

# Univar Solutions USA, Inc.:

## Documents Available for Review and Comment



### Comments accepted:

May 22 – June 23, 2023

### Submit comments:

**Online:** Visit [ecology.wa.gov/UnivarComments](https://ecology.wa.gov/UnivarComments)

#### By mail:

Val Cramer, Site Manager  
Department of Ecology  
Northwest Region Office  
P.O. Box 330316  
Shoreline, WA 98133  
[valerie.cramer@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:valerie.cramer@ecy.wa.gov)  
Phone: 425-698-5539

### Document review:

Visit  
[ecology.wa.gov/UnivarKent](https://ecology.wa.gov/UnivarKent)

### Site information:

Facility Site ID: 13862483  
Site Cleanup ID: 969

### Public Outreach Contact:

Janelle Anderson, Community  
Outreach Specialist  
[janelle.anderson@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:janelle.anderson@ecy.wa.gov)  
Phone: 425-301-6454

### We want to hear from you!

We're overseeing the cleanup of contamination at the Univar Solutions (Univar) facility located at 8201 S. 212th Street in Kent, Washington. We invite you to review and comment on the following documents:

- **Draft Periodic Review:** Every 5 years, active cleanups are checked by Ecology to make sure treatments are working.
- **Draft Public Participation Plan:** This plan encourages community involvement in cleanup decisions.

Visit [ecology.wa.gov/UnivarKent](https://ecology.wa.gov/UnivarKent) to view these documents.

### Public Meetings

At this time, there are no public meetings scheduled for this comment period. To request a public meeting, please call 425-301-6454 or email [janelle.anderson@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:janelle.anderson@ecy.wa.gov).

### Translations available

- **Español:** Para solicitar una copia de este documento en español, por favor comuníquese con Janelle Anderson al 425-301-6454 o [janelle.anderson@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:janelle.anderson@ecy.wa.gov).
- **Tagalog:** Para humiling ng kopya ng dokumentong ito sa Tagalog o para sa higit pang impormasyon, pakisuyong mag-email sa [janelle.anderson@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:janelle.anderson@ecy.wa.gov) o tumawag sa 425-301-6454.
- **Tiếng Việt:** Để yêu cầu một bản sao của tài liệu này bằng tiếng Việt, vui lòng liên lạc Liêm Nguyễn tại 360-790-4730 hoặc email [liem.nguyen@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:liem.nguyen@ecy.wa.gov).



Figure 1: Topographic map of the Univar facility, located in Kent near the corner of South 212th Street and 84th Avenue South. The facility boundary is outlined in light blue. Source: Univar’s RCRA Part B application.

## Site Background

Univar is a global company that stores, packages, and distributes chemical products. The 11-acre Kent facility has a warehouse, office, bulk storage, repackaging, and parking areas. It is surrounded by other commercial and industrial properties.

Since 1974, Univar has stored, packaged, and distributed various chemical products from its Kent facility. It has operated under four other corporate names:

- Van Waters and Rogers, Inc. (VWR, 1974 – 2001)
- Vopak USA, Inc. (2001 – 2002)
- Univar USA, Inc. (2002 – 2019)
- Univar Solutions USA, Inc. (2019 – present)

These were name changes only and were not changes in ownership.

From 1974 to 2007, Univar was considered an active dangerous waste management facility. However, it was not subject to permitting requirements under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) until hazardous waste regulations became effective in 1980.

On October 31, 2007:

- Ecology conditionally accepted certification for clean closure of the aboveground portions of the Dangerous Waste Management Units (DWMUs).
- Ecology agreed to address belowground contamination under a corrective action-only RCRA permit.

On August 5, 2020, Univar renewed their corrective action hazardous waste permit.

## Contamination

In October 1991, a U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) consultant completed a RCRA Facility Assessment (RFA). The consultant identified areas at the facility where releases of hazardous substances may have occurred or were occurring. Following EPA’s assessment, the facility’s RCRA Part B permit became effective on November 4, 1991.

Beginning in 1994, Ecology investigated contamination from waste disposal and accidental chemical releases at this site. Studies showed that soil in two eastern areas of the site were contaminated with solvents and chlorinated compounds. Groundwater was also contaminated. Groundwater is the water found underground in the cracks and spaces in soil, sand, and rock.

Most of the groundwater contamination is located beneath the property, but some contamination in the deeper groundwater flowed north under 212th Street and beneath an adjacent industrial property. No drinking water wells are located in or near the areas of contamination.

