

## **Agreed Order for Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study Available for Public Comment**

The Washington State Department of Ecology, White Birch Group, LLC and E.I. du Pont de Nemours and Company are entering into a legal agreement to begin cleanup of contamination at the Superlon Plastics property in Tacoma.

The Agreed Order is a legal document that will require White Birch Group, LLC and E.I. du Pont de Nemours and Company to:

- Conduct a Remedial Investigation to determine the nature and extent of contamination.
- Conduct a Feasibility Study to examine possible cleanup options.

### **Ecology Wants Your Input!**

Ecology is asking for your comments on the proposed Agreed Order to begin cleanup. You are invited to:

- **Review** the Agreed Order.
- **Send** your comments to Ecology for consideration. **Comments will be accepted until May 27, 2009.**

### **What Happens Next?**

- Ecology will review and consider comments received during the comment period and make changes to the Agreed Order if appropriate.
- At the end of the comment period, Ecology will create a responsiveness summary document which will contain all of the comments received and Ecology's responses. This document will be sent to all those who commented and will be posted online.
- The Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study will be completed.

### **Site Background**

The 3.1 acre site is located at 2116 Taylor Way in Tacoma between the Blair and Hylebos Waterways (see map on page 3). From 1925 to 1951, the property was used to produce and warehouse lead-arsenate pesticides. In 1951, the site was sold and operated as a lumber company and wood treatment facility until 1972. Superlon Plas-

### **Comments Accepted**

April 27 – May 27, 2009

#### **Submit Comments and Technical Questions to:**

Laura Klasner, Site Manager  
WA Department of Ecology  
SWRO Toxics Cleanup Program  
P.O. Box 47775  
Olympia, WA 98504-7775  
Phone: (360) 407- 6265  
E-mail: lkla461@ecy.wa.gov

#### **Public Involvement Contact:**

Meg Bommarito  
Phone: (360) 407- 6255  
E-mail: mbom461@ecy.wa.gov

#### **Document Review Locations**

**Tacoma Public Library**  
1102 Tacoma Avenue South  
Tacoma, WA 98402  
Phone: (253) 591-5666

**WA Department of Ecology  
Southwest Regional Office**  
300 Desmond Drive SE  
Lacey, WA 98503

By appointment only:  
Contact Debbie Nelson,  
dene461@ecy.wa.gov or  
(360) 407-6365

**Citizens for a Healthy Bay**  
917 Pacific Avenue, Suite 100  
Tacoma, WA 98402  
Phone: (253) 383-2429

#### **Ecology's Toxics Cleanup Website**

[http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/tcp/sites/SuperlonPlastics/SupPlas\\_hp.html](http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/tcp/sites/SuperlonPlastics/SupPlas_hp.html)



tics purchased the site to manufacture plastic piping from 1972 to present. The company is still in operation.

In 1990, an Ecology site investigation led to the discovery of 34 corroded drums on the dirt floor in one of the building basements. Several contaminants were detected above state standards in soil, groundwater and standing water. Contaminants include arsenic, cadmium, lead, mercury, gasoline and oil range hydrocarbons, pentachlorophenol, tetrachloroethylene, trichloroethylene, cis-1,2-dichloroethylene, vinyl chloride, and chloromethane.

Ecology referred the site to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). In 1991, EPA performed an investigation of the site and recommended further investigation to determine if there was a need for removal of contamination.

As part of the Governor's 2007 Puget Sound Initiative, an effort to restore the health of Puget Sound by 2020, Ecology's Toxics Cleanup Program received resources to accelerate cleanups within 1/2 mile of the Sound. Ecology began to reevaluate sites within this area where there had been no action due to lack of resources. Superlon, and several other sites, were evaluated and became high priority sites.

In 2007, Ecology staff investigated the site and discovered the corroded drums were still on the site and found no evidence of cleanup. White Birch Group, LLC and E.I. du Pont de Nemours and Company and Ecology began negotiating the Agreed Order to begin cleanup.

Superlon has been working with Washington State Labor & Industries to ensure the safety and health of their employees. Several steps have been taken to make sure employee health is protected.



### How is a contaminated site cleaned up?

- Site cleanup begins with a **Remedial Investigation (RI) & Feasibility Study (FS)**. The RI is used to determine the type of contamination and the extent. The FS evaluates possible human health and environmental impacts, and examines possible cleanup alternatives.
- Ecology may allow **Interim Actions** to partially clean up a site before the final cleanup plan is complete.
- The **Cleanup Action Plan (CAP)** describes the cleanup methods and how they will meet Ecology's cleanup standards.
- **Cleanup** - Toxic substances are removed from the site, contained on the site, or treated to make them less toxic. Ecology oversees the cleanup and can require that the site be monitored.
- **Delisting** - Ecology keeps track of toxic cleanup sites on the Hazardous Sites List. When the cleanup goals have been reached, sites will be removed from this list.

