

DEPARTMENT OF  
**ECOLOGY**  
State of Washington

## PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PLAN

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**Frederickson Industrial Park  
18001 Canyon Rd. East  
Puyallup, Washington**

**Facility Site Number 1301  
Cleanup Site Number 3557**

**Prepared by**  
Washington State Department of Ecology  
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## INTRODUCTION

Public participation plans promote meaningful involvement during cleanups. This plan describes the tools the Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) will use to inform the public and gather input about the Frederickson Industrial Park cleanup.

## LOCATION AND SITE BACKGROUND

The site address is 18001 Canyon Road East, Puyallup. The property is about 527 acres of land located south of 176<sup>th</sup> Street East and east of Canyon Road East in Puyallup (see Figure 1).

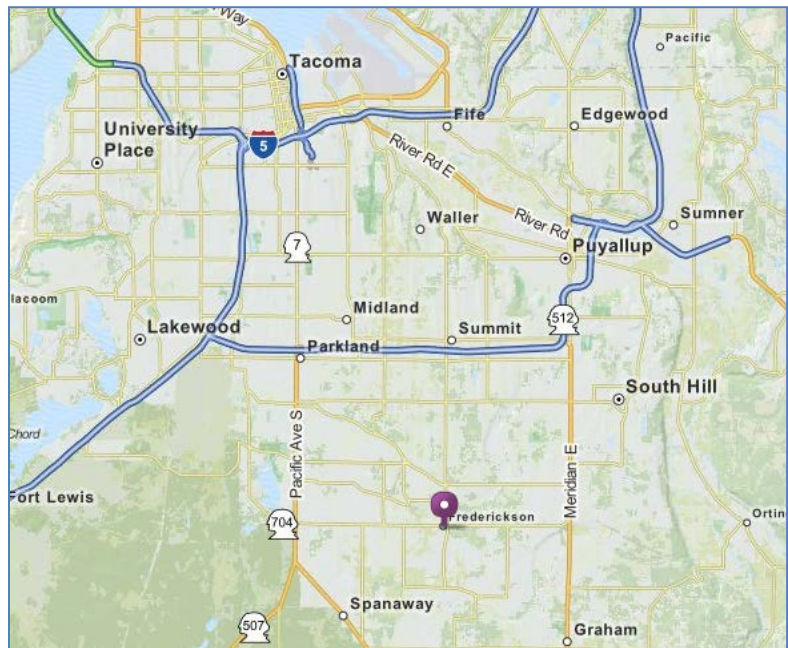
### Site Background

The Columbia Powder Company first developed the site in 1935 to produce explosives. Since then, property ownership changed many times:

- Columbia Powder Company sold the property to Olin Mathieson Chemical Corporation (Olin) in 1956.
- Olin sold the property to Commercial Solvents Corporation in 1963, which then changed its name to Mallinckrodt US, LLC (Mallinckrodt).
- Despite changes in ownership, explosives continued to be produced on site until 1976. Between 1976 and 1986, the site was used for timber cutting, lumber milling, and log storage.
- In 1987 Centrum Properties (Centrum) bought the site. Centrum then developed the site as an industrial park.
- In 1990, Centrum sold the property to the current site owner who developed the site to make aircraft parts.

Ecology named Mallinckrodt and Olin the potentially liable persons (PLPs) responsible for cleaning up the site in 1995. Mallinckrodt and Olin are the successors of previous site owners.

In 1997, Ecology entered into an agreed order with the PLPs to complete a second phase of the remedial investigation/feasibility study (RI/FS). The first phase was completed by Centrum in 1995.



