



# **Response to Comments**

## **Proposed contaminated soil removal for the Airport Kwik Stop cleanup site**

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**Public comment period held January 30 – March 1, 2023**  
**Facility Site ID: 32584416, Cleanup Site ID: 4203**

**Toxics Cleanup Program, Eastern Region**

Washington State Department of Ecology  
Spokane, Washington

March 2023

# Document Information

This document is available on the Washington Department of Ecology's [Airport Kwik Stop cleanup site page](#).<sup>1</sup>

## Related Information

- Facility site ID: 32584416
- Cleanup site ID: 4203

# Contact Information

## Toxics Cleanup Program

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Website: [Washington State Department of Ecology](#)<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> <https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/cleanupsearch/site/4203>

<sup>2</sup> <https://ecology.wa.gov/Spills-Cleanup/Contamination-cleanup/Cleanup-sites>

<sup>3</sup> <https://ecology.wa.gov/About-us/Accountability-transparency/Our-website/Accessibility>

# Toxics Cleanup in Washington State

Accidental spills of dangerous materials and past business practices have contaminated land and water throughout the state. The Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) Toxics Cleanup Program (TCP) works to remedy these situations through cleanup actions. TCP cleanup actions range from simple projects requiring removal of a few cubic yards of contaminated soil to large, complex projects requiring engineered solutions.

Contaminated sites in Washington are cleaned up under the [Model Toxics Control Act](#)<sup>4</sup> (MTCA, Chapter 173-340 Washington Administrative Code), a citizen-mandated law passed in 1989. This law sets standards to ensure toxics cleanup protects human health and the environment and includes opportunities for public input.

## Public Comment Period Summary

Ecology held a comment period January 30 through March 1, 2023, for the draft plan to excavate shallow contaminated soil and the related State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) documents for the Airport Kwik Stop cleanup site. More information is available in the [public notice](#)<sup>5</sup> we mailed to the surrounding community.

Ecology appreciates the comments we received from one person. We address them in the Response to Comments section that begins on Page 4. We finalized the draft plan and SEPA documents without further changes.

## Site Background

The Airport Kwik Stop was a convenience store and gas station that sold gasoline and diesel. In 2008, a leaking pipe connection was discovered under a gasoline dispenser, which caused gasoline to soak into the surrounding soil. The length of time the pipe leaked and the amount of gasoline released are unknown.

In 2010 and 2011, soil and groundwater samples showed petroleum-related contaminants exceeded state standards and posed a threat to human health and the environment. Drinking water wells in the area have been impacted.

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<sup>4</sup> <https://ecology.wa.gov/Spills-Cleanup/Contamination-cleanup/Rules-directing-our-cleanup-work/Model-Toxics-Control-Act>

<sup>5</sup> <https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/cleanupsearch/document/120774>

Ecology is leading and funding cleanup at the Airport Kwik Stop site because the former owners cannot afford it. Funds are from the [Eastern Washington Clean Sites Initiative](#),<sup>6</sup> a voter-approved tax on hazardous substances.

## Response to Comments

The comment letter is printed verbatim. Ecology's response follows the comments.

### Jennifer Lambert, received via email January 28

I just purchased the house at 2171 Highway 31 lone, Wa this past August. Today I received a flyer in the mail regarding excavation of contaminated soil, this greatly concerns me since I had not idea of any petroleum leak in the area.

I did a home test kit on my well water when I took possession of the house in August of last year. Can you please provide me with some more information? Was my well tested at some point? Is there record of the test? How much of this leak effected local water and wells? If they were effected what had to be done?

Thank you for your time, and understanding of my concerns.

### Ecology's response

Thank you for contacting us and sharing your concerns.

Assessment activities completed at the site included characterizing the direction of groundwater flow and the extent of groundwater contamination, referred to as the plume. Figure 1 shows the approximate extent of the groundwater contamination plume. Note that groundwater flow is generally south to southeast, which would indicate your property is not downgradient, or in the direction of, the plume. Monitoring well MW-7 is in between the Airport Kwik Stop and what appears to be your property. This is one of the monitoring wells we routinely sample, and to date, site contaminants have not been detected in it.

Domestic wells that are downgradient, or within the plume, have been routinely sampled. Based on groundwater flow conditions, none of Ecology's records indicate your well would have been tested because it's not within the plume of contaminated groundwater. Our response to impacted wells has included measures such as installing treatment systems.

