



Draft Public Participation Plan

**ExxonMobil ADC site
2717 and 2731 Federal Avenue in Everett,
Snohomish County, Washington**

Facility site ID: 5182

Cleanup site ID: 2728

Toxics Cleanup Program

Washington State Department of Ecology

Headquarters Office

Lacey, Washington

May 2022



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Related Information

- Cleanup site ID: 5182
- Facility site ID: 2728

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Toxics Cleanup Program

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To request an ADA accommodation, contact Ecology by phone at 360-407-6831 or email at ecyadacoordinator@ecy.wa.gov. For Washington Relay Service or TTY call 711 or 877-833-6341. Visit Ecology's website for more information.

¹ www.ecology.wa.gov/contact

Department of Ecology's Regional Offices

Map of Counties Served



Southwest Region 360-407-6300	Northwest Region 206-594-0000	Central Region 509-575-2490	Eastern Region 509-329-3400
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Region	Counties served	Mailing Address	Phone
Southwest	Clallam, Clark, Cowlitz, Grays Harbor, Jefferson, Mason, Lewis, Pacific, Pierce, Skamania, Thurston, Wahkiakum	PO Box 47775 Olympia, WA 98504	360-407-6300
Northwest	Island, King, Kitsap, San Juan, Skagit, Snohomish, Whatcom	15700 Dayton Ave. N., Shoreline WA 98133	206-594-0000
Central	Benton, Chelan, Douglas, Kittitas, Klickitat, Okanogan, Yakima	1250 W Alder St Union Gap, WA 98903	509-575-2490
Eastern	Adams, Asotin, Columbia, Ferry, Franklin, Garfield, Grant, Lincoln, Pend Oreille, Spokane, Stevens, Walla Walla, Whitman	4601 N Monroe Spokane, WA 99205	509-329-3400
Headquarters	Across Washington	PO Box 46700 Olympia, WA 98504	360-407-6000



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Public Involvement in Contamination Cleanup

The Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) developed this public participation plan (plan) in cooperation with ExxonMobil Oil Corporation (ExxonMobil) and American Distributing Company (ADC), the parties responsible for cleanup costs. The purpose of the plan is to promote meaningful community involvement during cleanup.

The plan describes ways we will inform the public about contamination investigations and cleanup options throughout the cleanup process. We encourage the public to learn about and get involved in decision-making opportunities. This plan identifies how and when the public can get involved during different stages of the contamination investigation and cleanup.

This plan discusses outreach for the interim action work that is planned for the ExxonMobil ADC site (site).

Site contacts

To be included in the site record, comments about the cleanup process must be submitted during comment periods. Questions and informal comments or information about the site's history are welcome anytime.

Ecology

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PO Box 46700
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ExxonMobil Oil Corporation

22777 Springwoods Village Parkway
W3.2A.581
Spring, Texas 77389

Ken Drake, Project Manager
908-451-0956

American Distributing Company

13618 45th Avenue Northeast
Marysville, Washington 98271

Steve Miller, Owner
360-658-3751

Public Participation Grants

Grants may be available to neighborhood committees, non-profits, and other groups interested in the site. For contaminated sites, these funds can be used to:

- Hire an expert to help interpret technical information²

² Ecology currently does not have a citizen technical advisor for providing technical assistance to citizens on issues related to the investigation and cleanup of the site.

- Conduct activities that enhance the public’s understanding of, and participation in, the cleanup process

For more information about public participation grants, please contact Faith Wimberley at 360-275-7285 or faith.wimberley@ecy.wa.gov. You may also visit the [Public Participation Grant website](#).³

Washington’s Cleanup Laws

Ecology uses the Model Toxics Control Act (MTCA) and accompanying regulations for cleanup activities.

This plan is required under MTCA, a law that passed in 1989. MTCA provides guidelines for contaminated site cleanup in Washington State and sets standards to ensure the cleanup protects human health and the environment.

Model Toxics Control Act

MTCA began as a grassroots citizen’s initiative in 1988 and started the process of systematically cleaning up contaminated sites in Washington. Under MTCA, a current or past property owner or operator may be held responsible for cleaning up contamination on, or coming from, their property to standards that are safe for human health and the environment.

