

EXHIBIT C
PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PLAN
Bremerton School District
Crownhill Elementary School Cleanup Site

I. INTRODUCTION

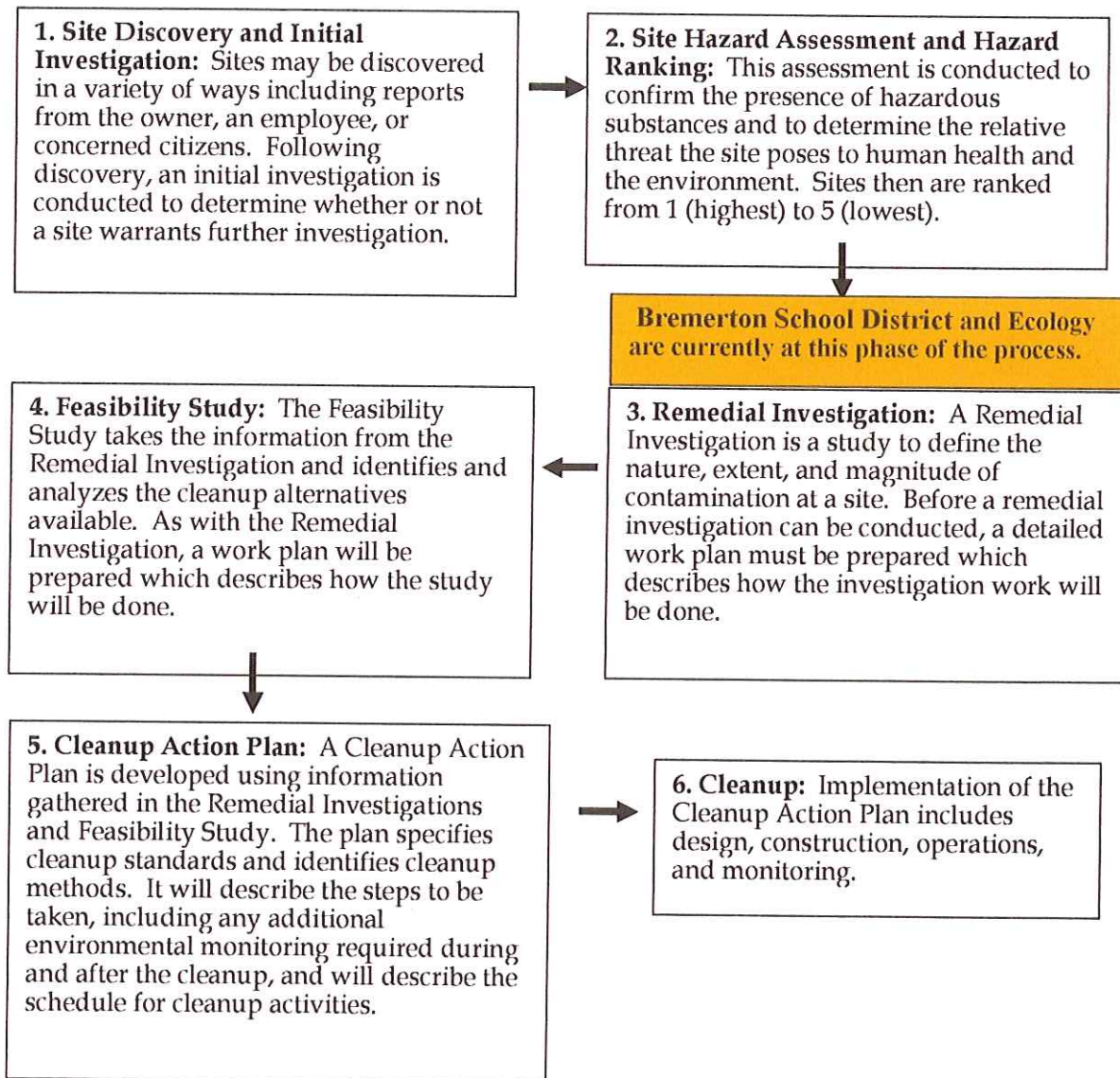
The Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) has developed this public participation plan in cooperation with Bremerton School District, pursuant to the Model Toxics Control Act (MTCA) WAC 173-340-600. The intent is to promote meaningful community involvement during the cleanup process at the Crownhill Elementary School cleanup site in Bremerton, Washington. This plan outlines and describes the tools that Ecology uses to inform the public about site activities and identifies opportunities for the community to become involved.

Bremerton School District (PLP) negotiated a legal agreement with Ecology called an **Agreed Order**. The Agreed Order describes the working relationship and outlines the scope of work to be implemented. The PLP will complete the remedial action outlined in the Agreed Order. The remedial action tasks covered by the Agreed Order are to complete the **Remedial Investigation (RI)**, and to develop a **Feasibility Study (FS)**. The purpose of the RI is to determine the nature and extent of contamination on the site. The FS will use the results of the RI to evaluate and select effective measures to prevent releases of contamination from the site.

