

## Public Comment and Meeting on an Amended Agreed Order for Cleanup Activities

The Department of Ecology (Ecology) and the Port of Olympia (Port) are amending an **Agreed Order**, a legal agreement, to continue cleanup work at the Cascade Pole cleanup site. The site is located at 1412 Washington Street in Olympia. The amended Agreed Order requires the Port to complete Interim (partial) Cleanup Actions including:

- Removing contaminated soil from the North Point area in the northwestern corner of the Port's peninsula. See map on page 3.
- Moving the contaminated soil to another area of the cleanup site and capping it.
- Sampling soil after excavation to ensure all contamination was removed from the North Point area.

The Port completed a **State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) checklist** for the proposed Interim Action. The SEPA looks at the potential impacts of the project on the surrounding environment. Ecology reviewed the checklist and determined that the actions were not likely to have significant negative impacts (a Determination of Non-Significance). The checklist and determination are both available for public comment along with the Agreed Order.

Ecology will reissue a **National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit (NPDES)** already in place for the site to manage stormwater from the cleanup activities. The Port will fulfill permit requirements to make sure that contamination is not carried off-site. Ecology's Water Quality Program will hold a public comment period for this permit. Visit [http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wq/permits/southwest\\_permits.html](http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wq/permits/southwest_permits.html) to find out more about this permit and the associated comment period.

### Ecology Wants Your Input!

Ecology is asking for your comments on four documents. You are invited to:

- **Review** the Agreed Order, Interim Action Work Plan, SEPA checklist and SEPA Determination.
- **Send** your comments to Ecology. **Comments will be accepted through June 10.**

### Comments Accepted

May 10 - June 10, 2010

#### Submit Comments and Technical Questions to:

Mohsen Kourehdar, Site Manager  
WA Department of Ecology  
SWRO Toxics Cleanup Program  
P.O. Box 47775  
Olympia, WA 98504-7775  
Phone: (360) 407-6256  
E-mail:  
Mohsen.Kourehdar@ecy.wa.gov

#### Public Involvement Contact:

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

#### Document Review Locations

**Olympia Timberland Library**  
313 8th Avenue  
Olympia, WA 98501  
Phone: (360) 352-0595

**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

#### Ecology's Toxics Cleanup Website

[http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/tcp/sites/cascade\\_pole/Cascade\\_Pole\\_hp.htm](http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/tcp/sites/cascade_pole/Cascade_Pole_hp.htm)

**Facility Site ID # 1385**

- **Attend** the public meeting on June 3 at the Olympia Center (Room B) from 6:30 - 8:30 pm to learn more about the proposed cleanup actions. More information can be found on page 4.

### What Happens Next?

- Ecology will:
  - ⇒ Consider all public comments and may, if necessary, ask the Port to do additional work based on the comments.
  - ⇒ Finalize the Agreed Order at the end of the public comment period.
  - ⇒ Put together a Responsiveness Summary to summarize all comments received during the comment period.
- The Port will begin work to remove contaminated soil in the summer of 2010.

### Site Background

Cascade Pole operated a wood treatment plant on the site from 1957 to 1986. Creosote, a mixture of several different chemicals used to preserve wood, was released to the environment during the plant's operation. Soil and groundwater were contaminated as a result.

The Port has been working on cleaning up the Cascade Pole site for several years. Ecology and Cascade Pole entered into a legal agreement in 1990 to begin cleaning up pollution at the site. Since that time, the Port of Olympia has taken over responsibility for the cleanup. Ecology and the Port have entered into several legal agreements to continue with cleanup efforts. Ecology is amending the most recent legal agreement (an agreed order) to include new cleanup actions.

The Port has taken several interim (partial) cleanup actions to contain much of the contamination. See page 3 for information about cleanup activities taken at the site.

Ecology continues to work with the Port to make progress on the site cleanup. For a detailed history of the site cleanup, visit the web site (link on page 1).

### What Kind of Contamination Was Found at the Site?

Several chemicals were found in soil, groundwater and sediments at the Cascade Pole site. Some of these chemicals are breakdown products of creosote and others are by-products of the wood treatment process.

#### Primary contaminants include:

- Polynuclear aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs),
- Pentachlorophenol (PCP)
- Petroleum products
- Dioxins

The Port has contained much of the contamination on the site. **In the North Point area, some contamination remains in the soil. Dioxins and PAHs were found in amounts above the state cleanup levels.** Soil contamination was found in the upper one foot of soil. No contamination was found in the groundwater.

Some of the chemicals found at the site can pose a human health risk. For more information about the potential health impacts, visit:

- Dioxins  
<http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/tfacts104.pdf>
- PAHs  
<http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/tfacts69.pdf>



### Cleanup Actions Taken from 1990 - 2008 included:

- A Sediment Cleanup Area:** Dredging approximately 40,000 cubic yards of contaminated sediments from Area A.
- B Inner and Outer Sheet Pile Wall:** Installing two steel walls to stop the flow of contamination into Budd Inlet (shown in Area B).
- C Sediment Containment Cell:** Moving dredged sediments from Area A to Area C and capping them with pavement. The pavement stops rain water from entering the containment cell.
- D Slurry Wall:** Installing (1) a bentonite clay wall to stop the movement of contamination off-site.  
(2) a groundwater treatment system to remove some contamination and keep contamination from moving outside the containment area.

### 2010 Proposed Interim Cleanup Actions for the North Point area

- E** Removing contaminated soil from Area E (North Point Area).
- F** Moving contaminated soil from Area E to Area F. The soil will be capped with a low-permeability layer to eliminate possible human exposure to contamination and to prevent rain water from entering the containment area.

### Future activities:

- Testing the groundwater every six months to make sure that contamination is not moving outside of the containment area.
- Testing the sediments every five years within Area A to make sure that the containment system is working and the primary contaminants remain below the cleanup levels set for the site.



DEPARTMENT OF  
**ECOLOGY**

State of Washington

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## **Cascade Pole Olympia, WA**

### **Public Comment and Meeting on an Amended Agreed Order for Cleanup Activities**

**Public Comment Period:**  
May 10 - June 10, 2010

**Facility Site ID # 1385**

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### **Ecology Invites You to a Public Meeting!**

**Where:** Olympia Center, Room B  
222 Columbia St NW, Olympia

**When:** June 3, 2010  
6:30 - 8:30 pm

**Meeting Agenda:**

6:30 - 7:00 PM	Open House
7:00 - 8:00 PM	Presentation and Q/A Session
8:00 - 8:30 PM	Open House

Ecology staff members will be available for one-on-one discussion and to answer your questions. Light refreshments will be provided.