Ecology enacts MTCA and oversees cleanups in the state and issues regulations and guidance governing those cleanups. The regulations are found in [Chapter 173-340 Washington Administrative Code \(WAC\)](#).⁴ Ecology investigates reports of property contamination, and if the contamination is seen as a significant threat to human health or the environment, the contaminated property is placed on the Hazardous sites List, and the cleanup process begins.

Public participation is an important part of cleanup under the MTCA process. Participation needs are assessed at each cleanup site according to the level of public interest and the degree of risk posed by the contamination. Individuals who live near the site, community groups, businesses, government, other organizations, and interested parties have the opportunity to get involved by commenting on the cleanup process.

Under MTCA, the cleanup process generally includes five phases. Each phase includes an opportunity for the public to review and comment on cleanup documents.

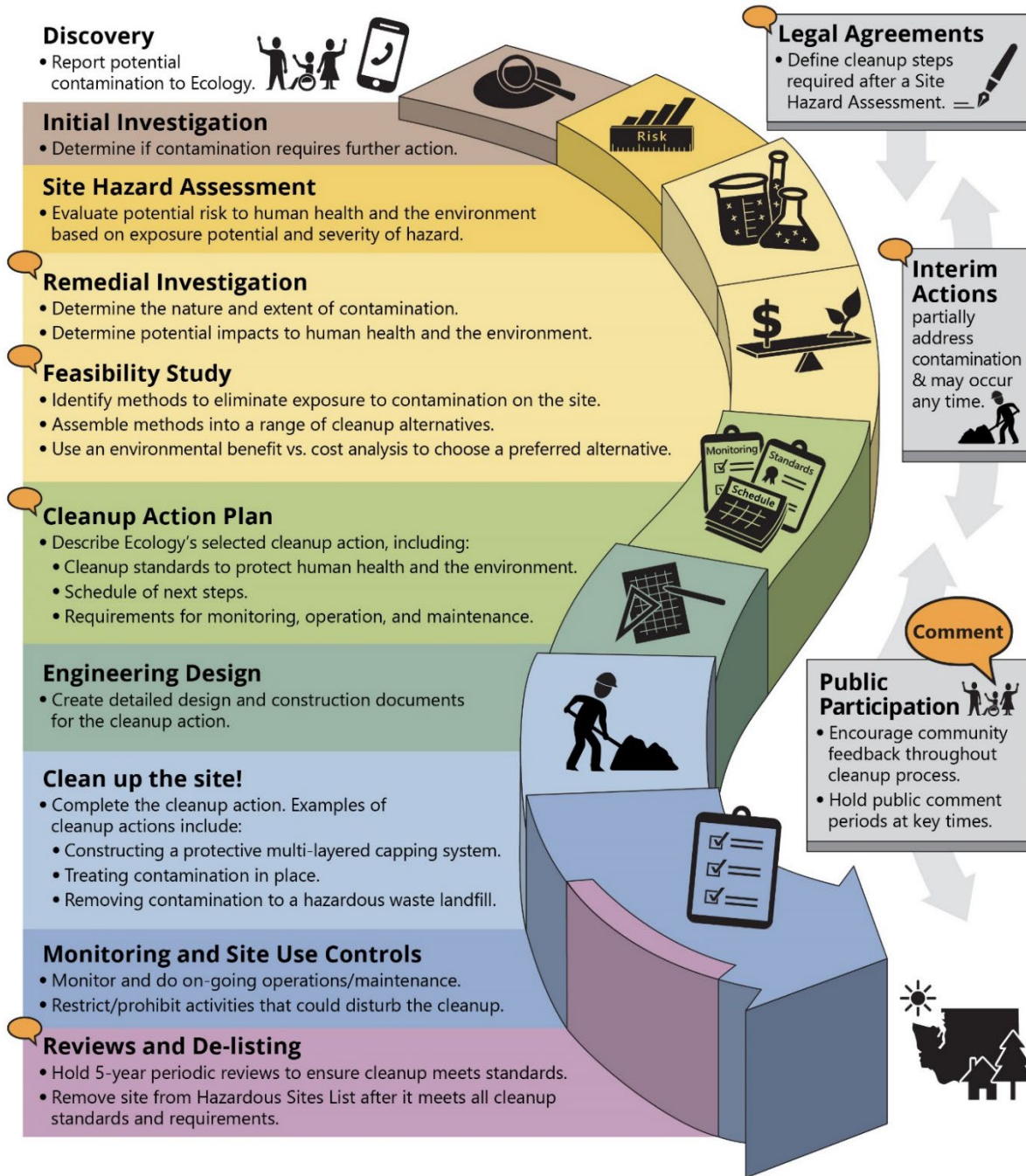
State Environmental Policy Act

The State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) is followed during review and development of cleanup plans.

³ ecology.wa.gov/About-us/How-we-operate/Grants-loans/Find-a-grant-or-loan/Public-participation-grants

⁴ <https://fortress.wa.gov/ecy/publications/publications/9406.pdf>

Washington's Formal Cleanup Process



 **Washington's Cleanup Law**
Model Toxics Control Act (MTCA)

MTCA defines the cleanup process. This public-initiated environmental law directs upland cleanups (on land or in groundwater) and sediment cleanups (in freshwater or marine environments). Ecology enacts MTCA and regulates the cleanup process.

September 2019
Ecology Publication 19-09-166

Figure 1: Steps in Washington's Cleanup Process⁵

⁵ <https://fortress.wa.gov/ecy/publications/documents/1909166.pdf>

Site Information

Land use

The ExxonMobil ADC site is generally located at 2717 and 2731 Federal Avenue, in Everett, Snohomish County, Washington (see Figure 2). The site is entirely upland and is about 0.86 acres in size. The ExxonMobil and ADC properties are bounded by Terminal Avenue and City of Everett property to the south; former Kimberly-Clark Worldwide, Inc. property to the north; City of Everett right of way and Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway property to the east; and Federal Avenue and Port of Everett (Port) property to the west (see Figure 3). Port Gardner Bay is to the west of