



Public Participation Plan: Occidental Chemical Corporation

**605 E. Alexander Avenue
Tacoma, WA 98421**

Hazardous Waste and Toxics Reduction Program

Washington State Department of Ecology
Southwest Region Office
Olympia, Washington

December 2023 | Publication 23-04-054

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Related Information

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- Cleanup site ID: 4326

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Translations Available

中文 (Chinese)

生态管理署正在组织关于 Occidental 清理站点的环境清理行动的公众评论期。该站点位于华盛顿州 Tacoma 市。如果需要该文件的中文版，或更多中文信息，请发送电子邮件到 janelle.anderson@ecy.wa.gov 或致电 425-301-6454。

Español (Spanish)

El Departamento de Ecología está anunciando el período de comentarios públicos relacionado a la limpieza ambiental del sitio Occidental. Para obtener este documento, o más información sobre este sitio en español, favor de comunicarse con Janelle Anderson al 360-301-6454 o janelle.anderson@ecy.wa.gov.

Français (French)

Le ministère de l'Écologie (Department of Ecology) organise une période de consultation publique à propos de l'assainissement environnemental du site Occidental de Tacoma, dans l'État de Washington. Pour demander une copie de ce document en langue française ou pour obtenir plus d'informations dans votre langue, veuillez envoyer un e-mail à l'adresse janelle.anderson@ecy.wa.gov ou appeler le 425-301-6454.

ខ្មែរ (Khmer)

អេកូឡូស៊ីនិងរៀបចំឱ្យមានរយៈពេលនៃការផ្តល់មតិពីសាធារណៈ អំពីការសម្អាតបរិស្ថាននៅ តំបន់ Occidental ក្នុងក្រុង Tacoma នៃរដ្ឋ Washington។ ដើម្បីស្នើសុំឯកសារនេះជាភាសា ខ្មែរ ឬ សម្រាប់ព័ត៌មានបន្ថែមជាភាសារបស់អ្នក សូមអ៊ីមែលទៅ កាន់ janelle.anderson@ecy.wa.gov ឬទូរសព្ទទៅលេខ 425-301-6454។

한국어 (Korean)

주 환경부는 워싱턴주 타코마에 있는 옥시덴탈 현장의 환경정화에 대한 공개논평 기간을 개최하고 있습니다. 한국어로 된 문서나 귀하의 언어로 된 추가정보를 원하시면 이메일 janelle.anderson@ecy.wa.gov 또는 425-301-6454 로 전화 주십시오.

Русский (Russian)

Department of Ecology проводит общественное обсуждение по поводу очистки окружающей среды на участке компании Occidental в Tacoma, Washington. Чтобы получить русскоязычную копию данного документа или дополнительную информацию, обращайтесь по адресу электронной почты janelle.anderson@ecy.wa.gov или по телефону 425-301-6454.

Tiếng Việt (Vietnamese)

Bộ Môi Sinh đang tổ chức một giai đoạn trưng cầu dân ý về việc làm sạch môi trường tại địa điểm Occidental ở Tacoma, Washington. Để yêu cầu tài liệu này bằng tiếng Việt hoặc để biết thêm thông tin bằng ngôn ngữ của quý vị, xin vui lòng gửi email tới janelle.anderson@ecy.wa.gov hoặc gọi tới số 425-301-6454.

ADA Accessibility

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 an ADA accommodation, contact Ecology by phone at 360-407-6700 or email at hwtrpubs@ecy.wa.gov. For Washington Relay Service or TTY call 711 or 877-833-6341. Visit [Ecology's website](http://www.ecology.wa.gov)² for more information.

² www.ecology.wa.gov/accessibility

Department of Ecology's Region 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	PO Box 330316 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

Public Participation Plan

Occidental Chemical Corporation

**605 E. Alexander Avenue
Tacoma, WA 98421**

Hazardous Waste & Toxics Reduction Program

Washington State Department of Ecology
Southwest Region Office
Tacoma, Washington

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DEPARTMENT OF
ECOLOGY
State of Washington

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Public Involvement in Contamination Cleanup

Ecology (we) developed this Public Participation Plan (PPP) in cooperation with Occidental Chemical Corporation (Occidental).

The PPP describes how we involve the public in investigating contamination and selecting cleanup activities during the corrective action process.

We encourage the public to:

- Learn about and get involved in decision-making opportunities.
- Provide input during the investigation and cleanup of contamination.

This plan is for corrective action (cleanup). Public participation activities are coordinated between Ecology and Occidental. We also invite federally recognized tribes to provide feedback and to consult with us prior to the public comment period. Tribes have unique inherent rights recognized by federal law. They are sovereign nations collaborating with the state as co-managers and co-stewards. We must make sure the cleanup and the outreach comply with Washington State's Dangerous Waste Regulations and Model Toxics Control Act (MTCA) requirements. We will hold public comment periods and other public outreach during the cleanup process.

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

Washington State Department of Ecology
Southwest Region Office
P.O. Box 47775
Olympia, WA 98504

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360-522-0535

Janelle Anderson
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janelle.anderson@ecy.wa.gov
425-301-6454

Potentially Liable Parties (PLPs)

Occidental Chemical Corporation
Clint Babcock
Senior Director Operations
clint_babcock@oxy.com
972-687-7506

Public Participation Grants

Grants may be available to neighborhood committees, nonprofits, and other groups. For contaminated sites, these funds can be used to:

- Hire an expert to help interpret technical information.³
- Conduct activities to increase understanding and participation in the cleanup process.