Again, thank you for reaching out. Please let us know if you have further questions.

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<sup>6</sup> <https://ecology.wa.gov/Spills-Cleanup/Contamination-cleanup/Cleanup-sites/Eastern-Washington>

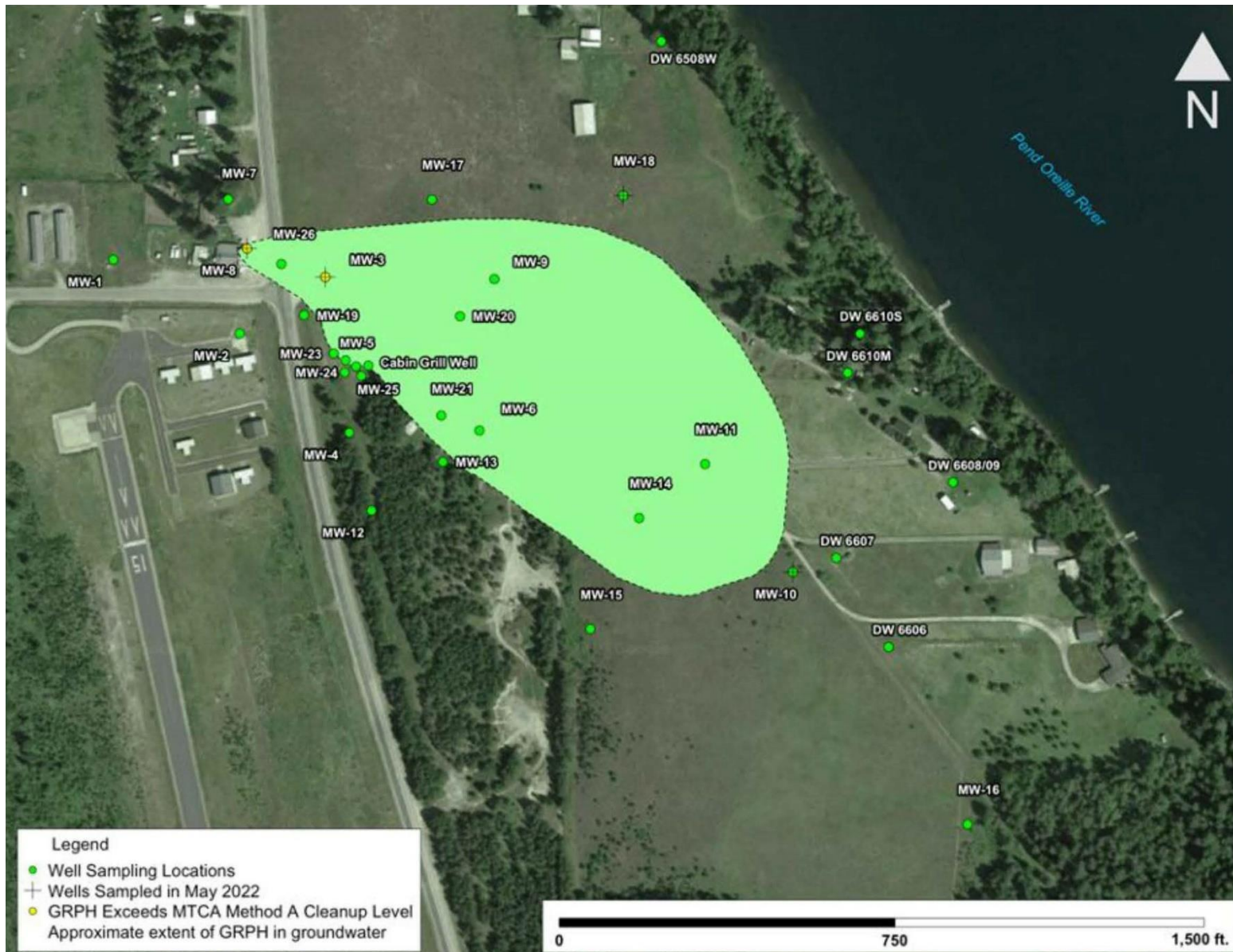


Figure 1. The plume of contaminated groundwater as of May 2022.