the Port property. The ExxonMobil ADC properties are currently an asphalt paved parking lot. The work being performed as part of the Interim Action Work Plan will be on the Port property west of Federal Avenue, to remove contaminated soil and install a barrier wall on the Port property (Figure 3). Remediation of the ExxonMobil ADC properties will be described in a Draft Cleanup Action Plan already under development.

The predecessors of ExxonMobil Oil Corporation owned the entire site from 1927 to 1974. In 1974, Mobil Oil sold the northern part of the site to A.P. Miller for use by ADC. ADC used their portion of the site for bulk petroleum operations until 1990; Mobil Oil operated the southern part of the site until 1987.



Figure 2: ExxonMobil ADC site area map



Figure 3: Overhead view of cleanup site

How the site became contaminated

For decades, various portions of the site were used for storing, transferring, and distributing petroleum products. Petroleum-related chemicals from these operations have been found in the site's soil and groundwater. Between 1998 and 2000, all structures and pipes were removed from the entire site. Following an investigation in 1998, an "interceptor trench" was built to recover petroleum. The site was paved and remains an asphalt parking lot today.

Contamination

Due to the historic petroleum related land use and industrial practices at the site, soil and groundwater in the interim action area are contaminated with:

- Petroleum hydrocarbons (TPH)
- Carcinogenic polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (cPAHs)
- Lead
- Benzene
- Ethylbenzene
- Xylene

Cleanup plans

The Draft Interim Action Work Plan describes steps that ExxonMobil and ADC will take before developing a Final Cleanup Action Plan. These interim actions are necessary to removed contaminates from the Port property and prevent hazardous substances from spreading onto the Port property in the future. The Draft Interim Action Work Plan includes remediation work that will occur on the Port property west of Federal Avenue. The work includes excavating contaminated soil and installing an underground barrier wall. These actions are designed to reduce the presence of hazardous substances and help prevent conditions from deteriorating

and becoming more difficult to fix in the future. This site is part of a baywide cleanup approach. We are focusing on cleanup actions in dense industrial bays and other smaller bays to ensure that the Puget Sound is safe and healthy for the community's use.