## Past cleanups

### Tank farms

From 1974 to 1982, Univar operated one 1,500-gallon dangerous waste aboveground storage tank (AST) and one 6,000-gallon dangerous waste AST. There were no known releases from either tank during their operating history. The Univar site map below shows where the tanks were located.

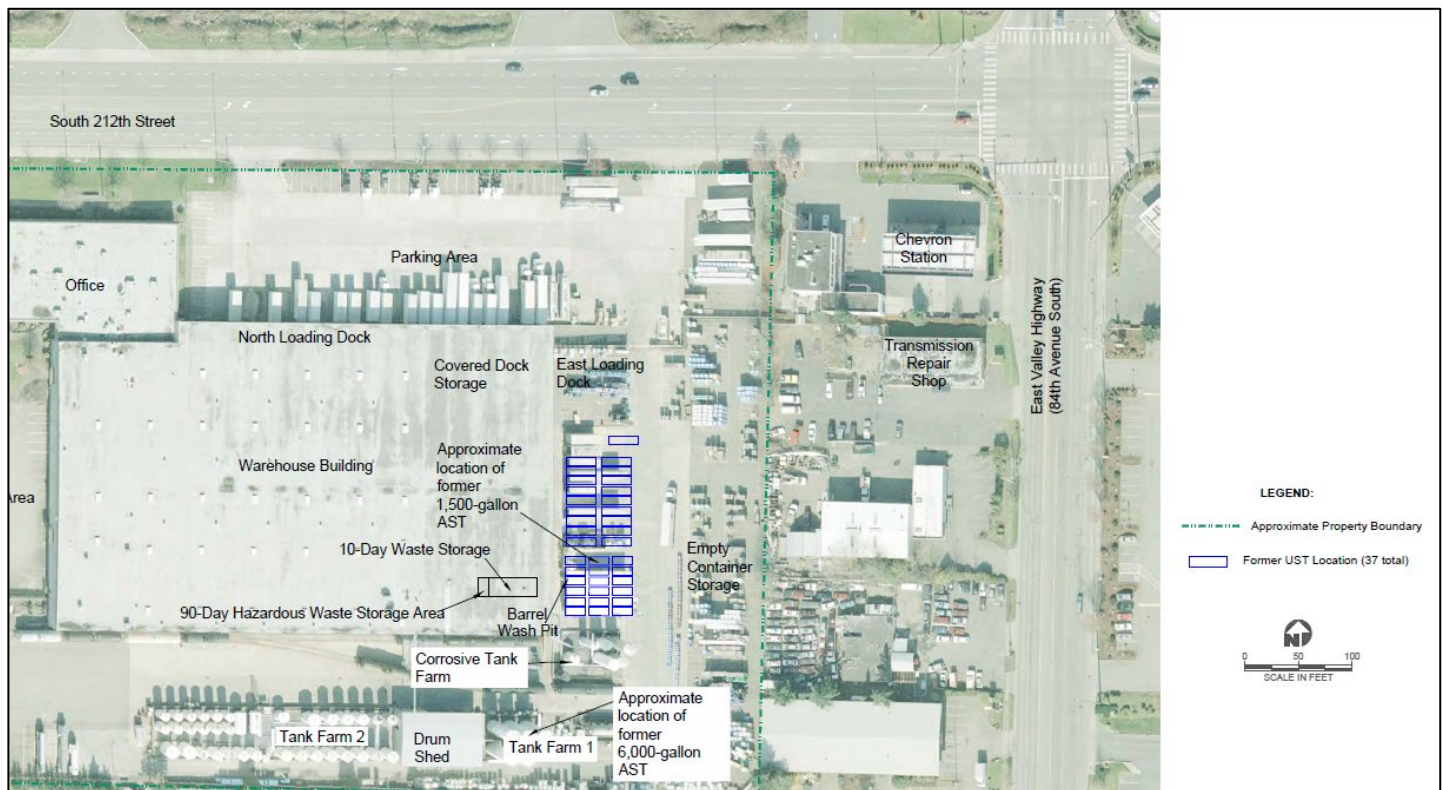


Figure 2: Tank farm locations at Univar, including 2 aboveground storage tanks and 37 underground storage tanks (outlined in purple). Source: Univar’s RCRA Corrective Action Permit Renewal Application, Part A and B.

### Agreed Order

On November 20, 2008, Ecology issued an agreed order (AO) requiring Univar to plan and implement a site cleanup. In 2009, Ecology selected cleanup activities from the feasibility study report.

