology will consider and respond to comments in the responsiveness summary. Ecology will hold a second public comment period if there are substantial changes to the Consent Decree and the permit modification. We will hold a public hearing for the permit modification at the time and location shown on page one. .