For more information about public participation grants, please contact Faith Wimberley at 425-275-7285 or faith.wimberley@ecy.wa.gov. You may also visit the [Public Participation Grant webpage](#).⁴

State and Federal Cleanup Laws

In Washington State, we use MTCA and other regulations for cleanup activities on properties that treated, stored, or disposed of hazardous wastes. These cleanups, called **corrective actions**, are required under the federal Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA). The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) sets and enforces environmental standards in the United States. EPA allows Ecology to use MTCA, not RCRA, for cleanups in Washington State.

This PPP is required under MTCA. MTCA sets standards to ensure contaminated site cleanups in our state protect human health and the environment.

Model Toxics Control Act

MTCA began as a grassroots citizens' initiative in 1988. We started using it in our state to clean up contaminated sites in 1989. Under MTCA, a current or past property owner or operator may need to pay to clean up contamination, until levels are safe for human health and the environment. The contamination may be on their property or coming from their property.

Under MTCA, we oversee cleanups and issue [regulations and guidance](#)⁵ for them. We investigate reports of property contamination. If the contamination is a threat to human health or the environment, the property is put on the hazardous sites list and the cleanup process begins.

Public participation is an important part of the MTCA process. Participation needs are determined for each cleanup site by the level of public interest and the risk posed by the contamination. People who live near the site, community groups, businesses, government entities, and other interested parties can comment on the cleanup process.

³ 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.

⁴ ecology.wa.gov/ppg

⁵ <https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/publications/publications/9406.pdf>

Under MTCA, the cleanup process happens in phases. Many of the phases have time for the public to review and comment on cleanup documents. See Figure 1, Washington’s Formal Cleanup Process, for more information.

Resource Conservation and Recovery Act

There are federal and state rules about hazardous wastes. Congress passed RCRA in 1976 to ensure safe management and disposal of hazardous waste. RCRA was updated several times to expand its scope and requirements.

RCRA’s goals are to:

- Protect human health and the environment.
- Reduce waste and conserve energy and natural resources.
- Reduce or stop hazardous waste generation.

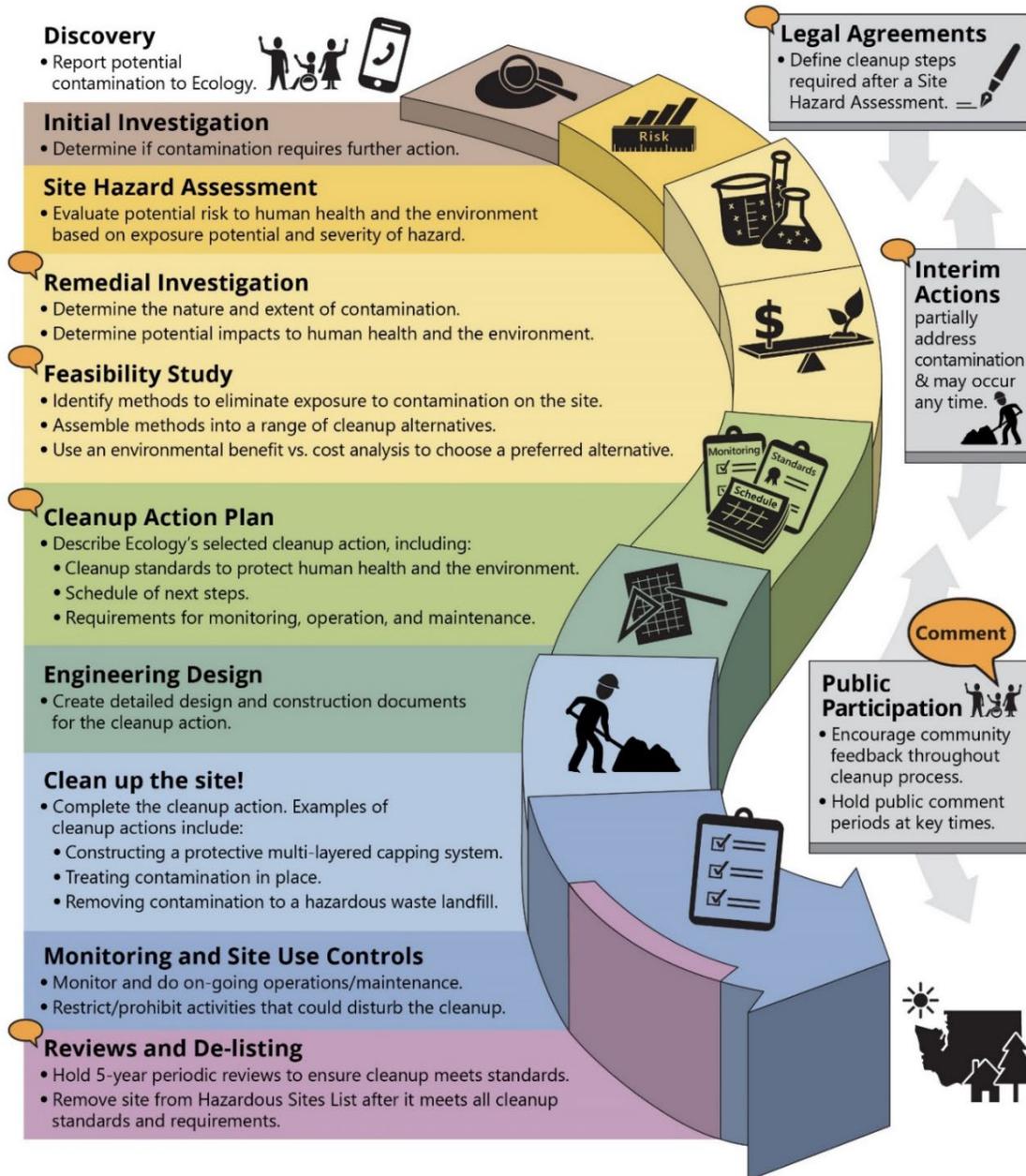
Treatment, storage, and disposal (TSD) facilities must have a permit to design, operate, maintain, or close their site. RCRA also requires facilities to clean up contamination from past and present practices. These cleanup activities are called **corrective actions**.

