



Responsiveness Summary

Three Comments Received

K Ply

Cleanup Site ID: 28

Facility ID: 1002

Address: 439 Marine Dr, Port Angeles

County: Clallam

This report was prepared by:

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Cleanup Site Manager

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Toxics Cleanup Program

Southwest Region Office

Lacey, Washington

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<https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/cleanupsearch/site/28>

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¹ www.ecology.wa.gov/contact

2026 Periodic Review Public Comment Period

Ecology held a public comment period from May 14 at 8:00 AM to June 15 at 11:59 PM, 2026, for public review and comment on the draft periodic review report.

Ecology mailed a postcard with information about the public comment period to 533 addresses within a third of a mile from the site. Ecology emailed information about the public comment period to Ecology's [Cleanups in Port Angeles](#)² email list, which reached 795 subscribers. In addition to updating the project webpage, Ecology also added information about the public comment period to Ecology's main website, under "Public Input and Events". Ecology published notice of the comment period in the *Contaminated Site Register* on May 14, May 28, and June 11, 2026.

We received three comments. Comments and our responses are on pages 4-7. After reviewing comments, Ecology determined no changes to the periodic review report are necessary. The periodic review report is now final.

Site Background

This site on Port Angeles Harbor was used as a lumber mill and plywood mill from 1926 to 2011. The site is in the process of being redeveloped but is currently vacant except for a wash facility to clean yachts.

2016 cleanup included removing over 50,000 tons of soil, bioremediation, and groundwater monitoring. Ecology conducted a periodic review to ensure human health and the environment are still protected.

Outcomes of the Periodic Review

Ecology found that the cleanup is generally working as intended. However, concentrations of diesel in groundwater remain above cleanup levels. Diesel levels may not reach cleanup goals within 10 years of the cleanup work (by 2026), as planned.

The property owner, the Port of Port Angeles, in coordination with Ecology, will collect data to inform a decision on whether more cleanup is needed to address diesel concentrations. The Port is also responsible for sampling groundwater twice a year to monitor the cleanup effectiveness.

The next periodic review will be in about 5 years.

² https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/WAECY/subscriber/new?topic_id=WAECY_343

Comment from Anna Greene

Date: June 2, 2026, 3:02 PM

Submit method: Website

I'm concerned about the intention to leave contaminants in the ground right next to our harbor and the assumption that our waterfront land should remain industrial. We're an area known for our natural environment. The goal should be an actual clean up.

Ecology's response

Thank you for your comment.

A significant amount of cleanup work has already occurred at the site, including removing more than 50,000 tons of contaminated soil. The soil removed included most of the contaminated soil at the site, including the soil with the highest concentration from the source areas at the site. The remaining contaminated soil was considered inaccessible because of its depth or location under the nearby street or alley.

The remaining contaminated soil and groundwater were treated with bioremediation.

Bioremediation encourages the growth of microbes such as bacteria, fungi, or yeast that feed on the contamination and break it down into harmless compounds. Concentrations of gasoline and benzene have improved and are below cleanup levels, but diesel concentrations are still above cleanup levels in some areas of the site. Depending on 2026 sampling data, Ecology may also require additional cleanup to address diesel concentrations at the site.

The City of Port Angeles, not Ecology, makes zoning decisions about current and future land use at the site. The site is currently zoned for industrial use and anticipated to be part of the larger Marine Trades Industrial Park.

Comment from Anonymous

Date: May 20, 2026, 8:58 AM

Submit method: Website

Good work continuing to clean up this ecological mess. Please continue the work to ensure the area, including water, meet no less than state standards. The true goal would be for it to be returned to the state it was in when K Ply began production. They should also be solely responsible for the cost of the cleanup. K Ply profited and K Ply should pay. NO tax payer money should be used. The same should apply to all companies polluting/damaging the environment we all share.

Ecology's response

Thank you for your comment.

The Port of Port Angeles owns the K Ply site, which is currently zoned and planned for marine industrial use. Determining who is responsible for the costs of cleanup can be complex. We've found evidence that the Port of Port Angeles, ITT Rayonier, Inc., and ExxonMobil are responsible. The port agreed to complete the cleanup and pay the costs associated with cleaning up and monitoring this site under an agreement with Ecology. The other parties remained responsible, and the Port pursued reimbursement of costs from them.

Ecology offers funding to help cover cleanup costs through Remedial Action Grants. This funding is only available to public agencies, such as ports. The Port of Port Angeles received a remedial action grant to help fund their portion of the cleanup.

We agree that it is important for groundwater at the site to meet state cleanup standards. Groundwater gasoline and benzene concentrations dropped under their respective cleanup levels after soil excavation and bioremediation work. However, diesel concentrations remain above cleanup levels. Therefore, Ecology may require additional work to investigate and address the source of the diesel contamination.

Comment from Lindzie Theurer, Chehalis River Stewardship Project

Date: May 14, 2026, 10:12 PM

Submit method: Website

To Whom It May Concern,

The Chehalis River Stewardship Project appreciates the continued oversight and public involvement opportunities regarding the K Ply cleanup site.

Our organization supports long-term environmental accountability, transparency, and continued monitoring efforts associated with contaminated industrial properties throughout Washington State, especially those connected to sensitive waterways, estuaries, groundwater systems, and surrounding communities.

Based on publicly available Department of Ecology documentation, the K Ply site has a long industrial history involving contamination impacts to soil and groundwater, including petroleum hydrocarbons, benzene-related compounds, and pentachlorophenol (PCP). We appreciate the cleanup work, monitoring efforts, and institutional controls currently associated with the site.

We encourage:

- Continued long-term groundwater and soil monitoring
- Strong public transparency regarding cleanup progress
- Ongoing environmental oversight and compliance review
- Clear public access to environmental data and reports
- Continued protection of surrounding shoreline and aquatic environments

We also support maintaining strong public participation opportunities so community organizations and residents can remain informed throughout the longterm stewardship process.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit comments and participate in the public record.

Sincerely,

Lindzie Theurer
President
Chehalis River Stewardship Project

Ecology's response

Thank you for your comment.

A variety of legal, outreach, and technical documents about cleanup at K Ply are publicly available at the [K Ply webpage](#)³. This includes annual progress reports showing detailed sampling results for the site.

Ecology will continue reviewing groundwater samples to monitor the cleanup effectiveness. About every five years, Ecology will write a draft periodic review report summarizing conditions at the site and put that draft report out for public comment. If Ecology requires the Port of Port Angeles to conduct additional cleanup work to address diesel concentrations at the site, Ecology will also make those cleanup plans available for public comment.

³ <https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/cleanupsearch/site/28>