

## Ecology Proposes Investigation of Dross Contamination at Site

The Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) proposes to enter into an Agreed Order with Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR) to conduct a Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study at the Aluminum Recycling Trentwood site. The site is located at 2317 North Sullivan Road in the city of Spokane Valley, Washington (see Fig.1).



Looking north at the site from Sullivan Road

You are invited to:

- **Review** the Agreed Order and the associated documents which include a Scope of Work for performing the Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study and a Public Participation Plan. The Scope of Work outlines details of work to be completed. The Public Participation Plan outlines ways Ecology and UPRR will involve and inform the public about the site cleanup.
- **Send** your comments to Ecology for consideration. Comments will be accepted August 21 through September 21, 2009. See the shaded box at the right for details about where to review documents and submit comments.

## Agreed Order

The Agreed Order is a legal document issued by Ecology that formalizes the agreement between Ecology and UPRR. The Order requires Union Pacific to conduct the Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study. The purpose of the Remedial Investigation is to gather more information to determine where and how much contamination may be in soil and/or groundwater at the site. The purpose of the Feasibility Study is to identify and evaluate cleanup alternatives.

## Comments Accepted

August 21 through September 21, 2009

### Para asistencia en Español

Gretchen Newman 360/407-6097

Если вам нужно помощь по русский,  
звоните Tatyana Bistrevsky 509/477-3881

### Submit Comments and Technical Questions to

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Toxics Cleanup Program  
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### Public Involvement Questions

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WA Department of Ecology  
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cabe461@ecy.wa.gov

### Document Review Locations

#### WA Department of Ecology

Kari Johnson, Public Disclosure  
4601 N. Monroe  
Spokane, WA 99205-1295  
Call for an appointment 509/329-3415

#### Spokane Valley Public Library

12004 E. Main  
Spokane Valley, WA 99216  
509/893-8400

#### Ecology's Toxics Cleanup Website

[http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/tcp/sites/alumRecyTrent/alumRecyTrent\\_hp.html](http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/tcp/sites/alumRecyTrent/alumRecyTrent_hp.html)

Facility Site ID No. 628

## Site Overview

Aluminum Recycling Trentwood lies northeast and across the river from the Spokane Valley mall, several businesses and two hotels. Center Place community center, Mirabeau Meadows Park and Mirabeau Springs are also across the river to the west. A park lies adjacent to the site on the south, and heavily used trails are found near the site and adjacent to the property.

Beginning in 1979, the site was used to process and store aluminum materials. There are two types of aluminum processing, primary and secondary. Primary processing puts bauxite ore through a multi-phase process to create aluminum. The byproduct of primary processing is white dross.

Secondary processing uses scrap aluminum and/or white dross to create aluminum by adding sodium and potassium chloride salts. The byproduct of secondary processing is black dross. White dross contains a high aluminum content while black dross contains high levels of chloride, fluoride, and nitrate.

The site was used to recycle aluminum cans and white dross into secondary aluminum that was sold. Black dross, along with non-reprocessed white dross waste remains on the site. Currently, the amount of dross material on site is unknown, but it is estimated to cover nearly three acres.

The Spokane Regional Health District completed an assessment of the property in February 2008 and ranked the site a two on Ecology's Hazardous Sites List. The Hazardous Sites List is a record of contaminated sites throughout the state that are ranked on a scale of one to five. One represents the greatest potential threat to human health and the environment; five represents the least potential threat.

The Remedial Investigation and Feasibility study will provide additional information to assess past and current site conditions and determine what needs to be done to protect human health and the environment.

## Contaminants of Concern

It is believed the main sources of contaminants are by-products of the aluminum smelting process. The suspected contaminants are fluoride, chloride, nitrate, and metals from the black and white dross. The Remedial Investigation will provide a more accurate evaluation of what contaminants are at the site.

## Why This Cleanup Matters

- Dross in soil and groundwater may be harmful to human health and the environment. Dross is located near the Spokane River.
- The Remedial Investigation will determine where and how much contamination may be present in soil and/or groundwater.
- The Feasibility Study will identify and evaluate cleanup options.
- Information from the investigation and study will help Ecology choose the best method to clean up the site.