Public involvement is an important part of the cleanup process. At key stages in the cleanup, documents will be available for public review and comment. For more information about the cleanup process, please visit:

<http://www.ecy.wa.gov/biblio/ftc94129.html>

### NEED MORE INFORMATION?

If you would like more information about worker safety, please contact

Leo Meléndez-Figueroa, PhD, REHS  
L&I Occupational Safety & Health Division  
950 Broadway, Suite 200  
Tacoma, WA 98402-4453

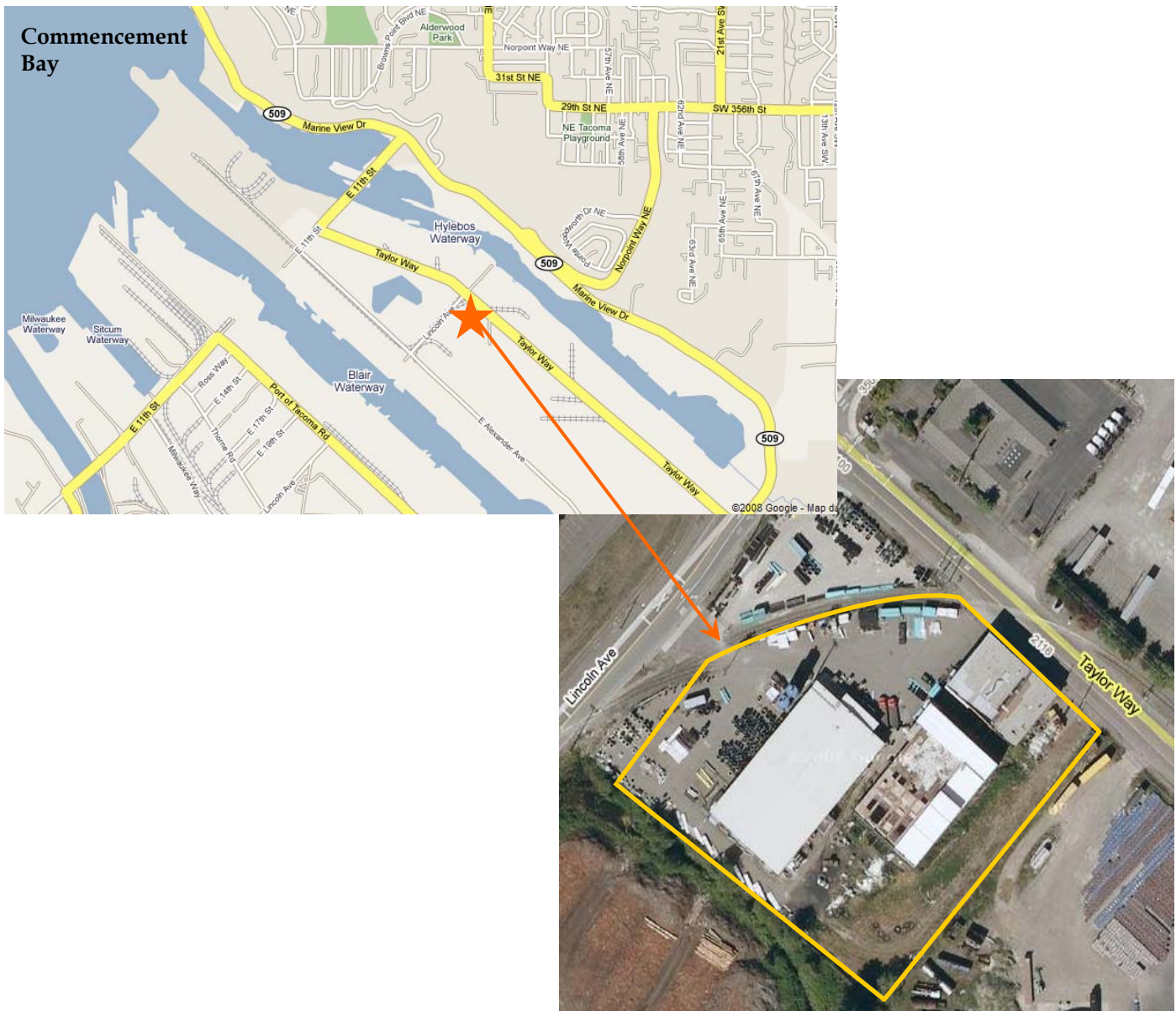
Phone: 253/596-3910  
Email: meln235@lni.wa.gov

## Why this Cleanup Matters

The cleanup of Superlon Plastics is important to protect both the health and safety of workers on site but also to protect and restore Puget Sound. The Superlon site is located between the Blair and Hylebos waterways which connect to Puget Sound. By cleaning up contamination at the Superlon site, we

are reducing the amount of toxic chemicals that could potentially enter the sound. This could result in cleaner water for people, plants and animals that live and recreate in Puget Sound.

## Superlon Plastics Site Location





DEPARTMENT OF  
**ECOLOGY**  
State of Washington

PO Box 47775  
Olympia, WA 98504-7775

## **Superlon Plastics Tacoma, WA**

### **Agreed Order to Begin Cleanup is Now Available for Public Review and Comment**

**Public Comment Period:  
April 27 – May 27, 2009**

**Facility Site ID #2776343**

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