



R.G. Haley International Corporation, Inc. Site Bellingham

Agreed order documents available for review

The Washington Department of Ecology (Ecology) and Douglas Management Company have negotiated a draft legal agreement (called an *agreed order*) to perform an environmental study (called a *remedial investigation/feasibility study*) at the former R.G. Haley International Corporation, Inc. site (R.G. Haley) in Bellingham, Washington. The agreed order outlines the work to be performed and ensures that the site investigation and cleanup activities are conducted in a timely fashion in accordance with all applicable laws and regulations. In addition to negotiating a draft agreed order with Douglas Management Company, Ecology has developed a draft *public participation plan* outlining opportunities throughout the process for the public to provide input.

Comments Encouraged!

The draft agreed order and draft public participation plan are currently available for public comment. Your comments on these proposed documents are welcome through **August 20, 2004**. The box at the right contains information on where to view the documents and how to submit comments. Ecology will respond in writing to all comments received and may make changes to the documents as a result of them. If these changes are significant, the revised documents will once again be made available for public review.

Site Background

The R.G. Haley site, located at 500 Cornwall Avenue, consists of approximately six acres of upland and aquatic areas (see map below). Previous owners of the upland area, including R.G. Haley International Corporation, Inc., performed activities related to wood treatment, including drying, treating with pentachlorophenol (PCP) in carrier oil, and storage. All wood treatment processes ceased in 1985, and Douglas Management Company purchased the upland portion of the site in 1990. Douglas Management Company has never conducted any activities at the site.

In 2001, an oil seep was observed discharging into Bellingham Bay from the shoreline along the northern boundary of the R.G. Haley site. An investigation revealed that portions of the site were contaminated with chemicals consistent with the site's former use as a wood treatment facility. The contaminants were found at levels exceeding state regulatory cleanup levels in surface water, shallow ground water, sediment and soil.



The visible release of contamination from the R.G. Haley site into Bellingham Bay was controlled through the installation of a barrier wall and a product recovery system. The temporary contaminant recovery system continues to operate and routine monitoring has confirmed that the contaminants have been effectively contained on-site.

The R.G. Haley site is subject to the investigation and cleanup requirements of the Model Toxics Control Act (MTCA) and the Sediment Management Standards, administered by Ecology. The R.G. Haley

July 2004

Comment Period:

**July 20, 2004 to
August 20, 2004**

**Documents are
available for review at:**

Department of Ecology
Bellingham Field Office
1204 Railroad Avenue, Ste 200
(360) 738-6250

Bellingham Public Library
210 Central Avenue, Bellingham

Department of Ecology
Northwest Regional Office
3190 160th Avenue SE
Bellevue, WA 98008

Department of Ecology website:
http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/tcp/sites/blhm_bay/sites/bellingham_bay_sites.html

Send comments to:

Glynis Carrosino, Site Manager
Department of Ecology
3190 160th Avenue SE
Bellevue, WA 98008-5952
E-mail: gcar461@ecy.wa.gov

Questions? Contact:

Glynis Carrosino
(425) 649-4422
E-mail: gcar461@ecy.wa.gov

If you have special accommodation needs or require this document in an alternative format, please contact Glynis Carrosino at (360) 676-2500 (Voice) or 711 or 1-800-833-6388

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site is one of several cleanup sites identified in the Bellingham Bay Comprehensive Strategy, a bay-wide guidance document issued in 2000. The Comprehensive Strategy integrates sediment cleanup, control of pollution sources, habitat restoration and aquatic/shoreline land use on a bay-wide scale.

Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study

The draft agreed order requires Douglas Management Company to complete a remedial investigation/feasibility study. This study will summarize existing environmental conditions at the R.G. Haley site, present a range of cleanup alternatives, and identify a preferred cleanup approach. It will build on previous site investigations and will provide the information necessary to select a preferred alternative for site cleanup. The remedial investigation/feasibility study will detail:

- Results of previous investigations.
- The nature and extent of contamination for soil, sediment, groundwater and surface water.
- Other important site information relevant to site cleanup.
- Multiple alternatives for cleanup of the R.G. Haley site, including evaluation of those alternatives against MTCA criteria including effectiveness, implementability, and cost-effectiveness.
- Definition of a preferred alternative.

The remedial investigation/feasibility study will be made available for public review and comment. This study is expected to be available for public review in 2005.

GLYNIS CARROSINO
DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY
NORTHWEST REGIONAL OFFICE
3190 160TH AVENUE S.E.
BELLEVUE, WA 98008-5452