



Response to Comments

Draft Cleanup Action Plan, Draft Agreed Order Amendment, and Draft SEPA Mitigated Determination of Non- Significance for Jeld Wen Cleanup Site

Public comment period held June 15 – July 15, 2023

Facility Site ID: 2757

Cleanup Site ID: 4402

Toxics Cleanup Program

Washington State Department of Ecology
Lacey, Washington

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Publication Information

This document is available on the Department of Ecology's [Jeld Wen document repository](#).¹

Related Information

- Cleanup site ID: 4402
- Facility site ID: 2757

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¹ <https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/cleanupsearch/site/4402>

² <https://ecology.wa.gov/contact>

³ <https://ecology.wa.gov/about-us/accessibility-equity/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](#)⁴ (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 from June 15, to July 15, 2023, for the draft [cleanup action plan](#)⁵, draft amendment and draft [SEPA mitigated determination of non-significance](#)⁶ at the Jeld Wen cleanup site. More information is available in the [public notice](#)⁷ that was mailed to the surrounding community.

Ecology appreciates the comments we received from three people. We address them in the Response to Comments section that begins on page 4. After considering the comments, we have finalized the draft documents without further changes.

Site Background

The Jeld Wen site (formerly Nord Door facility) is located on the Snohomish River waterfront in Everett. The industrial site consists of approximately 36 acres of upland area and adjacent tidal mudflats. Operations at the site from the 1920s to the present have included door and casket manufacturing, wood treating, fishnet storage, sawmilling, and asphalt mixing. The National Pole Company treated poles in the uplands area prior to the 1940s.

In the mid-1940s, Nord Door operated at this site as a stile and rail door plant. Noor Door operated an oil-fired boiler on the eastern portion of the site prior to 1957 and later switched to wood-fired boiler. Former above and below-ground storage tanks were located in the eastern portion of the site along West Marine View Drive and also further to the west, beneath what is now the southern portion of the main manufacturing building.

⁴<https://ecology.wa.gov/spills-cleanup/contamination-cleanup/rules-directing-our-cleanup-work/model-toxics-control-act>

⁵ <https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/cleanupsearch/reports/cleanup/all>

⁶ <https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/cleanupsearch/reports/cleanup/all>

⁷ <https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/cleanupsearch/reports/cleanup/all>

In 1986, JELD-WEN acquired the property to produce finished wood products and operated at the site through 2005. Various asphalt companies (Cadman, CEMEX, Rinkers Materials and Sterling Asphalt) have leased and operated the northwest portion of the upland property as an asphalt batch plant since the mid-1990s. Contamination at this site is likely the result of the former wood door plant and machine shop's manufacturing and production processes, creosote pole treating, fuel oil use, and leaks and spills from aboveground storage tanks and underground storage tanks.

Response to Comments

The comment letters are printed verbatim in alphabetic order based on the commenter's last name. Each letter is followed by Ecology's response.

Index of Comments Received

Everyone who submitted comments is listed below in alphabetical order by their last name, followed by the date we received their comments and the page on which their comments are printed as received. Contact information (postal and email addresses and phone numbers) has been omitted.

Table 1. Index of comments received

Name	Date Received	Page
Terrance Murray	June 17	4
Marc Owenby	June 18	5
Kristina Perry	June 21	5

Terrance Murray, received via email June 17, 2023

Subject: jeld wen clean up

Who is paying for the clean up? Jeld wen should be held responsible and not the tax payer.. Jen Weld received profits from the land use. They contaminated the property and should be held liable.

Terrance Murray

Ecology's Response

Thank You for your comment. The Potentially Liable Parties (PLPs), of which JELD-WEN Inc. is the primary PLP, are paying for the cleanup of the Jeld Wen site. There have been no grants issued by the Department of Ecology, or other state agencies, for the cleanup of this site.

Marc Owenby, received via smart comments June 18, 2023

Hello, my name is Marc Owenby and have lived in my house for 20 years now. The Aarsco clean up has been going on for years now and my property was initially scheduled for January of 2014 to be addressed. Long story short cuz it's been rescheduled many times and was scheduled for the Fall of this year. Earlier this year, about 20 plus properties right next to me were cleaned up. Even ahead of schedule. I thought great cuz they were scheduled to do my and my adjacent neighbors next. Then... everything was changed and the Delta neighborhood was selected and their cleanup is starting soon. It seems to me that with the huge affordable housing development going on in the Delta area, that the city officials deem it more important than us tax paying little people.

Is it the same with the now announced Jeld Wen Cleanup Site? I feel that my property, which butts up against the Legion Golf course, and where myself and my neighbors, have paid the highest property taxes, are being treated like the red headed step child and are being ignored. I have no faith that my cleanup will ever get done. Since that affects my properties value and has to be disclosed if I were ever to sell, my taxes should be lowered or suspended until it's done. I've attended all meetings and the interaction with all of the people in the ecology department have been great but they're just the messengers. Someone needs to take responsibility and address the public. Thanks for letting me express my concerns, Marc

Ecology's Response

Thank you for your comment. The Jeld Wen cleanup has no connection or overlap with Everett Smelter cleanup. Therefore, this project will not affect the timing of your residential Everett Smelter cleanup. Please contact the Everett Smelter Hotline at 425-446-1024 for information about your project.

Kristina Perry, received via smart comments June 21, 2023

In regards to this clean up I am good with it AS LONG AS the ongoing Smelter clean up is not delayed!!! I have been waiting 10 years for my yard to be cleaned up and keep getting delayed due to COVID, golf course and Arboreteum and parks were scheduled ahead of the private home owners. These delays are ridiculous! I was not informed of the contamination when I bought this house 12 years ago. I cant use my yard or have any work done by companies in fear of contamination. This is not right. I am in the design stage of the clean up but have yet to see anyone at my door. Thank you

Ecology's Response

Thank you for your comment. The Jeld Wen cleanup has no connection or overlap with Everett Smelter cleanup. Therefore, this project will not affect the timing of your residential Everett Smelter cleanup. Please contact the Everett Smelter Hotline at (425) 446-1024 for information about your project.