

Bothell Riverside HVOC Site

Summary of Comment Period Questions



Summary:

Ecology held a public comment period from April 7 – May 6, 2025, for the [Bothell Riverside HVOC site](#)¹ in downtown Bothell. The public was invited to review and comment on an Agreed Order Amendment and Cleanup Action Plan Addendum (Exhibit E of the Agreed Order). While we received no formal comments during the comment period, we received two emailed questions. Below is a copy of the emails we received and our answers to these questions. Contact [Sunny Becker](mailto:sunny.becker@ecy.wa.gov)², Cleanup Site Manager, (425) 457-3842, for further information about this cleanup site.

Question 1:

Sunday, April 6, 2025 @ 3:18 PM

Hi Sunny, I'm a resident in downtown Bothell, and am concerned about living here during the upcoming cleanup due to my asthma. I'm reading the publication (25-09-149) that was recently mailed to residents, and cannot find information on how this might affect our air quality. When will the cleanup be taking place, and what are the possibilities for airborne particles and other air quality impacts? Are there any recommendations for residents to maintain low levels of pollution for optimal air quality?

Answer:

Construction for the cleanup action is expected to occur in late Spring of 2026. The cleanup will minimally disturb the ground surface at the site. Some dust is expected as equipment needed for the cleanup drives on the current gravel parking lot. However, this amount of dust will be like that created during normal use of the parking lot. If visible dust appears to be leaving the site, the contractor will implement dust control measures.

The other airborne emission that will be generated during the cleanup action is vehicle exhaust. This exhaust would be generated by one drill rig that is about the size of a large pickup truck and would run periodically to inject the contamination treatment into the ground. The project will also put into place measures to minimize equipment idling. The amount of vehicle emission generated during the cleanup will be much less than the vehicle emissions that are regularly generated by traffic traveling on SR-522 next to the roadway.

This information and other environmental considerations for this cleanup action are found in the State Environmental Policy Act checklist for the project. This is available on Ecology's webpage for this cleanup site: <https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/cleanupsearch/document/154149>. Section B2 on page 5 is the portion of this checklist that addresses Air Quality during the cleanup action. Thank you for your questions and please let us know if there is anything else we can do to help explain the proposed cleanup at the Bothell Riverside HVOC site.

¹ <https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/cleanupsearch/site/14970>

² sunny.becker@ecy.wa.gov

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Question 2:

Friday, April 18, 2025 9:49 AM

Hi, Ecology friends...

I have a question about the project. I am docent (among other volunteer undertakings) at the Bothell History Museum located in the park associated with the remediation project. Bothell has been pathetically unresponsive about the parking situation as it relates to the downtown core, building apartments but not requiring free onsite parking for them. One of the few remaining places for people to park as they patronize downtown businesses (one of which my husband owns) and the park/museum is the lot undergoing remediation.

My sense is that this project will not impact use of the gravel lot. Is that the case? Most users would love to see the lot graded, then graveled. This request has been made of the City in conversations with them and has been passed on to the parks department. If the City does choose to do that work, would it be impeded by the project such that schedules should be coordinated?

Thanks for any info that you can provide.

Answer:

Thank you for your questions. Here are our responses to your main points:

Main Point #1: My sense is that this project will not impact use of the gravel lot. Is that the case?

The cleanup work will use an area of the eastern portion of the gravel lot (about 60 feet by 60 feet) for equipment staging throughout the construction work, which is expected to last for about four to six weeks. During this time, the drilling rig will also move to different areas within the eastern part of the gravel lot to perform the groundwater treatment injections. The immediate area surrounding the drilling rig, which is about the size of a large pickup truck, will be closed off for public safety during the day while injection work is being performed and opened once the work is finished in that particular location.

Main Point #2: Most users would love to see the lot graded, then graveled. This request has been made of the City in conversations with them and has been passed on to the parks department. If the City does choose to do that work, would it be impeded by the project such that schedules should be coordinated?

The cleanup work is scheduled to begin in late Spring of 2026 and finish during Summer 2026. The City of Bothell will coordinate the cleanup construction work with multiple City Departments, including the Parks and Recreation Department. You have the correct contact

person for questions related to the potential parking lot work (Nik Stroup, nik.stroup@bothellwa.gov). All inquiries about the future plans for the parking lot should be sent to Nik.