Federal RCRA and state dangerous waste regulations require opportunities for public participation during the stages of facility permitting and cleanup.

State Environmental Policy Act

Ecology and the potentially liable party (PLP) follow the State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) during review and development of cleanup plans. Ecology uses SEPA during site cleanups to find and evaluate negative environmental impacts that could result from a proposed action.

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: [Washington's formal cleanup process infographic.](#)⁶

[Read a plain text version of Figure 1.](#)⁷

⁶ <https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/publications/SummaryPages/1909166.html>

⁷ <https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/publications/parts/1909166part2.pdf>

Site Information

Background and land use

Occidental is in the Tacoma Tideflats at 605 E. Alexander Avenue. From 1929 to 2002, the site was used for industrial chemical production, shipbuilding, and military activities. Occidental produced chemicals to sell commercially. For example, they manufactured chlorine, caustic soda, and solvents trichloroethene (TCE) and tetrachloroethene (PCE). Occidental manufactured about 457 million pounds of solvents at this location. An estimated one million pounds of solvents contaminate site groundwater.

Because the groundwater contamination is very deep, it does not affect homes, public places, public drinking water or activities such as swimming, paddleboarding, or boating.

We oversee the investigation and cleanup of the groundwater, surface water, and soil by applying MTCA, our state cleanup law. MTCA requires us to make sure that people, wildlife, and the environment are protected from harmful chemicals.

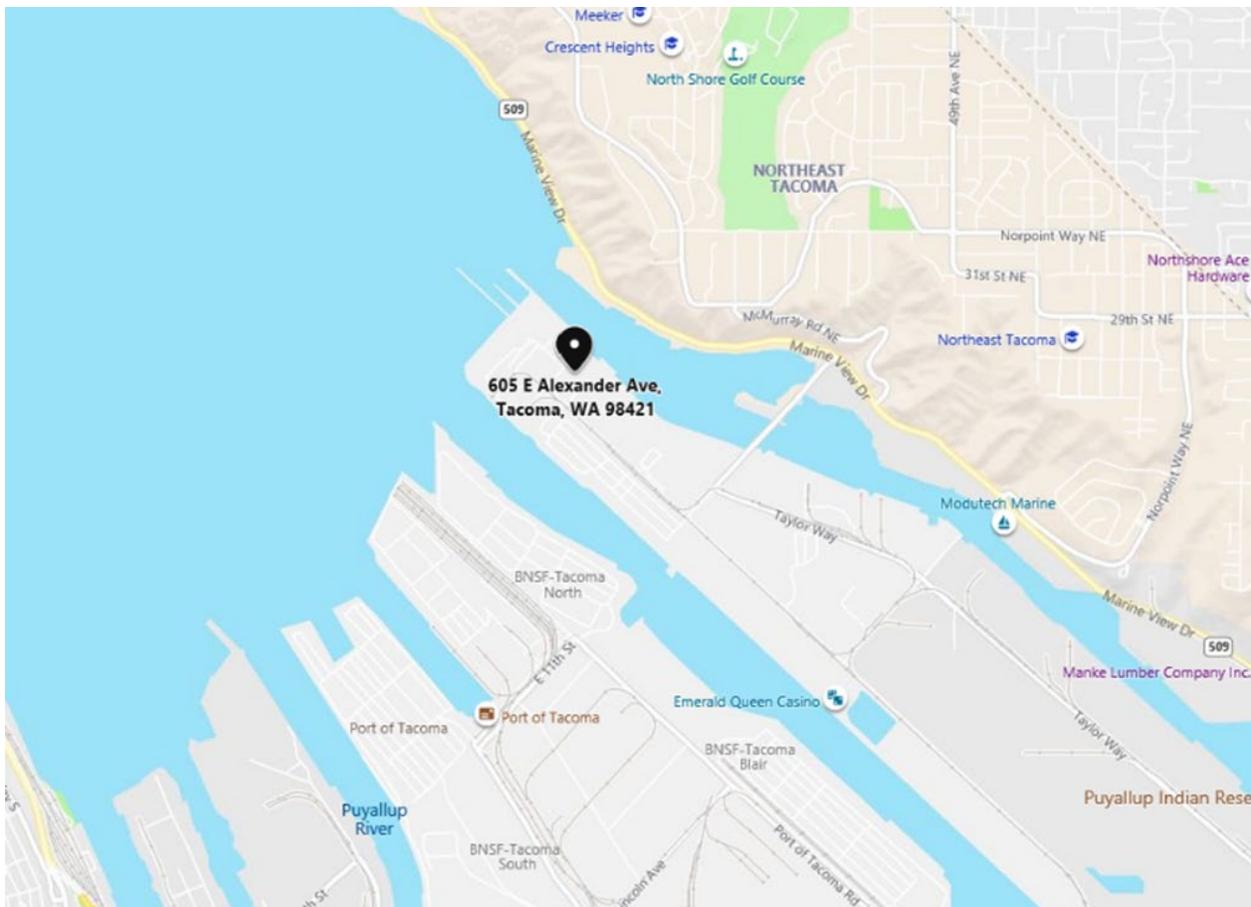


Figure 2: Map location showing Occidental in Tacoma, WA.

How big is the site?