**Figure 1. Approximate location of the Frederickson Industrial Park cleanup site**

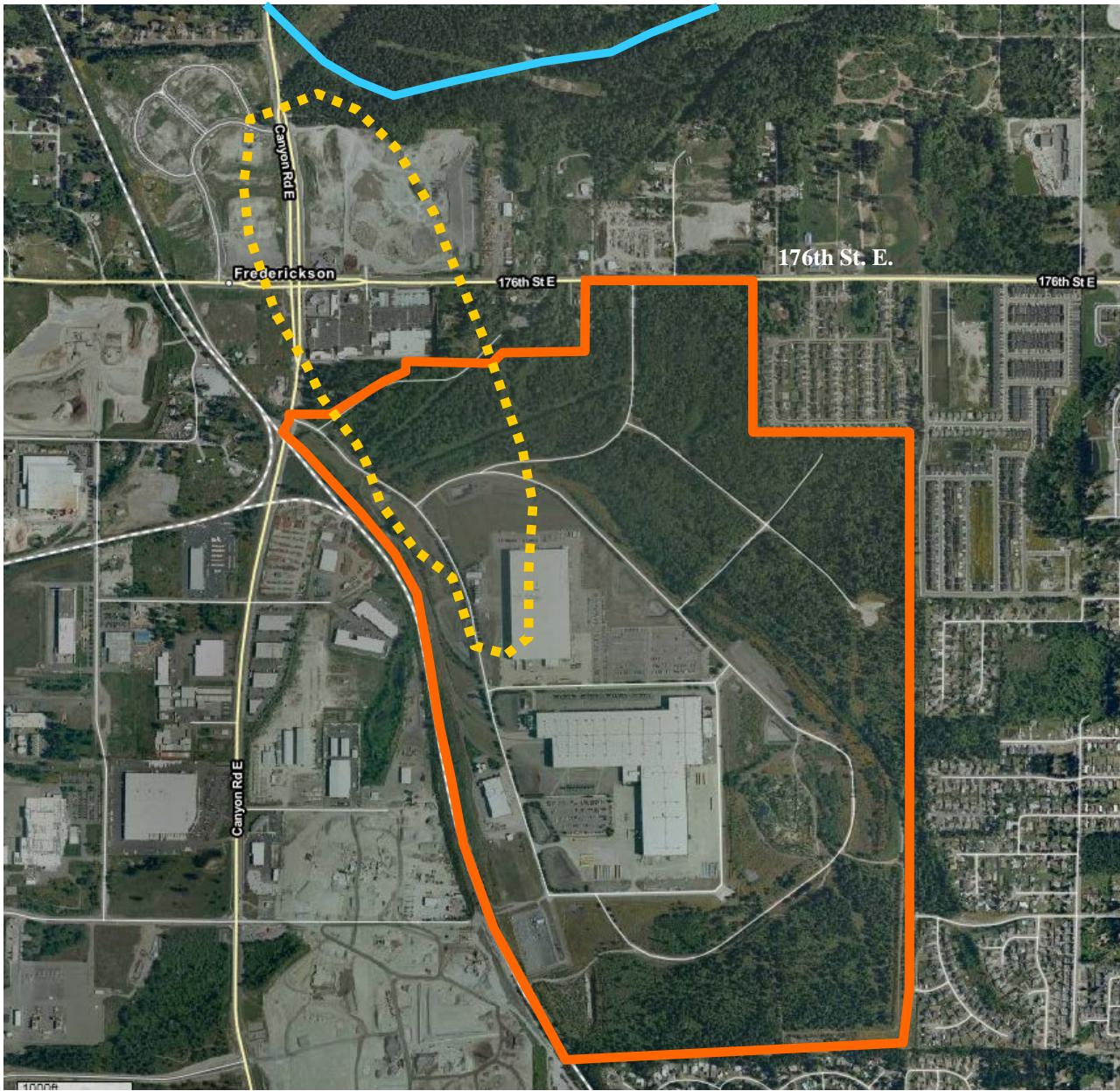
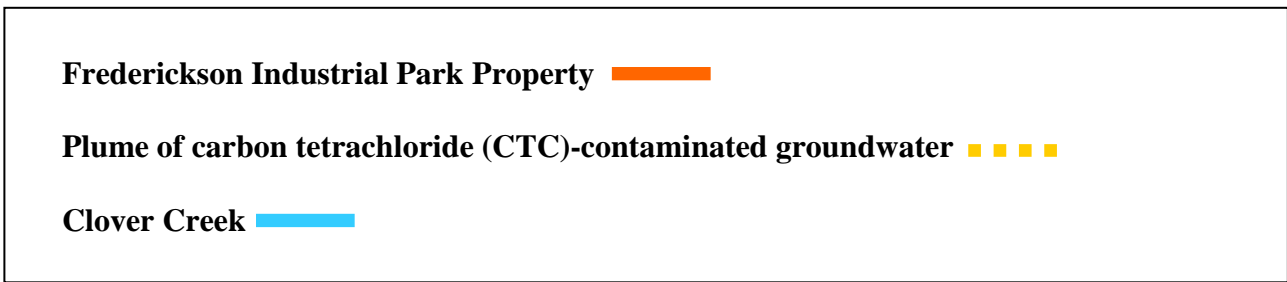


Figure 2. Frederickson Industrial Park Area Map



### **Earlier Site Cleanup**

Groundwater at the site is contaminated with [carbon tetrachloride](#) (CTC). In 1988, Centrum discovered it at the site while developing the property into an industrial park. In the past, CTC was used as a cleaning solvent or in fire control. CTC can be harmful to human health and the environment, so cleanup is important.

The PLPs and other owners conducted many studies and partial cleanup actions during the past 25 years. These included:

- Studying soil, groundwater, and soil vapor.
- Removing soil, waste, and debris.
- Treating groundwater.
- Monitoring groundwater.

