

## **Public Invited to Review and Comment on Documents and Attend Meeting**

### **Investigation of Chemicals in Soil and Groundwater Proposed**

- The Washington State Department of Ecology plans to enter into an Agreed Order with the Washington State Department of Corrections to conduct a Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study (RI/FS) at the Washington State Penitentiary site. The site is located at 1313 North 13<sup>th</sup> Street, in the city of Walla Walla, Washington (see Fig.1).
- Chemicals called volatile organic compounds (VOCs) have been identified in groundwater upgradient of the Sudbury Road landfill outside the prison perimeter fences.
- The City of Walla Walla has not found these chemicals in the drinking water that supplies the community and the prison.



### **Penitentiary Overview**

The Penitentiary is situated on 540 acres in a primarily rural area. The facility began operating in 1887 and today houses 2,164 offenders. The Penitentiary provides jobs for 1,285 staff as well as various services to the state of Washington through Correctional Industries. Some of the services include building and refinishing furniture, making license plates for the state, farming, and garment production.

### **Agreed Order Requirements**

The Agreed Order is a legal document issued by Ecology that formalizes the agreement between Ecology and Corrections. The

### **Comments Accepted**

November 19 through December 22, 2008

Para asistencia en Español  
360/454-4174

Если вам нужно помощь по русский,  
ЗВОНИТЕ 509/477-3881

若需中文翻譯: (360) 407-6956

Liên hệ bằng tiếng Việt, xin liên lạc  
360/407-6948

**Submit Comments and Technical Questions to** Sandra Treccani  
WA Department of Ecology  
4601 North Monroe  
Spokane WA 99205-1295  
509/329-3412 [satr461@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:satr461@ecy.wa.gov)

### **Public Involvement Questions**

Carol Bergin, WA Department of Ecology  
509/329-3546 [cabe461@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:cabe461@ecy.wa.gov)

### **Document Review Locations**

**WA Department of Corrections Library**, 1313 North 13<sup>th</sup> Street  
Walla Walla, WA and 15 Additional  
Corrections Libraries throughout Washington  
(See the Public Participation Plan for a full listing)

### **WA Department of Ecology**

4601 North Monroe  
Spokane, WA 99205-1295  
Call Roger Johnson 509/454-7658

### **Walla Walla Public Library**

238 East Alder Street  
Walla Walla WA 99362

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

[http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/tcp/sites/state/pen\\_hp.htm](http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/tcp/sites/state/pen_hp.htm)

**Facility Site ID No. 779**

Order requires Corrections 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 groundwater at the site. The purpose of the Feasibility Study is to evaluate cleanup alternatives.

### Chemicals Discovered

Some chemicals historically used for a variety of services at the penitentiary may have been disposed of in a landfill outside of the penitentiary perimeter fences. Many of these chemicals were necessary to carry out services such as furniture refinishing and repair, license plate manufacturing, dry cleaning, motor pool maintenance, metal working and welding, photo processing, sign manufacturing, and medical and dental labs. The Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study will provide more information about what chemicals are present, the sources, and where they are located.

### Meetings Planned and Public Comments Invited

You are invited to:

- **Review** the Agreed Order and the associated documents which include a Scope of Work and a Public Participation Plan. The Scope of Work outlines details of work to be completed. The Public Participation Plan outlines the ways Ecology and Corrections will involve and inform the public about the site cleanup.
- **Send** your comments to Ecology for consideration. *Comments will be accepted November 19 through December 22, 2008.* See the shaded box on page one for details about where to review documents and submit comments
- **Attend** a meeting about the proposed Agreed Order and have an opportunity to ask questions.

Meetings are planned for the community and at the prison for staff and offenders. **The community public meeting will be held on November 19, 2008 from 7-9 p.m. at the Walla Walla Housing Authority, 501 Cayuse in Walla Walla. A Spanish interpreter will be available.**

**A meeting for penitentiary staff will be held on November 19, 2008 at 1:00 p.m. in the West Complex Visiting Room.**

**A meeting for penitentiary Offender Communication Liaisons (OCLs) will be held November 20, 2008 at 1:00 p.m. in the West Complex Visiting Room. If offenders have questions, they may give them to the OCLs to ask at the meeting, and the OCLs will bring the information back to the offenders.**

### Why This Cleanup Matters

- Chemicals currently identified at the site are called volatile organic compounds (VOCs). These chemicals exceed state standards and are harmful to human health and the environment.
- The Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study provide Ecology necessary information to select the best cleanup method for the site.
- Cleanup will improve protection for human health and the environment.

### What Happens Next?

Ecology will review and consider all comments that have been **received by December 22, 2008.** The Agreed Order, Scope of Work, and Public Participation Plan may be modified based upon public comments. As the investigation moves forward and new documents are developed, the public will be notified of additional comment periods.