Following completion of the draft RI/FS report, additional public involvement activities may be scheduled. The public involvement activities will be tailored based on the public comments received for this site and MTCA requirements. This will include public notifications and comment periods where appropriate.

STEPS IN THE CLEANUP PROCESS

The MTCA rules detail each step in the cleanup process to ensure that cleanups are thorough and protective of human health and the environment. The chart below defines these steps and how they apply to the project site. Legal documents such as “Agreed Orders” or “Consent Decrees” further define some of the steps and associated time frames. The current Agreed Order takes the site through Step 4. An Agreed Order will be issued for the Cleanup Action Plan.



A. SITE BACKGROUND

In 1994, the Bremerton School District (BSD) started this cleanup project as an independent cleanup action with limited Ecology oversight. The property was once used as a landfill in the 1940s. The construction of a new Crownhill Elementary School was initiated after a 1993 fire burned the original school. During site preparation work numerous areas were uncovered that contained known or suspected hazardous materials in addition to contaminated soils. Contaminated soil was removed and the current Crownhill building was completed in 1998. However, a complete characterization of the site was not done and the extent and type(s) of contamination present is also not known.

II. BREMERTON SCHOOL DISTRICT CROWNHILL SITE MAP



Contaminants of Concern

The primary sources of contaminants are those associated with landfills including chemicals found in petroleum products, lead, and industrial solvents. Once the cleanup actions are completed, the end result will reduce the exposure of children to soils containing potentially harmful levels of contamination.

Cleanup Work to be Performed

The proposed work tasks (or actions) under this Agreed Order are to complete the Remedial Investigation (RI) and Feasibility Study (FS). The RI will establish the nature and extent of the contamination. This will allow Ecology to define the entire area needing remediation, known as the "site." The FS will evaluate the possible cleanup alternatives for the site.

The work plan for the RI/FS is part of the Agreed Order, and will be reviewed and revised as necessary for approval by Ecology.

Future actions may include interim actions, if necessary, and a new legal agreement to implement the Ecology approved final Cleanup Action Plan (CAP).

III. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ACTIVITIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The purpose of this Public Participation Plan is to promote public understanding and participation in the Model Toxics Control Act (MTCA) cleanup activities planned for this site. This section of the plan addresses how Ecology will share information and receive public comments and community input on the site activities.

Ecology urges the public to become involved in the remedial action process. Information will be provided regularly to provide many opportunities to review materials and provide comments. This plan is intended to be a flexible working document that will be updated as community concerns emerge and/or more information becomes available during the cleanup process. To arrange for a briefing with project staff, ask questions or provide comments on the plan or other aspects of the cleanup, please contact one of the persons listed below.

For technical questions, please contact:

Russ Olsen, Site Manager
Washington State Department of Ecology
Address: 3190 160th Avenue SE
Bellevue, WA 98008
Phone: 425-649-7038
Email: rols461@ecy.wa.gov

For community outreach questions for Department of Ecology, please contact:

Nancy Lui, Community Outreach Coordinator
Washington State Department of Ecology
Address: 3190 160th Avenue SE
Bellevue, WA 98008
Phone: 425-649-7117
Email: nlui461@ecy.wa.gov

For community outreach questions for the Bremerton School District, please contact:

Patty Glaser, Bremerton School District, Community Relations Coordinator
Address: 134 Marion Avenue N.
Bremerton, WA 98312
Phone: 360-473-1003
E-mail: patty.glaser@bremertonschools.org
Website: <http://www.bremertonschools.org>

For public health questions, please contact:

Grant Holdcroft
Kitsap County Health District
Address: 345 6th Street, Suite 300
Bremerton, WA 98337
Phone: 360-337-5605
Email: holdcg@health.co.kitsap.wa.us
Website Address: <http://www.kitsapcountyhealth.com>

A. Public Involvement Activities

Ecology uses a variety of activities to facilitate public participation in the investigation and cleanup of MTCA sites. Ecology will take into consideration input provided by the community.

This list details the public involvement activities that Ecology will use, their purposes, and descriptions of when and how they will be used during this site cleanup.

B. Formal Public Comment Periods

Comment periods are the primary method Ecology uses to get feedback from the public on proposed cleanup decisions. Comment periods usually last 30 days and are required at key points during the investigation and evaluation of proposed cleanup process before final decisions are made.

During a comment period, the public can comment in writing. At the conclusion of the comment period, Ecology reviews all comments and may respond in a document called a Responsiveness Summary.

Ecology will consider the need for changes or revisions based on input from the public. If significant changes are made, then a second comment period may be held.

C. Public Meetings and Hearings

Public meetings may be held at key points during the cleanup process. Ecology may also offer public meetings for actions expected to be of particular interest to the community. Also, if ten or more people request a public meeting or hearing during the 30 day comment period, Ecology will hold a public meeting for the purpose of taking comments on draft documents.