In 1999, samples showed that CTC levels around the site were low enough that there was no risk to human health through vapor intrusion. Vapor intrusion is when chemicals move from soil and groundwater into air in buildings.

In 2000, more studies showed the contaminant plume reaching well water supplies for nearby homes and businesses. By 2007, public water service was brought into the area near the plume and properties with private wells were connected to the public supply.

### **Final Site Cleanup**

Recent groundwater samples show:

- The plume getting smaller.
- The contamination level decreasing.

Because improvement is now happening naturally, a draft Cleanup Action Plan (CAP) calls for cleanup of the remaining CTC by natural processes (called **natural attenuation**, see below).

The PLPs will test groundwater to confirm CTC levels keep decreasing over time. Ecology and the PLPs will mail information to properties above the plume at least every five years. Ecology will also send a mailing 1.5 to 2 years prior to the first periodic review.

#### ***What is natural attenuation?***

Natural attenuation is an effective way to manage some contaminated sites. It relies on natural physical, chemical, or biological processes to lower contamination over time.

Ecology selected natural attenuation for the final cleanup remedy because:

- Studies conclude that CTC is steadily decreasing.
- There is very little risk of human exposure to the contaminated groundwater.
- Other cleanup options would have a bigger environmental footprint and be more expensive.

The PLPs will sample groundwater regularly to make sure CTC levels keep decreasing.

Ecology will hold a public comment period for draft site cleanup plans in early 2014. Ecology will accept comments on the following draft documents:

- An **Agreed Order** — a legal agreement that requires the Olin Corporation (Olin) and Mallinckrodt US, LLC (Mallinckrodt) to clean up the site.
- A **Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study (RI/FS)** — describes the contamination and compares cleanup options.
- A **Draft Cleanup Action Plan (CAP)** — outlines the recommended cleanup.
- A **Compliance Monitoring Work Plan** — tells how, where, and when groundwater sampling will be done.
- A **Public Participation Plan** — describes the tools Ecology will use to inform the public and gather feedback.

At the end of the public comment period, Ecology will review all comments we received. We will respond to these in a responsiveness summary, which we will post on our website and send to commenters. If needed, we will make changes to the draft documents. We will then finalize the documents.

The PLPs will do the groundwater monitoring for the site as described in the draft CAP and work plan. They will do monitoring twice a year for the first two years. After that, they will sample once a year.

The current site owner will also record an environmental covenant that prohibits the use of contaminated groundwater on the property. New off-property groundwater wells are prohibited unless first approved by Tacoma Water (the site is in the Pierce County Urban Growth Area).

## **SITE CLEANUP PROCESS**

Washington's Model Toxics Control Act (MTCA) requires that cleanups meet standards that are safe for both human health and the environment. For more information on MTCA, please visit Ecology's website at <http://www.ecy.wa.gov/biblio/ftc94129.html>.

Toxic sites are cleaned up in stages, described below. Each stage has a related report or plan that the public is welcome to review and comment on.

**Remedial Investigation & Feasibility Study (RI/FS)** - The RI looks at the extent and type of pollution on the site. It also looks at possible human health and environmental impacts. The FS identifies and evaluates different cleanup options.

**Interim Actions** - Ecology may allow Interim Actions to partly clean up a site before the final cleanup plan is complete.

**Cleanup Action Plan (CAP)** - The CAP describes the cleanup methods and how they will meet Ecology's cleanup standards. The Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study provide the data and analysis to write a CAP. The CAP also takes into account public comments and concerns.

**Cleanup** - Cleanup removes contaminants from the site, contains them on the site, or treats them to make them less toxic. Based on the information in the RI/FS, Ecology selects a cleanup action and develops a legal agreement for Mallinckrodt and Olin to conduct the cleanup. A CAP requires a public comment period.

**Delisting** - Ecology keeps track of toxic cleanup sites on the Hazardous Sites List. Once cleanup is complete, the public will have a chance to comment before Ecology takes a site off the list.

You can find more information about toxic cleanups on Ecology's website:  
[http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/tcp/cu\\_support/cu\\_process\\_steps\\_defns.htm](http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/tcp/cu_support/cu_process_steps_defns.htm).

## **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ACTIVITIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

The purpose of this Public Participation Plan is to promote public understanding and participation in the cleanup. This section of the plan describes how Ecology will share information and receive public comments on cleanup activities. Ecology will use the following public involvement activities during the Frederickson Industrial Park cleanup:

### **Formal Public Comment Periods**

Comment periods are the primary method Ecology uses to get feedback from the public on proposed cleanup decisions. Comment periods usually last 30 days. WAC 173-340-600 requires them at key points during the investigation and cleanup process, before final decisions are made. During a comment period, the public can comment in writing. Ecology can only take verbal comments during a public hearing.

