ALUMINUM RECYCLING CORPORATION ENGINEERING DESIGN DOCUMENTS AND SEPA DNS

WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

The Washington State Department of Ecology invites the public to review and comment on the Engineering Design Documents and State Environmental Policy Act Determination of Non-Significance (SEPA DNS) for cleanup activities at the Aluminum Recycling Corporation Site. These documents are submitted as required under authority of the Model Toxics Control Act (MTCA), Chapter 70.105D RCW. The Site is located at East 3412 Wellesley Avenue, in the City of Spokane, Spokane County, Washington (Figure 1). The Potentially Liable Persons (PLPs) at the Site are Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway Company (BNSF), Kaiser Aluminum and Chemical Corporation (Kaiser), and Alumax Inc. (Alumax).

The Engineering Design Documents, also known as the Remedial Action Plan, give the engineering design of the proposed cleanup action and contain other supporting documents.

The State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA, Chapter 197-11 WAC) Rules require that proponents of a project with a potential adverse affect on the environment complete a checklist. The checklist requires details of the project and ways the environment will be impacted and protected. Ecology has determined that the proposed actions for this project do not have a significant adverse impact on the environment; therefore, a Determination of Non-Significance has been issued.

Ecology invites the public to review and comment on the Engineering Design Documents and SEPA DNS October 10, through October 24, 2001. The box at the right indicates where written comments may be sent, documents reviewed and additional information obtained.

SITE BACKGROUND

An aluminum dross reprocessing facility was operated by Hillyard Processing Company on the land leased from Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway Company. Hillyard Processing Company reportedly began aluminum reprocessing at the Site in 1954, and the activities continued through several operator changes. Aluminum Recycling Corporation was the latest operator of the facility until 1987 when the property was abandoned.

The facility processed aluminum skim, called white dross, in a batch process. The white dross was obtained from aluminum smelters, including Kaiser. The process involved the addition of sodium

FACT SHEET
October 2001

COMMENTS ACCEPTED:
October 10, 2001 through October 24, 2001.

REPOSITORIES (Document Review):

WA Department of Ecology
Eastern Regional Office
4601 N. Monroe,
Spokane, WA 99205-1295

Spokane Public Library
Hillyard Branch
4005 N. Cook Street
Spokane, WA 99207-5879

Written Comments and Technical Questions Contact:

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Toxics Cleanup Program
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and potassium chloride salts and the extraction of molten aluminum metal, which was poured into ingots and sold. The high chloride waste resulting from this process, known as black dross, remains on site along with non-reprocessed white dross waste. An estimated 65,000 cubic yards of wastes remains on-site.

Ecology completed an inspection in December 1987 and the Site was ranked using the Washington Ranking Method (WARM) in August of 1991. An Agreed Order between Ecology and BNSF to conduct a Remedial Investigation/ Feasibility Study (RI/FS) was signed on November 16, 1998. The RI/FS, completed in November 1999, investigated the nature and extent of contamination at the Site and determined the potential cleanup actions. Results of the RI showed groundwater is contaminated with chloride, fluoride, nitrate, and nitrite. Soil contains elevated levels of lead. Dross is the source of these contaminants.

The Cleanup Action Plan prepared by Ecology described the selected cleanup action for the site. After public notice and opportunity to comment, on-site containment was chosen as the cleanup action. Specifically, the cleanup action includes the following :

- regrading of site materials;
- installation of a multi-media cover system to prevent infiltration through the dross;
- cover system and fence maintenance;
- quarterly monitoring of groundwater for chloride, fluoride, nitrate, and nitrite;
- institutional controls, including fences, signs, and restrictive covenants; and
- five year reviews to determine the effectiveness of the selected remedy.

ENGINEERING DESIGN DOCUMENTS AND SEPA DNS

The Engineering Design Documents are comprised of several components: the Engineering Design, Compliance Monitoring, Quality Assurance, Data Management, Site Safety and Health Plans, and Project Schedule. These plans provide the specific details about how the cover system will be constructed, the way samples will be collected, the format and quality control of data and reports, and how on-site and off-site populations will be protected during construction.

The SEPA documents include the checklist outlining the environmental effects of the project, and the DNS signed by Ecology.

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

Ecology will review all written comments on the Engineering Design Documents and SEPA DNS and, if necessary, the documents will be modified. A Responsiveness Summary will be prepared to answer written comments. After the Engineering Design Documents and SEPA DNS are finalized, cleanup will begin at the site.

HOW CAN YOU BE INVOLVED?

The public comment period represents an opportunity to have your ideas and comments heard by Ecology. Some ways you can get involved are:

- **REVIEW Engineering Design Documents and SEPA DNS.**
  The Site documents at the Spokane Public Library/ Hillyard Branch are available any time during regular library hours. To review documents in Spokane, contact Johnnie Harris of Ecology at (509) 456-2751 to schedule an appointment. Reviews may be scheduled for Monday through Thursday, 8-5 p.m. by appointment.

- **SEND IN Written Comments October 10, 2001 through October 24, 2001 to:**

  Ms. Sandra Treccani at Ecology (see box on page one for details).

- **SHARE THIS INFORMATION with any individuals or groups you think should be informed about the Site.**