



## **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PLAN**

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**Hardel Mutual Plywood  
1210 West Bay Drive NW  
Olympia, Washington**

**Prepared by**  
Washington State Department of Ecology  
Southwest Regional Office  
Toxics Cleanup Program  
300 Desmond Drive  
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## TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>INTRODUCTION</b> .....	3
Site Location .....	3
<b>SITE BACKGROUND</b> .....	3
Site Description .....	3
Site History .....	3
Current Activity .....	3
<b>MODEL TOXICS CONTROL ACT</b>	
Steps in a cleanup process .....	4
<b>PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ACTIVITIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES</b> .....	6
Public Involvement Activities .....	6
Information Repositories .....	7
Points of Contact.....	8
<b>FIGURES</b>	
Figure 1. Model Toxics Cleanup Process .....	8
Figure 2. Site location.....	9

## **INTRODUCTION**

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The Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) has developed this public participation plan pursuant to the Model Toxics Control Act (MTCA) and Agreed Order No. DE 4108 to promote meaningful community involvement during the investigation and cleanup of Hardel Mutual Plywood Site. This plan outlines and describes the tools that Ecology uses to inform the public about Site activities and identifies opportunities for the community to become involved.

### **Site Location**

The Hardel Mutual Plywood site is located at 1210 West Bay Drive NW in Olympia. The site is about 17.8 acres and extends from the railway right-of-way along West Bay drive east into intertidal and subtidal areas of Budd inlet (See Figure 2).

## **SITE BACKGROUND**

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Hardel operated as a plywood manufacturing business from 1951 until 1996. The company ended operations after a fire severely damaged buildings on site. Those buildings have since been removed and only foundation walls, concrete slabs and drainage systems are still present on the site.

Historical site activities resulted in the release of petroleum products to soil and groundwater. Investigations at the site in 2004 confirmed presence of contamination, including:

- Heavy oil and diesel petroleum in groundwater and soil.
- Free floating petroleum product on the west site of the property.
- Polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons in soil (north area of property) and in groundwater (south area of property).

Ecology entered into an Agreed Order to begin cleanup with Hardel in April 2007. The agreement required Hardel Mutual Plywood (Hardel) to complete the following:

- Remedial investigation to determine the nature and extent of contamination.
- Interim actions to remove free product and reduce contamination and risk to human health and the environment.
- Feasibility study to identify and evaluate cleanup alternatives.

A Remedial Investigation (RI) was completed in 2007. Two areas of concern were identified for both soil and groundwater. A supplemental investigation revealed that contamination was moving in groundwater towards Budd Inlet.

Hardel conducted a Feasibility Study in 2009 and examined possible cleanup actions. In order to immediately address contamination and to prevent contamination from reaching Budd Inlet, Hardel is proposing to conduct several interim (partial cleanup) actions.

The following actions will be taken:

- Removing concrete building foundations to allow access to contaminated soil below.
- Excavating and removing contaminated soil in two areas.
- Back-filling excavation areas with clean soil.
- Removing free product.
- Soil sampling after excavation to make sure that all contamination above state cleanup standards is removed from the areas of concern.

## **NEXT STEPS**

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- Ecology will review and consider all comments received during the comment period.
- Ecology will draft a response to comments in a Responsiveness Summary, distribute it to those who commented and post it online.
- The Interim Actions will likely be taken in the Spring 2010.
- Ecology will determine if additional cleanup actions are needed and will draft a Cleanup Action Plan outlining what steps will be taken to complete cleanup.
- A public comment period will be held for the Cleanup Action Plan.

## **MODEL TOXICS CONTROL ACT CLEANUP STAGES**

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The Model Toxics Control Act (MTCA) defines each stage of the cleanup process to protect human health and the environment. Figure 1 on page 8 details these stages.

Some steps described in the chart include “agreed orders” or “consent decrees”. These are agreements between Ecology and the parties responsible for cleanup of the pollution. In addition to the steps in the chart, “interim actions” may be taken during steps 1 through 5 (the investigation) to reduce or eliminate pollution that poses an immediate threat to human health or the environment.

The cleanup process is complex. Issues often arise that require more attention or evaluation, and may lead to changes in the steps or schedule. Every effort will be made to keep the public well-informed of changes.

## **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ACTIVITIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

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The purpose of this Public Participation Plan is to promote public understanding and participation in the cleanup process for this site. This section of the plan addresses how Ecology will keep the public informed about site activity and provide opportunity for comment and involvement.

Ecology will use a variety of tools to facilitate public participation in the planning and cleanup of this MTCA site. Ecology will consider and implement input provided by the community whenever possible. The following is a list of the public involvement activities that Ecology will use, their purpose and a description of when and how they will be used in this site cleanup.

### **Formal Public Comment Period**

Comment periods are the primary method Ecology uses to get feedback from the public on proposed cleanup decisions. Comment periods usually last for 30 days and are required at key points during this cleanup process before final decisions are made. During a comment period, the public can comment in writing (email or letter) or in person (during a public meeting or hearing).