A “site” includes everywhere the contamination ended up. This site goes beyond Occidental’s property, and covers about 90 acres, or 70 football fields. There are three plumes of contamination in the groundwater:

1. A plume of **chlorinated volatile organic compounds (CVOCs)** is about 160 feet below sea level and extends beyond the property line.
2. A plume of contamination with **elevated pH** (8.5 to more than 13) is about 100 feet below sea level and is mostly within the property line.
3. An **anthropogenic density plume (ADP)** is a mixture of caustic soda and dissolved silica that is heavier than water. The ADP sinks and displaces the CVOC plume.

Contaminants

- **Chlorinated volatile organic compounds (CVOCs)**. Chlorinated solvents were used to remove dirt and oil from parts. These solvents are no longer used for cleaning.
- **Salt (sodium chloride)**. Salt was used as a raw material to make brine (very salty water). The industrial-grade salt was kept in a large pile on site and fed into the brine-making process.
- **Caustic soda (sodium hydroxide)**. This chemical was a by-product of making chlorinated solvent using brine.

Cleanup

Goals

The purpose of environmental cleanup is to protect human health and the environment. The cleanup goals for Occidental are based on extensive site characterization, risk assessment, and a feasibility study. The resulting cleanup action plan protects people and the environment in three main ways:

1. By preventing contaminated groundwater from leaving the site.
2. By keeping people and animals away from contaminated soil, indoor air, and groundwater.
3. By removing and treating contamination.

Draft Cleanup Action Plan (dCAP)

Key cleanup actions planned for Occidental are as follows:

1. **Indoor air** will be protected by pumping groundwater to lower the water table. Solvents will then evaporate from dry, shallow soil. The solvent vapor will be collected and removed. Removing harmful chemicals from the soil under buildings protects the air inside the building.

2. **A sheet pile wall** will be installed underground along the Hylebos Waterway shoreline to keep contaminated groundwater from flowing into the waterway.
3. **An asphalt barrier** will cover the entire property to shield people and wildlife from contaminated soil. The barrier will also keep the soil drier, which reduces the movement of the contamination.
4. **Contaminated groundwater** will be pumped from extraction wells and treated. The pumping action pulls the contaminated groundwater towards the extraction well. This is called “hydraulic containment” and will protect the Hylebos Waterway and Commencement Bay. Treated water will be discharged under an NPDES permit.
5. **A new fence** will be built and maintained to restrict site access. Workers on the property, especially those cleaning up the site, will follow a detailed safety plan to protect them from contamination.
6. **Regular monitoring** of soil vapor and groundwater will ensure the cleanup is working.

Cleanup standards

Occidental must meet cleanup standards. In the dCAP, we propose protective cleanup standards for groundwater, soil, soil vapor, and indoor air. The cleanup levels are concentration-based, meaning they limit how much contamination is allowed in groundwater, soil, soil vapor, and indoor air. The dCAP also sets where the cleanup levels must be achieved. The location where cleanup levels must be met is called the “point of compliance.” Occidental must meet protective, health-based cleanup standards throughout the entire groundwater plume. The dCAP also sets performance standards that make sure the groundwater contamination is contained.

Occidental must also prevent soil contamination from continuing to pollute groundwater. Contaminated soil under buildings releases vapor that pollutes indoor air. Indoor air contamination must be kept below specific levels that are set to protect workers. These cleanup levels, combined with remedy performance standards, make up the overall cleanup standards for the Occidental site.

OCCIDENTAL TACOMA SITE • CLEANUP ACTION PLAN

KEY ELEMENTS

1 Early Action Source Treatment

- Treats shallow soil, groundwater and soil vapor.
- Dewateres contaminated shallow soil for treatment.
- Extracts contaminated shallow soil vapor for treatment.
- Extracts contaminated shallow groundwater for treatment.
- Reduces migration and potential release of hazardous substances (groundwater, soil, soil vapor, indoor air, and ambient air).

2 Vertical Barrier Wall

- Contains shallow groundwater and pH plume.
- Provides bank stabilization.
- Improves efficiency of the groundwater extraction system.

- ▬ Occidental property line
- pH > 10
- CVOC in soil > 500 mg/kg
- CVOC in water > 1,000 ug/L

Notes:
 The CVOC plume extends to 180 ft. below sea level.
 The pH plume extends to 100 ft. below sea level.

3 Cover System

- Eliminates direct contact exposure.
- Reduces infiltration.

4 Containment and Mass Reduction by Strategic Groundwater Pumping

- Extracts mass.
- Contains plume.

5 Institutional Controls

Limit/prohibit activities that interfere with the integrity of the remedy.

6 Long-Term Monitoring

Provides routine soil vapor and groundwater monitoring.