D. Information Repositories

Information repositories are convenient places where the public can go to read and review site information. The information repositories are often at libraries or community sites which provide public access. During the comment period, the site documents will be available for review at each repository listed below. For special accommodations or translation assistance, please contact Nancy Lui at nlui461@ecy.wa.gov or at 425-649-7117, please indicate you would like assistance with the “**Bremerton School District – Crownhill Elementary School Cleanup Site**”.

Ecology has established two repositories for the Crownhill Elementary School Cleanup Site.

Kitsap Regional Library – Downtown Bremerton Library Branch

612 5th Street N, Bremerton, WA 98337
Phone: (360) 377-3955

Washington State Department of Ecology, Northwest Regional Office,
3190 160th Avenue SE, Bellevue, WA 98008, (425) 649-7190. Please call for an appointment.

Bremerton School District

134 Marion Avenue, Bremerton, WA 98312-3542
(360) 470-1003

Ecology's web site for the Bremerton School District Crownhill Elementary School Cleanup Site: http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/tcp/sites/crownhill/crownhill_hp.html

E. Site Register

Ecology's Toxics Cleanup Program uses the Site Register to announce all of its public meetings and comment periods, as well as many other activities. To receive the Site Register in electronic or hard copy format, contact Linda Thompson at 360-407-6069 or by e-mail at ltho461@ecy.wa.gov. It is also available on Ecology's web site at: http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/tcp/pub_inv/pub_inv2.html

F. Fact Sheet

Ecology will mail fact sheets to persons and organizations interested in the Bremerton School District Crownhill Elementary School Cleanup Site to inform them of public meetings and comment opportunities and important site activities. Ecology also may mail fact sheets about the progress of site activities.

G. Mailing List

Ecology has compiled and maintained a list of interested parties, organizations and residents living near the cleanup site. This mailing list will be used to provide information regarding this project. If you are not on the mailing list for this site and wish to be added, please contact Nancy Lui at nlui461@ecy.wa.gov or at 425-649-7117. In the subject line, please indicate “**Bremerton School District Crownhill Elementary School Cleanup Site**” mailing list.

H. Newspaper Display Ads

Ecology will place ads in the local area Newspaper to announce public comment periods, public meetings or hearings for the site.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION GRANTS AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

Additionally, citizen groups living near contaminated sites may apply for public participation grants during open application periods. These grants help citizens receive technical assistance in understanding the cleanup process and create additional public participation avenues. For more information about the public participation grant, please go to Ecology’s website at:
<http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/swfa/grants/ppg.html>

Ecology currently does not have a citizen technical advisor for providing technical assistance to citizens on issues related to the investigation and cleanup of the Site.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PLAN AMENDMENTS

The Plan was developed by Ecology and complies with the MTCA regulations (Chapter 173-340 WAC). It will be reviewed as cleanup progresses and may be amended if necessary. Amendments may be submitted to Ecology’s site manager, Brad Gilmore, for review and consideration.

IV. GLOSSARY

Cleanup: Actions taken to deal with a release, or threatened release of hazardous substances that could affect public health and/or the environment. The term "cleanup" is often used broadly to describe various response actions or phases of remedial responses such as the remedial investigation/feasibility study.

Comment Period: A time period during which the public can review and comment on various documents and proposed actions. For example, a comment period may be provided to allow community members to review and comment on proposed cleanup action alternatives and proposed plans.

Information Repository: A file containing current information, technical reports, and reference documents available for public review. The information repository is usually located in a public building that is convenient for local residents such as a public school, city hall, or library.

Model Toxics Control Act (MTCA): Legislation passed by the State of Washington in 1988. Its purpose is to identify, investigate, and clean up facilities where hazardous substances have been released. It defines the role of Ecology and encourages public involvement in the decision making process. MTCA regulations became effective March 1, 1989 and are administered by the Washington State Department of Ecology.

Public Notice: At a minimum, adequate notice mailed to all persons who have made a timely request of Ecology and to persons residing in the potentially affected vicinity of the proposed action; mailed to appropriate news media; published in the local (city and county) newspaper of largest circulation; and the opportunity for the interested persons to comment.

Public Participation Plan: A plan prepared under the authority of WAC 173-340-600 to encourage coordinated and effective public involvement tailored to the public's needs at a particular site.

Responsiveness Summary: A summary of oral and/or written public comments received by Ecology during a comment period on key documents, and Ecology's responses to those comments.

Site: Any building, structure, installation, equipment, pipe or pipeline (including any pipe into a sewer or publicly owned treatment works), well, pit, pond, lagoon, impoundment, ditch, landfill, storage container, motor vehicle, rolling stock, vessel, or aircraft; or any site or area where a hazardous substance, other than a consumer product in consumer use, has been deposited, stored, disposed of, or placed, or otherwise come to be located.

Site Register: Publication issued every two weeks of major activities conducted statewide related to the study and cleanup of hazardous waste sites under the Model Toxics Control Act. To receive this publication, please call 360-407-7200.