## What Happens Next?

Ecology will review and consider all comments received by September 21, 2009. The Agreed Order, Scope of Work, and Public Participation Plan may be modified based upon public comments. As the cleanup moves forward and new documents are developed, the public will be notified of additional comment periods.

If you need this publication in an alternative format, call Carol Bergin at 509/329-3546. Persons with hearing loss, call 711 for Washington Relay Service. Persons with speech disability call 877-833-6341



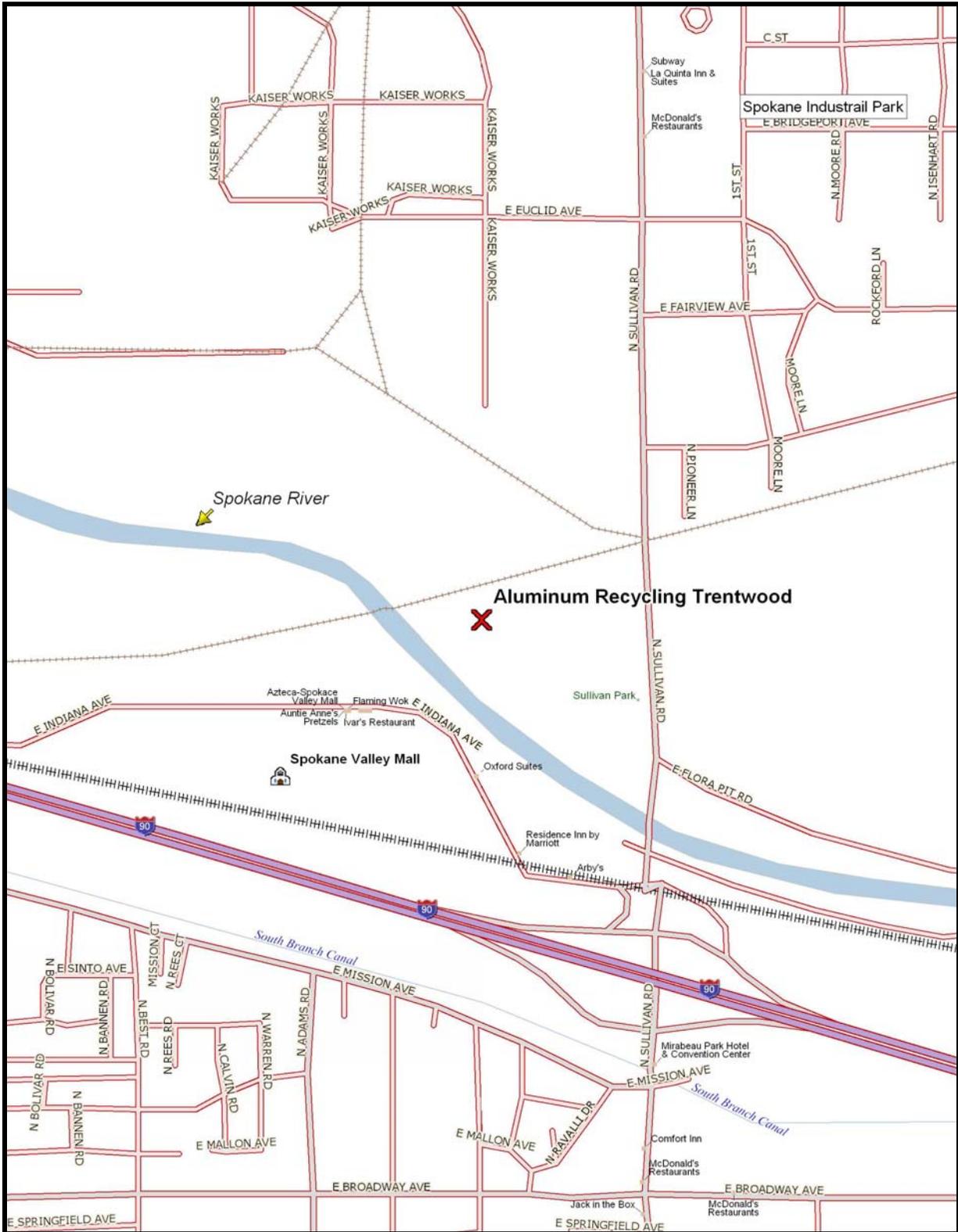


Figure 1