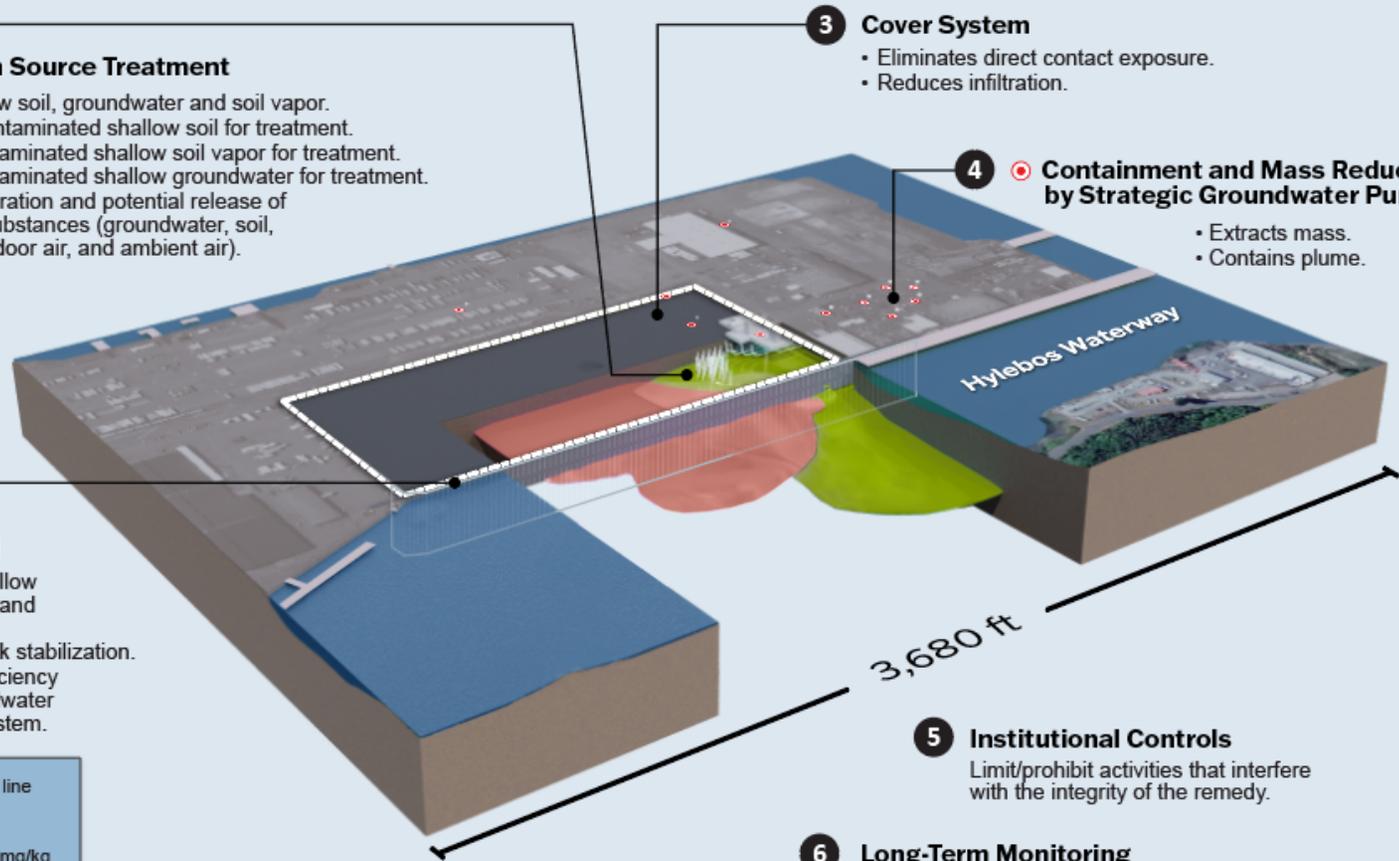


Figure 3: Occidental site cleanup action plan.

Formal cleanup process

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 design and 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.

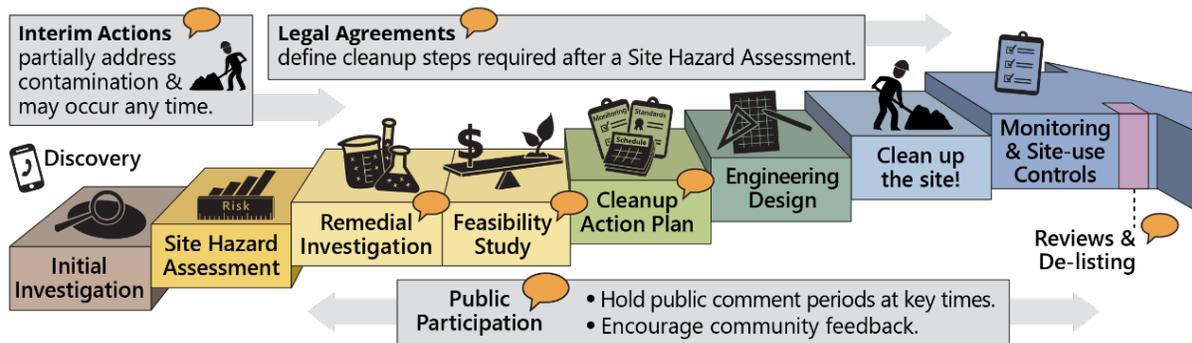


Figure 4: Formal cleanup process infographic (English).

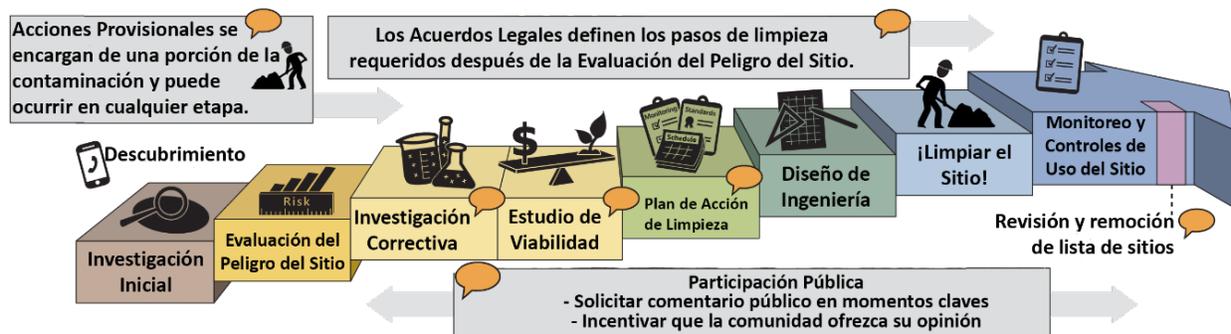


Figure 5: Formal cleanup process infographic (Spanish).



