

## **Port of Chelan County Continues Work**

The Port of Chelan County (Port) and the Washington Department of Ecology (Ecology) are working together to remove contamination and wood waste at the old Cashmere Mill Site. After cleanup is completed, the Port intends to redevelop the property.

### **Site Background**

The Cashmere Mill Site is located at the intersection of Mill Road and Sunset Highway in Cashmere, Washington. The Site was used primarily for lumber milling from the 1940s until late 1970s. Since then, the Site has had a variety of commercial and light industrial uses. The Port of Chelan County is the current property owner.

In 2009, soil contaminated by petroleum was discovered during a geotechnical investigation. The soil was likely contaminated by a spill or a previous aboveground storage tank in the area.

From 2009 to 2011, the Port completed a series of projects to improve the Site. The projects included removing existing asphalt-paved areas, and concrete slabs and footings found throughout the Site, primarily in the area between Mill Road and Sunset Highway. The two remaining buildings on site were treated for asbestos materials, and then demolished and the materials disposed offsite.

The Port also completed a limited wood waste removal project in the southeast portion of the Site in 2010 and 2011. The Port hired a contractor to remove all wood waste at the surface from a portion of the Site. The contractor screened the wood waste, removed the larger rocks and wood pieces, and then sold the remaining material as landscape material. Crushed concrete stockpiled onsite was used to fill the excavated area.

The Port has used a phased approach to prepare the site for future redevelopment. During the first phase, which took place during the spring of 2013, approximately 24,000 tons of unsuitable material (wood waste and petroleum contaminated soils) was removed from the portion of the Site that is north of Mill Road and south of the Sunset Highway. In addition, a City of Cashmere water main was removed and replaced. In preparation for Phase 2 activities, additional environmental site characterization was completed in the fall of 2013. The characterization revealed the areas of petroleum contamination to be limited, representing approximately 1,500 cubic yards of material. Soil contaminated with

### **Submit Comments and Technical Questions to:**

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### **DOCUMENT REVIEW LOCATIONS**

**WA Department of Ecology**  
**Central Regional Office**  
15 W Yakima Avenue, Ste 200  
Yakima, WA 98902  
By appointment only: (509) 454-7658

### **Ecology's Toxics Cleanup Website**

<https://fortress.wa.gov/ecy/gsp/Sitepage.aspx?csid=11386>

**Facility/Site ID #: 20168**  
**Cleanup Site ID #: 11386**

## Cashmere Mill Site

mercury was also discovered, also very limited, representing approximately 200 cubic yards. Arsenic is present at concentrations greater than cleanup levels in the groundwater, and there are plans for continued monitoring. The elevated arsenic concentrations in groundwater might be caused by chemical conditions resulting from decaying wood waste; therefore, removal of wood waste could reduce the arsenic concentrations. The bulk of activities for Phase 2 include removal of wood waste and other contaminated materials south of Mill Road, which will occur during the summer and fall of 2014.

### Why This Cleanup Matters

Petroleum and mercury in soil and arsenic in groundwater exceed state standards for protection of human health and the environment. Cleanup improves soil and groundwater conditions at the site and reduces exposure to contaminants. Cleanup provides an opportunity for redevelopment of the site, which may provide economic benefit to the community.

### What Happens Next?

The Port has issued a call for bids through the public works contracting process to complete the removal of

wood waste and contaminated soil. Mobilization for work will likely occur in early June 2014.

For information about opportunities for public involvement such as meetings, hearings, open houses and workshops, please visit Ecology's Public Involvement Calendar at <http://apps.ecy.wa.gov/publiccalendar/calendar.asp>

While you are at the calendar page, you may click on the link Frequently Asked Questions about Effective Public Commenting and learn more about the public comment process.

#### Help with other languages and formats?

Para asistencia en español: (509) 575-2490

If you need this document in a version for the visually impaired call the Toxics Cleanup Program at 509-454-7841. Persons with hearing loss, call 711 for Washington Relay Service. Persons with a speech disability, call 877-833-6341.



Historic photo of Cashmere Mill