Since then, Univar has been implementing the cleanup action plan, which includes:

- **Groundwater treatment:** To clean polluted groundwater at the site, Ecology approved a process called *enhanced reductive dechlorination*. This injects special bacteria into the polluted groundwater. The bacteria “eat” the contaminants.
- **Groundwater monitoring:** The groundwater at the site is tested regularly to see if the pollutants are breaking down into less harmful chemicals. This is called *monitored natural attenuation*.
- **Ongoing treatment and sampling:** Univar will continue to test and treat the groundwater pollution at this site. This ongoing testing will help Ecology know if the treatment is effective and if any changes are needed.
- **Site use controls:** The facility has land use and groundwater use restrictions through an environmental covenant. The environmental covenant restricts the property to industrial use.

A combined, revised remedial investigation (RI), focused feasibility study (FFS) addendum, and draft cleanup action plan (CAP) were developed in 2009. The RI, FFS, CAP, fact sheet, and environmental covenant are available at [ecology.wa.gov/UnivarKent](http://ecology.wa.gov/UnivarKent).

### Cleanup process

Univar must clean up the contamination at the site. There are six phases in the cleanup process: remedial investigation, feasibility study, cleanup plan, cleanup design, cleanup implementation, and monitoring and site use controls. Interim actions or partial cleanups can occur at any time. There will be opportunities for public comment at each stage, except for cleanup implementation.

We apply both the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) and the Model Toxics Control Act (MTCA) regulations to clean up hazardous waste sites. The cleanup protects human health and the environment from dangerous wastes and chemicals.

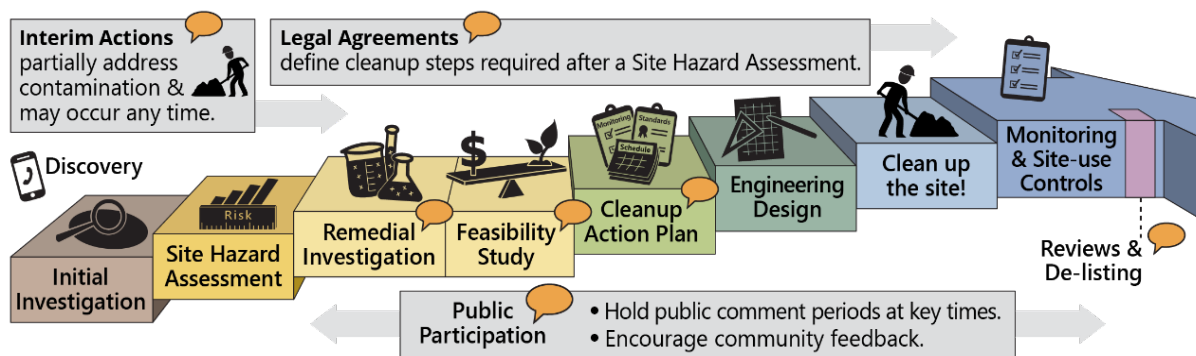


Figure 3: Formal cleanup process infographic (English).

Hazardous Waste and Toxics Reduction Program

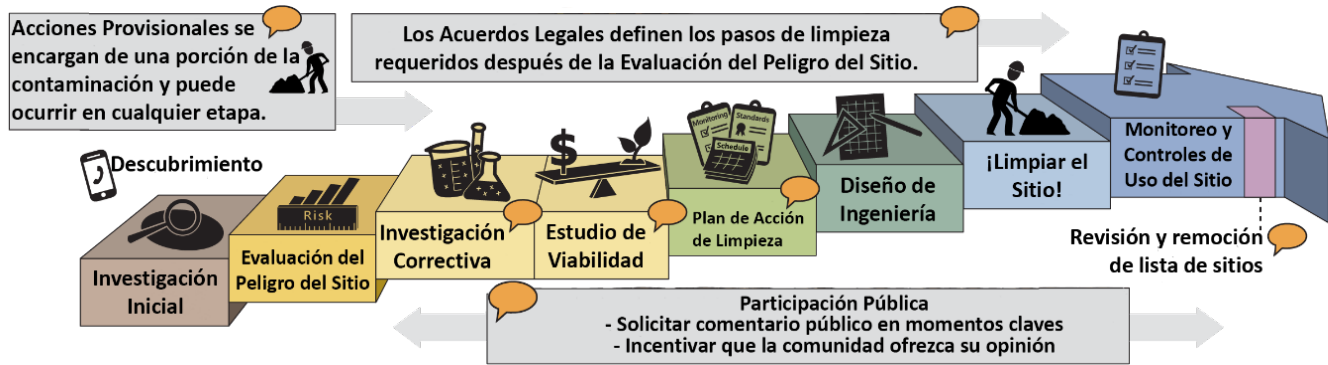


Figure 4: Formal cleanup process infographic (Spanish).

