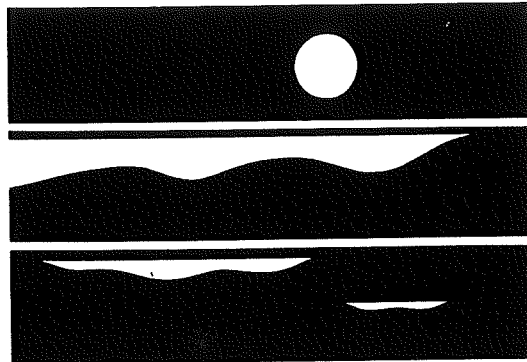


Responsiveness Summary

Truck City Truck Stop



WASHINGTON STATE
DEPARTMENT OF
E C O L O G Y

For the Consent Decree for the Investigation
and Cleanup and Public Participation Plan

Washington State Department of Ecology
Northwest Regional Office
Toxics Cleanup Program
Bellevue, WA

July 1992

This Responsiveness Summary addresses comments received during a public comment period for the Consent Decree for the investigation, cleanup and Public Participation Plan for the Truck City Truck Stop Site in Mount Vernon, Washington.

The public was encouraged to comment in writing on the Consent Decree from June 1 until July 1, 1992.

The public was notified of the comment period through the following mechanisms:

- A mailing list was compiled of businesses and residences adjacent to and in the vicinity of the Truck Stop and of environmental groups, public officials and interested parties.
- A fact sheet was distributed to those on the mailing list.
- A notice was placed in Ecology's Site Register.
- A display advertisement (3 columns x 5 inches) was placed in The Skagit Valley Herald.

No comments were received during the comment period. The Consent Decree and the Public Participation Plan are effective as written.

IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS:

Please contact Marianne Deppman (Public Involvement Specialist) if you have questions about the Responsiveness Summary or about public involvement opportunities at (206) 649-7254 or 1-800-458-0920.

For questions regarding site cleanup or responses to specific comments, contact John Stormon (Site Manager) at (206) 649-7274.

INFORMATION REPOSITORIES:

Remember, documents concerning the Truck City Truck Stop Site are available for your review at the following locations:

Department of Ecology
Attn: Judy Fisher
3190 160th Ave. SE
Bellevue, WA 98008-5452
(206) 649-7239

Mount Vernon Library
315 Snoqualmie
Mount Vernon, WA 98273
Attn: David Manard
(206) 336-6209

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PLAN
CONSENT DECREE FOR RI/FS AND CLEANUP ACTION PLAN
TRUCK CITY TRUCK STOP
MOUNT VERNON, WASHINGTON**

**Washington Department of Ecology
Northwest Regional Office
Toxics Cleanup Program
Bellevue, Washington**

May, 1992

I. INTRODUCTION AND OVERVIEW

The Washington Department of Ecology (Ecology) is committed to providing public participation opportunities during the investigation and cleanup of hazardous waste sites. The public participation plan is intended to promote public understanding of Ecology's responsibilities, planning activities, and remedial activities at hazardous waste sites. It also provides an opportunity for Ecology to gain information from the public that will enable the department to develop a comprehensive cleanup plan, one that is protective of both human health and the environment.

- A. This public participation plan for the Truck City Truck Stop Store covers all remedial actions, the Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study and Cleanup Action Plan under the Consent Decree. It has been tailored to the needs of the public based on the stage and nature of the cleanup, the level of public concern, and the risks posed by the site.
- B. Truck City Truck Stop is located at 1731 Old Highway 99 South, Mount Vernon, Washington. The property is currently operates as a full service truck stop and cafe.

This plan was developed, and all public participation activities will be carried out by Marianne Deppman who is a Public Involvement Specialist with the Department of Ecology.

- C. This public participation plan was developed after interviews were conducted with persons located within the potentially affected vicinity, the mixed rural residential and commercial area south of downtown Mount Vernon along Old Highway 99. The plan discusses the community's concerns and outlines public participation activities to be conducted for the phases covered by this plan. This plan will be reviewed at each phase of cleanup and amended or rewritten as appropriate.

The purpose of the public participation effort and of this plan is to assure that the affected public and governmental agencies are kept informed as the studies proceed and that each has an opportunity to contribute information regarding the site and to comment on the study and cleanup activities.

- D. The general area of the Truck City Truck Stop is a rural, residential and commercial area surrounded by medium to small farms in the Skagit Valley. The truck stop is located within one mile of the Skagit River.

- E. This plan is divided into the following sections:
 - I. Introduction and overview
 - II. Site description and history
 - III. Community concerns and Ecology responses
 - IV. Public participation activities

II. SITE DESCRIPTION AND HISTORY

Ecology and the owner of the truck stop have proposed a Consent Decree for the investigation and cleanup of petroleum contaminated soil and groundwater resulting from leaking underground storage tanks on the truck stop property.