Figure 6. Formal cleanup process infographic (Vietnamese).

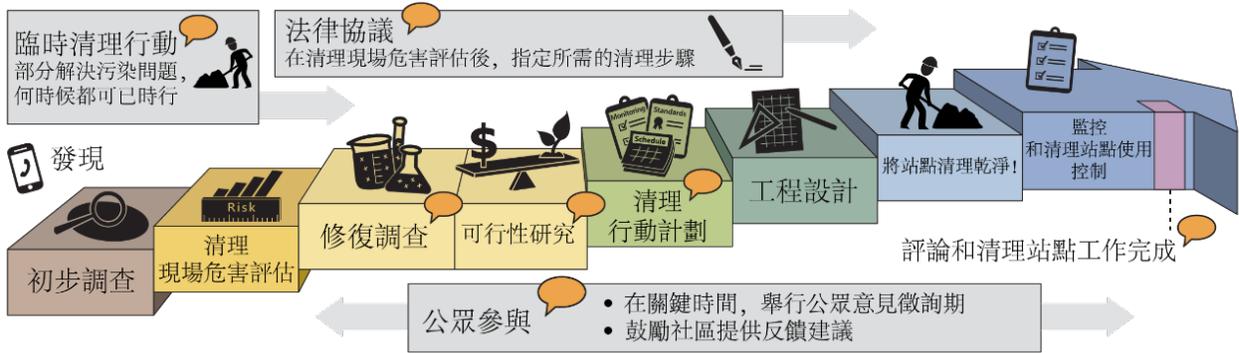


Figure 7. Formal cleanup process infographic (Chinese).

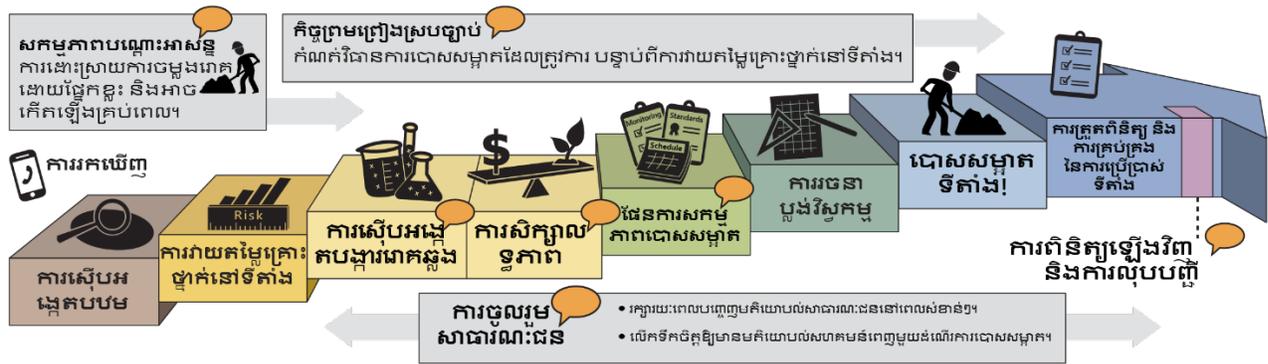


Figure 8. Formal cleanup process infographic (Khmer).

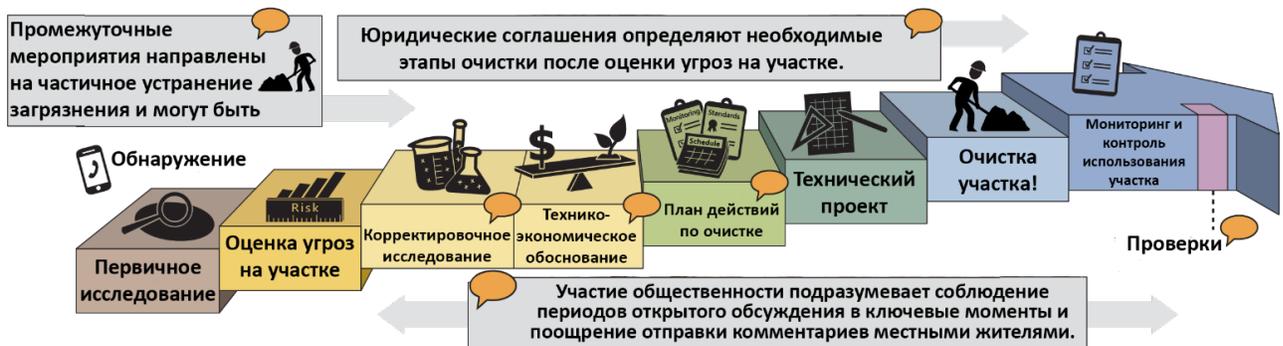


Figure 9. Formal cleanup process infographic (Russian).

Environmental Justice and Title VI

Environmental justice (EJ) promotes fair treatment of all people under environmental laws and policies, regardless of their race, color, national origin, or income.

In Washington (and across the United States), more people of color and low-income people live and work near industrial facilities, contaminated sites, and in neighborhoods without easy access to fresh food, green spaces, or clean air and water. These conditions negatively and unfairly affect their health and safety.

EJ strategies and compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act are key to addressing these inequities—especially through public involvement. We make every effort to inform and involve all people. To do this, we use demographic information to design our messaging to fit the community.

Demographics

Below are the demographic indicators for the area around Occidental, including the people of color, low-income, and limited English-speaking populations.⁸ We used EPA’s EJSCREEN mapping tool for the area within 3.14 square miles around the Occidental site. We found no socioeconomic indicators above the state’s 80th percentile.

Table 1. Study of the people living within 3.14 square miles around the site (population 1,285).

