



March , 1993

Woods Fact Sheet Yakima, Washington

Recently, Burlington Northern Railroad (BNRR) contractors completed Phase I of a removal at the Woods Industries site at 1 East King Street in Yakima. The removal is based on results of an investigation into the nature and extent of contamination at the site. The investigation, completed in September 1992, found high levels of pesticides on site. Of most concern is DDT, which has been found in concentrations of 30,000 parts per million (ppm); Hexachlorobenzene with concentrations of 23,000 ppm; and Dieldrin at 200 ppm.

Phase I Removal:

In January 1993, BNRR contractors cleaned and demolished several buildings on-site. The contamination removed during the cleaning was taken to an approved disposal facility. Building debris containing visible pesticide contamination was taken to a RCRA landfill. Other debris was taken to a solid waste landfill. In addition, bags of asbestos stored in one of the buildings were removed and properly disposed of. Metal debris was salvaged and recycled.

Phase II Removal:

The second and final phase of the removal will take place in two stages; excavation and treatment. Excavation will begin this March when the groundwater table is at its seasonal low. Treatment will begin during the summer or early fall and will be completed by early next year.

The excavation activities will include the removal of highly contaminated soils in the sump, washdown and lagoon areas of the site. All soils at the ground surface and below and adjacent to the seasonal high groundwater table exceeding the cleanup standards, will be removed. The soils will be placed on plastic liners and covered with plastic material to prevent release of contaminants. Excavation will take approximately two months to complete.

During the late summer/early fall, the soil will be treated by a process called low temperature thermal desorption. This process includes heating the soil to temperatures of between 400 and 750 degrees. The pesticides will be released from the soil as vapor and captured through condensation and carbon filters. The condensation will be separated into water and contaminants. The contaminants will be trucked to a treatment facility out of the state. Treated soils will be redeposited on-site once they have met the specified treatment standards. The thermal desorption unit will be removed from the site when the cleanup actions have been completed.

This treatment was chosen based on long-term effectiveness, short-term impact, cost effectiveness, and the proven ability, effectiveness and availability of the treatment technology.

As a precautionary measure, the cleanup workers will be wearing protective clothing to insure their safety while handling the contaminated material. Access to the site will be restricted during the removal, to authorized personnel with health and safety training.

For Further Information:

Another fact sheet will be released before treatment of the soils begins.

EPA encourages you to contact one of the following people if you have any questions or concerns about the activities at this site:

Bob Kievit, Site Manager, (206) 753-9014
Krista Rave, Community Relations, (206) 553-6686
or 1-800-424-4372



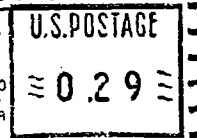
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