After comment periods, Ecology reviews all comments and may respond in a document called a responsiveness summary. Ecology considers whether a document or decision needs to be changed or revised based on public input. If there are major changes, Ecology may hold a second comment period. If there are no major changes, Ecology finalizes the draft document(s).

### **Public Meetings and Hearings**

Ecology may hold public meetings at key points during the investigation and cleanup. Ecology also may offer public meetings for actions expected to be of particular interest to the community. Ecology will also hold a public meeting if ten or more people request one. These meetings will be at places and times convenient to the public.

### **Information Repositories**

These are places where the public can read and review site information, including public comment period documents. Ecology has two repositories for this site:

- South Hill Pierce County Library, 15420 Meridian Avenue East, Puyallup, WA 98375 (253) 548-3303.
- Washington State Department of Ecology, 300 Desmond Drive SE, Lacey 98516. Please call (360) 407-6365 for an appointment.

- You can also review documents on Ecology's website at:  
<https://fortress.wa.gov/ecy/gsp/Sitepage.aspx?csid=3557>.

### **Site Register**

Ecology's Toxics Cleanup Program uses its bimonthly Site Register to announce public meetings and comment periods, and many other activities. To receive the Site Register by e-mail, contact Seth Preston at (360) 407-6848 or [Seth.Preston@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:Seth.Preston@ecy.wa.gov). You can also read it on Ecology's website at [http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/tcp/pub\\_inv/pub\\_inv2.html](http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/tcp/pub_inv/pub_inv2.html).

### **Mailing List**

Ecology's mailing list for this site includes neighboring landowners and businesses, public agencies, and other known interested parties. Ecology's Southwest Regional Office maintains the list and will update it as needed. Please contact Natalie Graves at (360) 407-0067 or [Natalie.Graves@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:Natalie.Graves@ecy.wa.gov) if you would like to have your address added to or deleted from this mailing list.

### **Fact Sheets**

Ecology will mail fact sheets to people and groups interested in this cleanup. Fact sheets will announce comment periods and public meetings. Ecology also may mail fact sheets with updates on cleanup progress.

### **Newspaper Display Ads**

Ecology will place ads in *The News Tribune* and *Puyallup Herald* to announce public comment periods and public meetings for the site.

### **Ecology Website**

Information related to this site and materials available for public comment will be posted on Ecology's web site at: <https://fortress.wa.gov/ecy/gsp/Sitepage.aspx?csid=3557>.

### **Plan Update**

Ecology may update this Public Participation Plan as the project moves forward. The public will have a chance to comment on any major changes to the plan.

### **Contacts**

If you have questions about this plan or the Frederickson Industrial Park cleanup site, please contact:

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## GLOSSARY

**Agreed Order:** A legal agreement between Ecology and a Potentially Liable Person (see below) to conduct work toward a cleanup.

**Cleanup:** Actions that deal with a release or threatened release of hazardous substances that could affect public health or the environment. Ecology often uses the term "cleanup" broadly to describe response actions or phases of cleanup, such as the Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study.

**Contaminant:** Any hazardous substance that does not occur naturally or occurs at greater than natural background levels.

**Groundwater:** Water found beneath the earth's surface that fills spaces between materials such as sand, soil, or gravel. In some areas, groundwater occurs in large enough amounts to be used for drinking water, irrigation and other purposes.

**Information Repository:** A file containing site information and reports for public review. It is usually located in a public building convenient for local residents, such as a public school, city hall, or library.

**Model Toxics Control Act (MTCA):** A law passed by Washington voter initiative in 1988. Its purpose is to find, investigate, and clean up places where hazardous substances have been released. It defines Ecology's role and encourages public involvement in cleanup decisions.

**Potentially Liable Person:** Any individual(s) or company(s) potentially responsible for, or contributing to, the contamination problems at a site. Whenever possible, Ecology requires PLPs to clean up sites.

**Risk:** The probability that a hazardous substance, when released into the environment, will cause an adverse effect in the exposed humans or living organisms.

**Sediments:** Settled particles located at the bottom of a lake, river or in wetlands. Sediment(s) also includes settled particulate matter exposed by human activity (e.g., dredging) to the biologically active aquatic zone or to the water column.

**Site:** Any area where a hazardous substance, other than a consumer product in consumer use, has come to be located.

**Toxicity:** How much harm a substance causes to living organisms, including people, plants and animals, at a certain concentration.

**Voluntary Cleanup Program:** An option for cleaning up hazardous waste sites. The program allows a party to clean up a site independently with technical assistance and written opinions from the Department of Ecology on the cleanup.