Socioeconomic Indicators	Value	State Average	Percentile in State
Demographic Index	27%	28%	55
Supplemental Demographic Index	9%	12%	36
People of Color Population	40%	32%	68
Low-Income Population	15%	24%	37
Unemployment Rate	3%	5%	43
Limited English Speaking	4%	4%	73
Population with Less Than High School Education	5%	8%	43
Population Under 5 Years of Age	6%	6%	58
Population Over 64 Years of Age	17%	16%	57
Low Life Expectancy	16%	18%	28

⁸ <https://ejscreen.epa.gov/mapper/>

Languages spoken in the community

Non-English languages spoken near the site are:

- Spanish (26%)
- Other Indo-European (5%)
- Chinese (including Mandarin and Cantonese) (4%)
- Other Asian and Pacific Island languages (4%)
- French, Haitian, or Cajun (3%)
- Russian, Polish, or other Slavic languages (1%)
- Other and unspecified (3%)

These languages are spoken by 47 percent of the population within 3.14 square miles around the site.

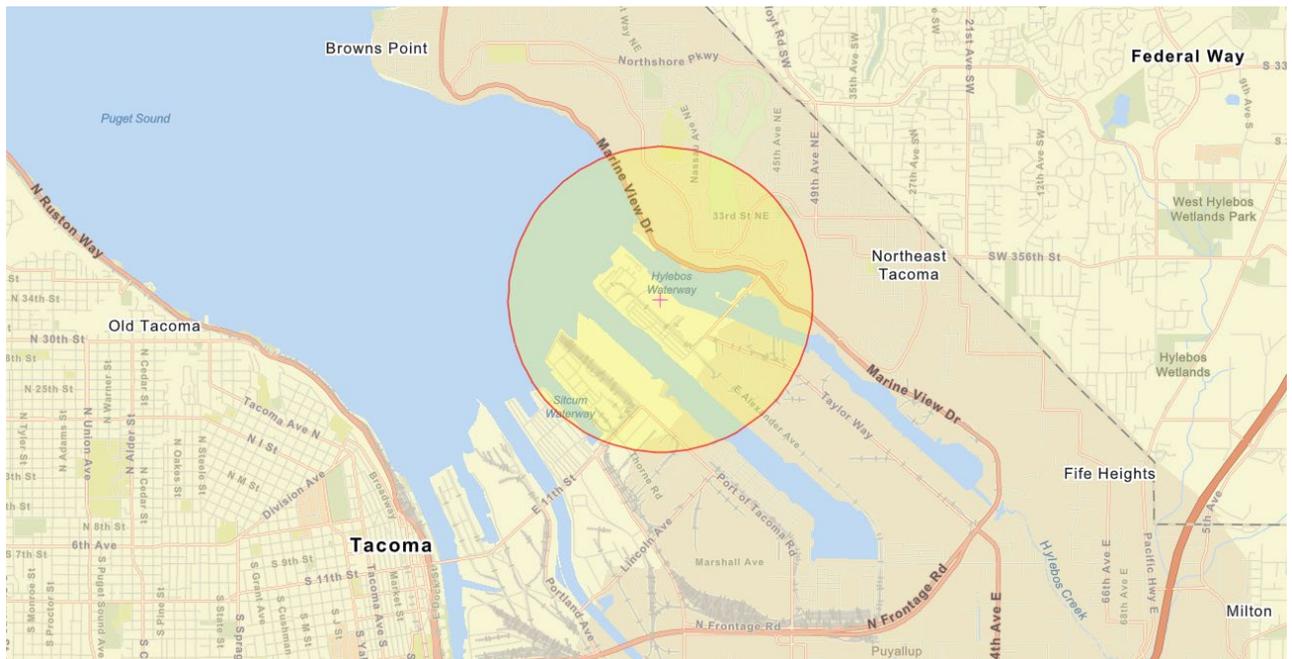


Figure 10: Environmental justice (EJ) demographic screening boundaries around Occidental, from EPA's EJSCREEN mapping tool.⁹

English language proficiency

According to EJSCREEN census data, the households that speak English “less than very well” make up 4 percent of the area population.

⁹ <https://ejscreen.epa.gov/mapper/>

Outreach activities and language access

Based on this analysis, we will conduct the following outreach activities for this site:

- Contact cultural organizations and leaders in local communities.
- Provide information about requesting language services in all public materials.
- Provide information for this site in Spanish, Chinese, Vietnamese, Korean, Khmer, Russian, and French for all basic outreach materials.
- Translate all documents that are vital or critical to well-being for language groups that are either 5% of the population or more than 1,000 people.

Ecology will contact cultural community organizations as part of our outreach and provide information in other languages following federal guidance.¹⁰ When appropriate, we will provide outreach materials in these languages. We strive to make our public participation efforts as inclusive as possible and welcome your input about how to reach the nearby community.

Language services

To request translation or interpretation services, please contact:

Janelle Anderson, Community Outreach & Environmental Education Specialist
Washington State Department of Ecology
Northwest Region Office
P.O. Box 330316
Shoreline, WA 98133
Phone: 425-301-6454
Email: Janelle.anderson@ecy.wa.gov

Tribal involvement

Ecology will invite the federally recognized Puyallup Tribe of Indians to engage in decision-making on a government-to-government basis.

¹⁰ 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).

Public Participation Activities

Members of the public may ask questions, submit informal comments, or share site information at any time. Interested parties don't 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 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 around the site. The mailing list area varies depending on the type of contamination and its location, but the list will at least include addresses within a quarter-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. We will include information on how to request a public meeting if one is not yet scheduled.

Ecology 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 extra costs.