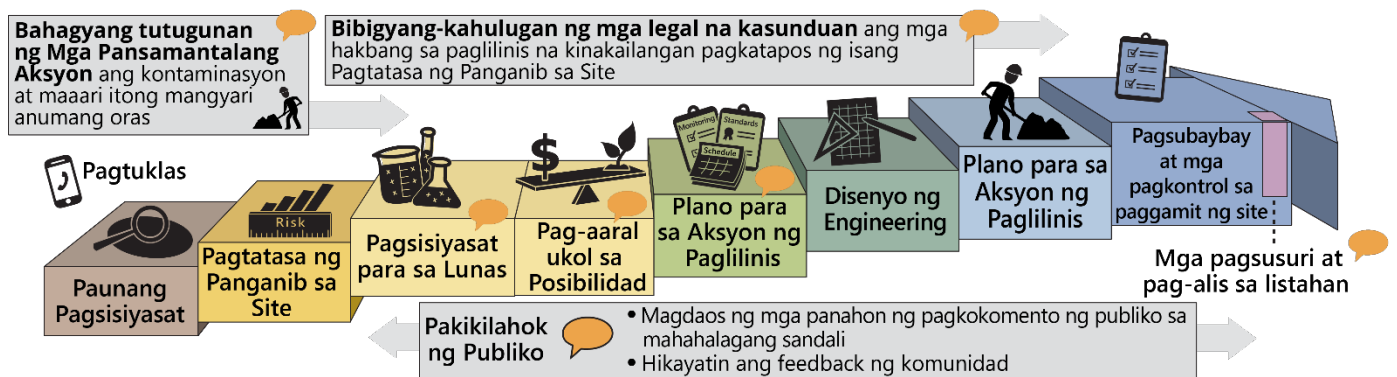


Figure 5: Formal cleanup process infographic (Tagalog).



Figure 6: Formal cleanup process infographic (Vietnamese).

## What happens next?

The public comment period is open from May 22 to June 23, 2023. After the comment period ends, we'll review and consider all comments we receive. The documents may change based on your comments. After considering all comments, the documents will become final. When there are new documents about the site, we'll notify you about additional public comment periods.

## Document review locations

**In-person document review is available.** Our office is open to the public. We encourage you to make an appointment.

Washington State Department of Ecology  
Northwest Region Office  
15700 Dayton Ave N.  
Shoreline, WA 98133-9716  
Reception (24-hour): 206-594-0000

Kent Library  
212 2nd Ave N.  
Kent, WA 98032  
Phone: 253-859-3330

**To schedule an appointment, please contact:**

Michael Hart

[michael.hart@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:michael.hart@ecy.wa.gov)

Public Disclosure Coordinator

**You can also review documents on our website:** [ecology.wa.gov/UnivarKent](https://ecology.wa.gov/UnivarKent).

**Questions about accessing information?**

Contact Janelle Anderson:

425-301-6454

[janelle.anderson@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:janelle.anderson@ecy.wa.gov).

## To submit comments

**To submit your comments, questions, or concerns** about any of these documents, visit [ecology.wa.gov/UnivarComments](https://ecology.wa.gov/UnivarComments).

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Tel: 206-594-0000

## Univar Kent Cleanup Documents ready for review and comment



**Public comment period: May 22 – June 23**

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- Draft Periodic Review
- Draft Public Participation Plan

Visit [ecology.wa.gov/UnivarComments](https://ecology.wa.gov/UnivarComments) to learn more or submit comments.

### Translations inside:

- Español incluida
- Tagalog sa loob
- Thông tin bằng tiếng Việt ở bên trong



Google Map location of Univar in Kent, Washington.

**ADA accessibility:** To request an ADA accommodation, contact Ecology by phone at 360-407-6700 or email [hwtrpubs@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:hwtrpubs@ecy.wa.gov), or visit [ecology.wa.gov/accessibility](https://ecology.wa.gov/accessibility). For Relay Service or TTY call 711 or 877-833-6341.