

CASCADE POLE, OLYMPIA



Agreed Order Amendment Proposed

The Washington Department of Ecology and the Port of Olympia have agreed to an amendment of a Model Toxics Control Act (Chapter 70.105D RCW) order requiring further cleanup and long-term monitoring be conducted at the Cascade Pole, Olympia site. This amends an April 2000 agreed order for interim action at the site. An agreed order is a legal document formalizing an agreement between Ecology and PLP's, to ensure that proposed cleanup activities are conducted in a timely fashion, in accordance with MTCA and other applicable laws and regulations.

In addition, Ecology is issuing a State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA, Chapter 197-11 WAC) determination of non-significance (DNS) for the paving proposed in the agreed order amendment. After review of the completed checklist and other information on file, Ecology (as SEPA lead agency) has determined that this proposal will not have a probable adverse impact on the environment. This action will benefit the environment by diminishing the release of toxic chemicals from the site.

Your comments on this proposed agreed order amendment and SEPA DNS are welcome through **July 2, 2004**. The box to the right provides information about where to review the amendment and SEPA DNS, as well as where to submit

comments.

Site Background

Cascade Pole, Olympia site is located at 1100 Washington Street NE, at the north end of the Port of Olympia peninsula between the east and west bays of Budd Inlet. From 1957 to 1986, the Cascade Pole Company operated a wood-treating facility on property leased from the Port of Olympia. Before then, several other wood-treating businesses operated at the site.

During upland investigations of the site, a variety of toxic substances have been identified, including polynuclear aromatic hydrocarbons (PAH's -- key chemical constituents of creosote, a wood-preserving compound), pentachlorophenol (PCP, another wood-preserving compound), volatile hydrocarbons, and dioxins. Many of these substances are suspected human carcinogens, and have been found at elevated concentrations in soils, groundwater, surface water, *intertidal* (the section which is covered at high tide and uncovered at low tide) sediments, and marine organisms on and adjacent to the site.

In May 1990, Ecology, Cascade Pole, and the Port of Olympia signed a consent decree, which had been significantly altered from its original draft by public

June 2004

FACT SHEET

Ecology Southwest Regional Office
Toxics Cleanup Program
300 Desmond Drive SE
P.O. Box 47775
Olympia, WA 98504-7775
(360) 407-6300 (voice)
(360) 407-6306 (TDD)

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD ON AGREED ORDER AMENDMENT AND SEPA DNS:

June 2, 2004 to July 2, 2004

Comments and requests for updates should be directed to Mohsen Kourehdar, Site Manager, at the Ecology address listed above, e-mail mkou461@ecy.wa.gov or call (360) 407-6256.

INFORMATION REPOSITORIES

The agreed order amendment and SEPA DNS can be reviewed at the following locations:

www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/tcp/sites/sites_information.html

www.ecy.wa.gov, then click on "Public Events Calendar"

Ecology Southwest Regional Office address listed above

Olympia Timberland Library
313 8th Avenue SE
Olympia, WA 98501-9300
(360) 352-0595

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If you have special accommodation needs, please call (360) 407-6300, (360) 407-6306 (TDD), 711, or 1-800-833-6388 (TTY).

comment. The consent decree specified that detailed field investigations, both on-site and in the intertidal sediments offshore, be conducted by Cascade Pole and the Port of Olympia to identify the site remedial alternatives. In addition, the consent decree required several interim actions, including the design and construction of a groundwater pump-and-treat system to prevent further off-site migration of contaminants.

The following site activities have occurred since the May 1990 consent decree was finalized. An investigation revealed that a significant accumulation of *dense non-aqueous phase liquid* (DNAPL; wood-preserving oils that are heavier than water) had collected along the northeastern site shoreline. Cascade Pole and the Port of Olympia constructed a DNAPL-recovery trench and installed a subsurface containment wall along a 350-foot portion of the site shoreline, to reduce the potential for liquid creosote to move offshore. The DNAPL recovery trench, which also serves as an integral part of the groundwater extraction-and-treatment system, has been in operation since early 1993.

In early 1992, Cascade Pole installed a groundwater and *light non-aqueous phase liquid* (LNAPL or "floating product") extraction-and-treatment system (also known as a pump-and-treat system) across a portion of the site uplands. The purpose of the pump-and-treat system is to control off-site groundwater flow migration and recover floating product. As of April 2000, the system has treated about 51 million gallons of water (enough to fill 25 City of Olympia water storage tanks) and recovered over 8300 pounds of wood preserving product to date.

Out-of-court negotiations in September 1995 between the Port of Olympia and Cascade Pole led to a settlement

agreement which allows the Port of Olympia to take the lead role for site cleanup. An April 1996 consent decree between Ecology and Cascade Pole recognized the September 1995 settlement agreement. These agreements limited Cascade Pole's responsibility from direct participation to financial contribution toward the final cleanup cost and recycling of recovered product. The Port of Olympia took over ownership and operational responsibility of the pump-and-treat system.

Under an April 1998 agreed order, the Port of Olympia completed further interim actions: paving 5.8 acres of the site within the containment wall to reduce infiltration of rainwater into the highly-contaminated area of the site, thereby reducing the amount of contaminated groundwater to be treated; installing multi-lingual signs on the shoreline to warn the public about contaminated sediments; disposing of, at an off-site incinerator, about 2200 gallons of recovered DNAPL's.

An April 2000 agreed order required the Port of Olympia to construct an upland cell to store contaminated sediment; remove about 35,000 cubic yards (3500 dump truck loads) of contaminated sediment from Budd Inlet; and store contaminated sediment in the upland cell. These actions have been accomplished.

What Is Being Done?

The agreed order amendment requires the Port of Olympia to conduct the following actions:

- ▶ pave the remainder of the site in two phases;
- ▶ sample the sediment cleanup area in Budd Inlet every five years;
- ▶ sample groundwater every six months for five years to verify the effectiveness of the cleanup;

- ▶ design and construct a new groundwater treatment system (to replace the existing one).

Ecology will oversee implementation of the agreed order amendment to ensure that all parts of the amendment are fulfilled.

What Happens Next?

Public comment on the proposed agreed order amendment will be considered and the amendment will be modified, if necessary, based on the comments received. The first phase of the paving work should be completed by the fall of 2005. The second phase of paving will begin when the Port of Olympia has funding available. Further formal public comment opportunities will occur as additional work is considered necessary.

Ecology Wants Your Comments!

You are invited to review and comment on the proposed agreed order amendment and SEPA DNS through **July 2, 2004**. The public comment period presents an opportunity to have your ideas and comments heard by Ecology. Information repositories, which include the amendment and SEPA DNS, have been set up at the locations listed in the box on page one. To review more detailed site documents than those in the information repositories, contact Ecology's Southwest Regional Office records center at (360) 407-6365 to schedule an appointment.

Please submit your written comments to Mohsen Kourehdar, Site Manager, at the Ecology address listed in the box on page one. Ecology will review and respond to all comments received, and may revise the amendment. Updates of site activities will be provided to those who submit comments or request to be placed on the site mailing list. (If you received this fact sheet directly from Ecology, you are already on the site mailing list.)

