# SOUTH WILBUR PETROLEUM CONTAMINATION SITE DRAFT CONSENT DECREE



The Washington State Department of Ecology is proposing to enter into a Consent Decree with Lincoln County. The decree is a legal document that formalizes the agreement between Ecology and Lincoln County to clean up petroleum contamination in soil and groundwater at the South Wilbur site. It also ensures the cleanup will proceed in accordance with all applicable laws and regulations. Contamination at the site is a result of fueling activities that have taken place since the early 1930s. The site is located in the city of Wilbur, Lincoln County, Washington (Fig. 1).

## **Documents for Review**

You are invited to review and submit comments on the Consent Decree **September 30, 2004 through October 29, 2004**. See the box at the right for locations to review documents and send comments.

## Site Background

The site consists of three properties located near the intersection of Front Avenue and Anne Street, south of downtown Wilbur. The Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) and Lincoln County Maintenance Facilities have both been in operation since the early 1930s; however, the WSDOT facility was closed in 1996. The former Lincoln Mutual #3 fueling station operated from the 1960s through the 1980s. These parties have been identified as responsible parties for contamination at the site. However, Lincoln Mutual #3 and WSDOT have declined to sign the Consent Decree.

# Contamination Discovered, Investigations and Work Begin

Contamination was first discovered by WSDOT during site assessments in June 1995. The assessments were part of a standard procedure necessary to close the facility. Soil sampling conducted as part of the assessments showed petroleum contamination; therefore, additional investigations were recommended.

WSDOT completed three phases of work:

- installation of four groundwater monitoring wells on their property;
- installation of three additional monitoring wells upgradient on the Lincoln County property; and
- installation of 18 temporary boreholes further upgradient.



# August 2004

**Public Comments Accepted** September 30, 2004 through October 29, 2004

# **Document Review Locations**

WA Department of Ecology Eastern Regional Office 4601 N. Monroe Spokane, WA 99205-1295 Mrs. Johnnie Landis 509-329-3415

#### Hesseltine Public Library

14 NW Division St. Wilbur, WA 99185 509-647-5828 Hours: Mon, Fri & Sat 3-5 pm Wed 7-9 pm

Ecology's Toxics Cleanup Website: <u>http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/tcp/si</u> <u>tes/sites\_information.html</u> (click on South Wilbur Petroleum under Lincoln County)

# Comments and Technical Questions

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Soil and groundwater samples were collected during all three phases of the work. Gasoline and benzene, toluene, ethylbenzene, and xylene (BTEX) compounds were present in groundwater and soil on all three properties.

# **Remedial Investigation/ Feasibility Study**

Additional investigations confirmed the soil and groundwater contamination documented in the WSDOT investigations. A draft Remedial Investigation/ Feasibility Study (RI/FS) was completed in 2002. The purpose of the RI/FS was to investigate the nature and extent of contamination at the site and determine potential cleanup actions.

Major site activities during this time included installation of wells, soil and groundwater sampling, sampling of neighboring Goose Creek, and installation of temporary boreholes to measure the extent of soil contamination.

Results of the RI sampling showed that shallow groundwater is contaminated with gasoline, diesel, benzene, ethylbenzene, and xylene. Shallow soil is contaminated with gasoline and minor amounts of diesel fuel.

The FS evaluated several cleanup options for the Site. Lincoln County proposed the option of removing the soil that is the source of contamination, using engineering controls and enhanced bioremediation.

# **Selected Cleanup Actions**

Ecology evaluated the information and cleanup options presented in the RI/FS and agreed with Lincoln County's proposed cleanup option. The selected cleanup actions are removing the soil that is the source of contamination, using engineering controls and enhanced bioremediation. Details of the selected cleanup action may be found in the Cleanup Action Plan which is an exhibit to the decree. Main elements of this cleanup action include:

• Removing contaminated soil and treating it offsite;

- Backfilling excavated areas with a mix of clean fill and an oxygen releasing compound;
- Installing a phytoremediation barrier on the north and west sides of the site, and engineering controls (including asphalt pavement, and stormwater controls); and
- Using institutional controls, which are restrictions used to maintain the integrity of the cleanup action. A Restrictive Covenant is included as an exhibit to the decree. This document provides a legal description of the property and limits groundwater and land use.

# What Happens Next

Ecology will review all comments received on the Draft Consent Decree and modify the document, if applicable. Once the consent decree is finalized, Lincoln County will prepare a Remedial Action Plan for the Site that will provide all details on the implementation of the cleanup action.