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

Postal mailing list

We maintain a mailing list that includes addresses near the site. This mailing list also includes local, state, tribal, and federal government contacts.

Everyone will receive public comment notices when draft documents are available.

We'll 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 Janelle Anderson at 425-301-6454 or janelle.anderson@ecy.wa.gov.

Site Register

Public comment periods, events, and other cleanup notices are published in Ecology's [Site Register](#).¹¹ To receive the site register by email, please [subscribe online](#),¹² or contact Sarah Kellington at sarah.kellington@ecy.wa.gov or 360-280-3167.

Newspaper display ads or legal notices

We will announce public comment periods and events for this site in ads or notices published in [The News Tribune](#)¹³ and [Tacoma Weekly](#).¹⁴

Ecology's website and social media platforms

Visit our [Occidental website](#)¹⁵ for more information and related documents. Information may also be shared about cleanup sites through social media, [news releases](#),¹⁶ and [Ecology's blog](#).¹⁷

Document repositories

You may review documents in person at this location by appointment:

Washington State Department of Ecology

Southwest Region Office
300 Desmond Dr.
Lacey, WA 98503
Reception (24-hour): 360-407-6300

University of Washington Tacoma Library

1900 Commerce St.
Tacoma, WA 98402
Phone: 253-692-4400

Tacoma Public Library Kobetich Branch

212 Browns Point Blvd. NE
Tacoma, WA 98422
Phone: 253-280-2920

Communities for a Healthy Bay

535 Dock St., Suite 213
Tacoma, WA 98402
Phone: 253-383-2429

¹¹ ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/Guidance-technical-assistance/Site-Register-lists-and-data

¹² https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/WAECY/subscriber/new?topic_id=WAECY_118

¹³ <https://www.thenewstribune.com/>

¹⁴ <https://tacomaweekly.com/>

¹⁵ ecology.wa.gov/OccidentalSite

¹⁶ <https://ecology.wa.gov/About-us/Get-to-know-us/News>

¹⁷ <https://ecology.wa.gov/blog>

Signs around the cleanup site

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

How to share information with us

You may ask questions, submit informal comments, or share site information with us at any time. Please contact Janelle Anderson at 425-301-6454 or janelle.anderson@ecy.wa.gov.

To be included in the formal site record, comments must be submitted during formal public comment periods. At minimum, MTCA requires 30-day public comment periods for draft cleanup documents and 14-day comment periods for 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 will 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 Janelle Anderson at 425-301-6454 or janelle.anderson@ecy.wa.gov.

Public comment periods

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

Following a comment period, we publish all the input we received and respond to 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 don't result in significant changes, they become final.

Public events

We hold public meetings, workshops, open houses, and public hearings based on community interest. If we haven't scheduled a meeting, we will hold one if 10 people request it—we may extend the public comment period so the meeting occurs during it.

Events are held near the site at venues that meet Americans with Disabilities Act standards. Public meetings, workshops, open houses, and hearings are 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 an ADA accommodation, contact us by phone at 360-407-6700 or email at hwtrpubs@ecy.wa.gov. For Washington Relay Service or TTY call 711 or 877-833-6341. Visit [Ecology's ADA website](#)¹⁸ for more information.

Public Participation Plan Amendments

Ecology developed this PPP following MTCA regulations (WAC 173-340-600). We review it as the cleanup progresses and amend it as necessary. You may suggest amendments to Janelle Anderson by phone at 425-301-6454 or email janelle.anderson@ecy.wa.gov.

This PPP includes information for the public regarding opportunities for public involvement and comment. The planned outreach activities will keep the public informed and provide ways for people to communicate their concerns and questions.

If you feel the planned outreach activities are insufficient or need changes, we welcome your feedback. Different outreach activities or outreach tools can be used right away, with or without updating this plan.

¹⁸ <https://ecology.wa.gov/accessibility>

List of Abbreviations and Acronyms

Table 2. List of abbreviations and acronyms.

Abbreviation or Acronym	Definition
ADA	Americans with Disabilities Act
AO	Agreed order
CAP	Cleanup action plan
Cleanup	Corrective actions to remove site contamination
dCAP	Draft cleanup action plan
Ecology	Washington State Department of Ecology
EJ	Environmental justice
EJScreen	EPA's Environmental Justice Screening and Mapping Tool
EPA	US Environmental Protection Agency
FS	Feasibility study
MTCA	Model Toxics Control Act
Occidental	Occidental Chemical Corporation
PLP	Potentially liable party
PPP, Plan	Public participation plan
RCRA	Resource Conservation and Recovery Act
RI	Remedial investigation
Sediments	Submerged lands
SEPA	State Environmental Policy Act
Site	Area where hazardous substances are currently located
TSD	Treatment, storage, and disposal facility
WAC	Washington Administrative Code

Appendix A. Plain Text Version of Figure 3

Occidental Tacoma Site Cleanup Action Plan: Key elements

1. Early action source treatment

- Treats shallow soil, groundwater and soil vapor.
- Extracts groundwater and dewateres contaminated shallow soil for treatment.
- Extracts contaminated shallow groundwater for treatment.
- Reduces migration and potential release of hazardous substances (groundwater, soil, soil vapor, indoor air, and ambient air).

2. Vertical barrier wall

- Contains shallow groundwater and the pH plume.
- Provides bank stabilization.
- Improves efficiency of the groundwater extraction system.

3. Cover system

- Eliminates direct contact exposure.
- Reduces infiltration.

4. Containment and mass reduction by strategic groundwater pumping

- Extracts mass.
- Contains plume.

5. Institutional controls

Limit/prohibit activities that interfere with integrity of the remedy.

6. Long-term monitoring

Provides routine soil vapor and groundwater monitoring.