Area community

The ExxonMobil ADC site is located in an industrial area at the Port of Everett. Everett is Snohomish County's largest city and the seventh-largest city in the state of Washington. Everett's current population is approximately 110,626.⁶ Located on Port Gardner Bay, Everett hosts the west coast's second-largest marina, United States Navy Homeport Naval Station Everett, and The Boeing Company's assembly plant. The city's current labor workforce is nearly 55,400 (Data USA), employed predominantly in manufacturing, technical and service-based industries, and retail trade. The median household income is \$66,023 per year.⁷

The majority of the population, around 63.8%, is non-Hispanic White with the second-largest population being people of Hispanic descent at 15.1% and the third largest population being people of Asian descent at 9.15%.⁸

We will reach out to cultural community organizations as part of our outreach and provide information in other languages as appropriate following federal guidance.⁹ The non-English language most widely spoken in the Everett area is Spanish. When appropriate, we will provide outreach in Spanish. We strive to make our public participation efforts as inclusive as possible and welcome your input about how to best reach the nearby community.

The Tulalip Tribes are a federally recognized tribe that is composed of multiple ancestral Tribes in the region. They utilize the waterways surrounding this site which could be affected by the contamination. We will engage the Tribe with any decision-making process for this site and provide ample opportunity to be involved throughout the process on a government-to-government basis.

Public Participation Activities

⁶ U.S. Census Bureau, Quick Facts – Everett, WA
<https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/everettcitywashington/POP060210>

⁷ U.S. Census Bureau, Quick Facts – Everett, WA
<https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/everettcitywashington/POP060210>

⁸ Data US: Everett, WA <https://datausa.io/profile/geo/everett-wa/#:~:text=About,%2460%2C759%2C%20a%206.21%25%20increase.>

⁹ Guidance to Environmental Protection Agency Financial Assistance Recipients Regarding Title VI Prohibition Against National Origin Discrimination Affecting Limited English Proficient Persons, 69 Fed. Reg. § 35602 (June 15, 2004).

Members of the public may ask questions, submit informal comments, or share site information at any time. Interested parties do not need to wait for a formal public comment period to contact Ecology.

However, to be included in the formal site record, comments about the site investigation, cleanup alternatives, or cleanups must be submitted during formal comment periods. In addition, the public is invited to review site documents before they become final. This is the most direct and influential way to learn more about the site and be involved in the cleanup's decision-making.

How we share information with the community

During specific stages of the cleanup, we will mail notices about public comment periods to addresses surrounding the site. The mailing list area will vary depending on the type of contamination and where it's located, but the list will at least include addresses within a 1/4-mile radius of the site and other interested organizations and individuals. These notices will provide general information about the site, contact information for submitting comments, and times and locations of public meetings or hearings or how to request one if not yet scheduled.

We may also develop documents outside of comment periods to keep the community updated on the site's status. These informational documents will be available online and at document repositories. Print copies may be mailed to the nearby community if we feel the message warrants the associated cost and resources.

Comment period notices and other site announcements may also be posted in various locations throughout the community (for example, local businesses, schools, libraries).

Postal mailing list

Ecology maintains a mailing list that includes addresses within a .50-mile radius of the site and relevant local, state, and federal government contacts.

These people receive public comment notices when draft documents are available.

We will add additional individuals, organizations, and other interested parties to the mailing list as requested. If you would like to be added to the mailing list for this site, please contact Megan MacClellan at 360-688-3730 or megan.macclellan@ecy.wa.gov.

Site Register

Public comment periods, events, and other cleanup notices are published in Ecology's [Site Register](#).¹⁰ To receive the *Site Register* by email, please contact Sarah Kellington at 360-280-3167 or sarah.kellington@ecy.wa.gov, or [subscribe online](#).¹¹

Newspaper display ads or legal notices

We announce public comment periods and events in ads or notices published in the Everett Daily Herald. We will also publish notice on our [Public Input & Events Listing](#).¹²

Email lists

Ecology maintains an email list to update interested persons about this site. If you would like to be added to the email list for this site, please contact Megan MacClellan at 360-688-3730 or megan.macclellan@ecy.wa.gov.