### **Public Meetings and Hearings**

Public meetings may be held at key points during the investigation and cleanup process. Ecology may also offer public meetings for actions expected to be of particular interest to the community. Also, if ten or more people request a public hearing during the 30 day comment period, Ecology will hold a public hearing for the purpose of taking oral comments on draft documents.

### **Responsiveness Summaries**

After every public comment period, Ecology reviews and may respond to all comments received, both oral and written. This is compiled into a responsiveness summary. Ecology considers changes or revisions based on the input from the public. If significant changes are recommended, then a second comment period is held. If significant changes are recommended, then the draft documents will be finalized. The responsiveness summary will be available upon request and included with the other pertinent site documents in the Information Repositories listed below.

### **Information Repositories**

Information repositories are convenient places where the public can go to read and review site information. The information repositories are often at libraries or community sites where public has access. During the comment period, the site documents will be available for review at each repository. Each site will have at least two repository sites established. Site information will remain at repositories for the duration of the cleanup. Ecology's Central files can also make copies of the documents for a fee.

The information repositories for this site are:

- Washington State Department of Ecology, Southwest Regional Office  
Toxics Cleanup Program, 300 Desmond Dr., Lacey, WA 98503. Phone (360) 407-6365
- Timberland Olympia Library, 313 8th Avenue SE, Olympia, WA 98501-9300. Phone (360) 352-0595
- Ecology Web site: [http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/tcp/sites/hardel/hardel\\_hp.html](http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/tcp/sites/hardel/hardel_hp.html)

### **Mailing list**

Ecology has compiled a list of interested parties and organizations and residents living in proximity to the cleanup site. This list will be used to disseminate information via mail (fact sheets, site updates, public notices). If you would like to be added to the mail list, please contact Meg Bommarito at 360-407-6255 or [mbom461@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:mbom461@ecy.wa.gov).

### **Site Register and Public Events Calendar**

Ecology's Toxics Cleanup Program uses its bimonthly Site Register and web-based Public Involvement Calendar to announce all of its public meetings and comment periods as well as additional site activities. To receive the Site Register in electronic or hard copy format, contact Linda Thompson at 360-407-6069 or by email at [ltho461@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:ltho461@ecy.wa.gov). It is also available on Ecology's website at [http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/tcp/sites/8801/8801\\_hp.html](http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/tcp/sites/8801/8801_hp.html).

### **Fact Sheets / Updates**

Ecology will mail out fact sheets to persons and organizations interested in the Hardel Mutual Plywood Pipeline site to inform them of public meetings and comment periods as well as important site activities. Ecology may also mail an update about the progress of site activities.

### **Newspaper Display Ads**

Ecology may place ads in the local paper to announce public comment periods and public meetings or hearings for this site. The *Olympian* will be used to publish information about this site.

### **Ecology Web Site**

Information related to this site and materials available for public comment will be posted on Ecology's web site at [http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/tcp/sites/hardel/hardel\\_hp.html](http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/tcp/sites/hardel/hardel_hp.html)

## **Translation Service**

Ecology will provide translation services to any resident who requests them. This service can include written material, live translation during public meetings or telephone inquiries. Please contact Meg Bommarito, Public Involvement Coordinator at 360-407-6255 or mbom461@ecy.wa.gov for a translated copy of this or any other documents related to this site.

## **Plan Updates**

This Public Participation Plan is meant to be a dynamic guide for informing and involving the community in the decision-making process at the Site. This plan may be updated as the project proceeds.

## **Public Points of Contact**

For project-related questions, contact Guy Barrett at the Washington State Department of Ecology at 360-407-7115 or by email at gbar461@ecy.wa.gov.

For copies of this document or questions about public involvement, contact Meg Bommarito at the Washington State Department of Ecology at 360-407-6255 or by email at mbom461@ecy.wa.gov.

## **Public Participation Grants**

As part of the Model Toxics Control Act, Ecology developed a public participation grant program to promote public participation during cleanups. Public Participation Grants provide funding to community groups to help involve the public in the investigation and cleanup of contaminated properties. The grants also help develop and carry out programs that promote the state's solid or hazardous waste management priorities.

For cleanup sites, non-profit groups or groups of three or more unrelated individuals can apply for grants to fund outreach and education efforts for the community that is impacted by the cleanup. Past projects have helped people understand the cleanup and how to comment on cleanup proposals during public comment periods. Grant funds may be used to pay for technical experts who help people understand cleanup issues. They can also be used to hold meetings, workshops and other events that help to inform people. In addition, printing and distribution of reports, brochures and other materials may be covered.

For more information about this grant program, visit <http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/swfa/grants/ppg.html> .

**Figure 1. Steps in the Model Toxics Act Cleanup Process**



Figure 2. Hardel Mutual Plywood site