The Truck City Truck Stop is located at 1731 Old Highway 99 South, Mount Vernon, Washington.

The truck stop has been in operation since the early 1950's and continues to operate as a full service truck stop and cafe. The current owner Ernie O. Olmsted purchased the truck stop in 1982.

During a site assessment at the truck stop in 1989, diesel was found in both soil and groundwater at levels above state cleanup standards. In October 1991, Ecology determined that the six underground storage tanks serving the self service island were the source of the contamination. At that time, the petroleum was removed from the tanks and the self serve island was closed.

Six additional underground storage tanks supplying the truck service island are located at the east end of the site. No contamination has been found to be associated with these tanks.

Two tanks of unknown content are also located at the west end of the facility near the self serve island. However, nothing is known at this time about these tanks except the location of their fill spouts.

Ecology has determined that the property owner of the truck stop is eligible for state financial assistance to perform the cleanup.

III. COMMUNITY CONCERNS AND ECOLOGY RESPONSES

The most often expressed concern at this site was the economic impact of the cleanup. Employees at the fueling facility, the cafe and an adjacent business said the volume of business has greatly decreased since the self serve island closed down. These citizens were concerned that they may lose their jobs or have to close their businesses due to the loss of revenue.

The general sentiment seemed to be that the government was interfering and attacking a small businessman unnecessarily.

A strong loyalty and fondness for the truck stop was expressed.

Also, though no truck drivers were actually interviewed, employees at the truck stop said they have heard from many drivers that the closure of the self serve island has been an inconvenience and that many have chosen to go elsewhere for service. Car drivers as well have chosen to get gas elsewhere rather than wait behind the trucks at the truck serve island.

One citizen expressed concern that the cleanup was taking too long to complete.

RESPONSE

The Department of Ecology appreciates any and all input from citizens. Better and faster cleanups result when the public actively participates.

The Toxics Cleanup Program is charged by law with investigating and addressing hazardous waste sites, whenever and where ever they are found. It is understood that environmental cleanups do not always please everyone involved, but under the law, the Department and the program must protect human health and the environment.

IV. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ACTIVITIES

The public participation plan for this site will consist of the following activities:

A. A 30-day **public comment period** will be held for the consent decree, public participation plan and SEPA documents, beginning June 1, 1992 and ending July 1, 1992.

B. A **public hearing** on the consent decree will be held on Wednesday, June 17, 1992 at the Skagit County Courthouse Hearing Room A, 700 S. 2nd, Mount Vernon, WA, 98273.

C. **Notification to the potentially affected vicinity**, which includes the residences and businesses adjacent to the property, will be accomplished by a mailed fact sheet, and distribution of fact sheets at the truck stop and at the adjacent cafe.

Landowners and lessors adjacent to the site have been identified. The mailing list for the site includes their addresses, as well as those of other individuals environmental groups, public agencies and private firms that have expressed an interest in the site. Those on the mailing list shall receive all site mailings.

D. The public comment period and public hearing will be advertised with a **display advertisements** in the Skagit Valley Herald on Wednesday, May 27, 1992. The display advertisement notice shall be 3 columns wide by 5 inches high.

E. The public will be provided copies of the consent decree, public participation plan, SEPA documents, and extra copies of the fact sheet to review at the following **information repositories**:

Department of Ecology
3190 160th Ave. SE
Bellevue, WA 98008-5452
(206) 649-7239
Attn: Judy Fisher

Mount Vernon Library
315 Snoqualmie
Mount Vernon, WA 98273
Attn: David Manard
(206) 336-6209

Copies of these documents will also be mailed to interested parties on request.

F. **Public notice announcements** regarding this site are printed in Ecology's Public Involvement Calendar and Toxics Cleanup Program Site Register. To receive the Public Involvement Calendar, call (206) 438-7256. To receive the Site Register, call the Toxics Cleanup Program Information Line at 1-800-458-0920.

G. All comments received will be retained in the site files. Responses to comments received on documents circulated for public comment will be compiled in a document called the **responsiveness summary**. The responsiveness summary will be sent to those who submit written comment during the comment period or oral comment at the public hearing, and to the designated information repositories.

Notice of availability of the responsiveness summary will be printed in the Ecology's Toxics Cleanup Program Site Register.

H. Persons requesting to be placed on a mailing list for the site will be provided with **updates** on site activities as new information becomes available.

I. Should there be need for additional public participation activities, the public will be notified through a fact sheet and an advertisement in the Skagit Valley Herald. This public participation plan will also be updated and delivered to the information repositories listed above.