Ecology's website and social media platforms

We maintain a website for the [ExxonMobil ADC site](#).¹³ The website provides site information, and you may download cleanup documents.

We may also share information about cleanup sites through [news releases, our ECOconnect blog, and social media](#).¹⁴

Document repositories

During public comment periods, you can find print documents at the following locations:

Everett Public Library

2702 Hoyt Avenue
Everett, WA 98201
425-257-8000

Washington Department of Ecology Headquarters

300 Desmond Drive SE
Lacey, WA 98503
360-407-6300

To schedule an appointment, please contact Carol Dorn at 360-407-7224 or Carol.Dorn@ecy.wa.gov.

¹⁰ ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/Guidance-technical-assistance/site-Register-lists-and-data

¹¹ <http://listserv.wa.gov/cgi-bin/wa?SUBED1=siteregister&A=1>

¹² ecology.wa.gov/Events/Search/Listing

¹³ <https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/gsp/sitepage.aspx?csid=5182>

¹⁴ ecology.wa.gov/About-us/Get-to-know-us/News

Signs around the cleanup site

We may also install signs displaying information about project status, traffic impacts, and health risks around the cleanup site.

How to share information with us

At minimum, MTCA requires 30-day public comment periods for draft cleanup documents and 14-day comment periods SEPA documents. SEPA documents are often made available for public review with other cleanup documents. In that case, we combine the comment periods, and they last at least 30 days. We may hold comment periods longer than 30 days.

We may also identify public concerns and cleanup goals by meeting with and soliciting information from interested community members and organizations. To collaborate with us about this site, please contact Jason Cook at 360-407-6834 or jason.cook@ecy.wa.gov.

Public comment periods

Formal 30-day comment periods allow interested members of the public to comment on draft documents, legal agreements, and proposed cleanup actions. If there is significant interest, Ecology may extend the public comment period. When Ecology oversees SEPA determinations, we hold comment periods for at least two weeks and may extend to 30 days or more when other cleanup documents are concurrently available for review.

Following a comment period, we publish all the input we received and respond to significant comments and questions. If the comments result in significant changes to the cleanup documents, then the documents will be revised and re-issued for public review. If the comments do not result in significant changes, then they become final.

Public events

We hold public meetings, workshops, open houses, and public hearings based on community interest. If we have not scheduled a meeting, we will hold one if 10 people request it, and this may cause us to extend a public comment period so that the meeting will occur during the public comment period.

Events are held at locations close to the site that meet Americans with Disabilities Act standards. Public meetings, workshops, open houses, and hearings are always announced in advance using a variety of methods.

Americans with Disabilities Act

The Department of Ecology is committed to providing people with disabilities access to information and services by meeting or exceeding the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), Section 504 and 508 of the Rehabilitation Act, and Washington State Policy #188.

To request ADA accommodation for disabilities, or printed materials in a format for the visually impaired, contact the Ecology ADA Coordinator at 360-407-6831 or ecyadacoordinator@ecy.wa.gov, or visit <https://ecology.wa.gov/accessibility>. People with impaired hearing may call Washington Relay Service at 711. People with speech disability may call TTY at 877-833-6341.

Plan Amendments

Ecology developed this plan following MTCA regulations (WAC 173-340-600). We review it as the cleanup progresses and amend it as necessary. You may suggest amendments to Jason Cook at 360-407-6834 or jason.cook@ecy.wa.gov.

This plan includes information for the public regarding opportunities for public involvement and comment. The outreach activities discussed in this section reflect Ecology's current plans for keeping the public informed and providing ways for those interested in the site to communicate their concerns and questions to us.

If you feel the planned outreach activities and mechanisms described in this plan are insufficient, or should otherwise be modified, we will work to find solutions. New outreach activities or outreach tools established as a result can be implemented right away, with or without amending this plan.