### EXHIBIT D

# PEND OREILLE MINE SITE TAILINGS DISPOSAL FACILITIES TDF-1 AND TDF-2

## AMENDED PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PLAN FOR THE CONSENT DECREE

#### PREPARED BY:

## WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY AND TECK WASHINGTON INCORPORATED

Para asistencia en Español: Richelle Perez 360/407-6971 Если вам нужно помощь по русский, звоните Tatyana Bistrevesky 509/928-7617

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#### **Getting Involved in Cleanup at the Pend Oreille Mine Site**

The Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) encourages the public to learn about and get involved in decision-making opportunities at the Pend Oreille Mine site. Opportunities are available during specific stages of the investigation and cleanup of contamination at the site. The site is located two miles north of Metaline Falls on the east side of the Pend Oreille River in Pend Oreille County, Washington. (See Appendix A – Site Map Figure 1).

The Public Participation Plan (Plan) provides an overview of the Plan itself and the Model Toxics Control Act (MTCA), which guides the formal cleanup process at sites in Washington State. This document also outlines the purpose of the Plan, when public notice will occur, the amount of time the public has to comment, where the potentially affected area is located, and ways the public may get involved in providing feedback. It also provides a site background and community profile.

This Plan has been amended from the original one that was part of the Agreed Order for a Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study. The amended Plan will become part of the Consent Decree for the Pend Oreille Mine site. The Consent Decree is a legal document used to implement cleanup actions at a site. It describes the responsibilities of all parties in implementing the cleanup action approved by Ecology and assures that work is conducted in a timely manner, in accordance with all applicable laws and regulations

#### Purpose of the Plan

The Public Participation Plan has three main purposes:

- To promote public understanding of Ecology's responsibilities, planning, and cleanup activities at the site.
- To serve as a way of gathering information from the public. This information will assist Ecology and the potentially liable persons (PLPs) to conduct the investigation and plan for cleanup in a manner that is protective of human health and the environment.
- To inform the community living near the site, as well as the general public, about cleanup activities and how to contribute to the decision-making process.

## Overview of the Public Participation Plan and the Model Toxics Control Act (MTCA)

The Plan is required under authority of the Model Toxics Control Act. MTCA is a "citizen-mandated" law that became effective in 1989 to provide guidelines for the cleanup of contaminated sites in Washington State. This law sets standards to make sure the cleanup of sites is protective of human health and the environment. A glossary of MTCA terms is included as Appendix C of this Plan.

Ecology's Toxics Cleanup Program investigates reports of contamination that may threaten human health and the environment. If contaminants are confirmed during an investigation, the site is generally ranked and placed on a Hazardous Sites List (HSL). As part of Teck's permit to re-open the mine, they agreed to close the historic areas known as Tailings Facilities Nos. 1 and 2. Since this agreement was already in

place as part of the permit requirements, it was not necessary to rank the Site when they would be closing theses two tailings facilities and Ecology would be overseeing the work.

Public participation is an important part of cleanup under the MTCA process. The participation needs are assessed at each site according to the level of public interest and degree of risk posed by contaminants. Individuals who live near the site, community groups, businesses, government, other organizations and interested parties are provided an opportunity to become involved in commenting on the cleanup process.

The Plan includes requirements for public notice such as: identifying reports about the site and the repositories where reports may be read; providing public comment periods; and holding public meetings or hearings. Other forms of participation may be interviews, citizen advisory groups, questionnaires, or workshops.

#### **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.

NOTE: Ecology currently does not have a citizen technical advisor for providing technical assistance to

**NOTE:** 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.

#### **Amendments**

This Plan has been amended in compliance with MTCA regulations (Chapter 173-340-600 WAC) and is an Exhibit to the Consent Decree. It provides updated information since the Plan was originally developed as part of the Agreed Order for a Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study. Ecology determines final approval of the Plan as well as any amendments.

#### **Review of Documents and Project Contacts**

Documents relating to the cleanup may be reviewed at the repositories listed on page 4 of this Plan. If individuals are interested in knowing more about the site or have comments regarding the Public Participation Plan, please contact one of the individuals listed on the following page.

#### **WA Department of Ecology Contacts:**

William J. Fees, P.E., Site Manager WA State Department of Ecology Toxics Cleanup Program 4601 N. Monroe Spokane, WA 99205-1295 509/329-3589 e-mail william.fees@ecy.wa.gov

Carol Bergin, Public Involvement WA State Department of Ecology Toxics Cleanup Program 4601 N. Monroe Spokane, WA 99205-1295 509/329-3546 e-mail carol.bergin@ecy.wa.gov

Kari Johnson, Public Disclosure WA State Department of Ecology 4601 N. Monroe Spokane, WA 99205-1295 509/329-3415 e-mail Kari.johnson@ecy.wa.gov

#### Para asistencia Español

Richelle Perez WA State Department of Ecology Toxics Cleanup Program 300 Desmond Drive SE Lacey, WA 98503-1274 360/407-6971

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Tatyana Bistrevesky 509/928-7617

#### **Teck Washington Incorporated Contact:**

Kevin Dunn

Environmental Superintendent Teck Washington Incorporated Direct Phone: 509/446-5348

Fax: 509/446-2830

E-mail: Kevin.Dunn@teck.com

#### Site Background

#### Overview

The Pend Oreille Mine and Mill are located two miles north of Metaline Falls, Washington, on the east side of the Pend Oreille River. The general terrain of the northeastern corner of Washington from Metaline to the Canadian border is mountainous and rugged with glaciated valleys. The area is heavily forested and dotted with many lakes formed from the melting of glacial ice.

The mine has historical roots of operation dating from as early as 1904 to the present. Early mining began on the west side of the Pend Oreille River. Mining on the east side of the river, at the current site, took place from 1952 until closure of the mine in 1977. Various owners operated the facility until 1996 when Cominco American Incorporated acquired it. In 2001, Cominco American Incorporated changed its name to Teck Cominco American Incorporated and in 2004 reopened the mine for production. Teck Washington Incorporated is the current owner.

The purpose of mining at the site is to remove ore-bearing rock from the underground mine and process it in facilities above ground. Zinc and lead are the primary metals recovered in the

mining process and sold for economic benefit. During ore processing and metal extraction, a fine material is produced called tailings. Historically, tailings were discharged directly into the Pend Oreille River until 1967. Since 1967 three areas have been used to store mine tailings at the Site.

These storage areas are called Tailings Disposal Facilities (TDF) 1, 2 and 3. TDF-1 and 2 cover approximately 49 acres and are located northwest of the Pend Oreille Mine Golf Course and east of the Pend Oreille River (see Figure 2 in Appendix A). Both TDF-1 and 2 are located on Pend Oreille Mine property owned by Teck Washington Incorporated. Pend Oreille Village and the Town of Metaline Falls are located about two miles and three miles respectively southwest of the Site.

Lead, zinc, cadmium and arsenic have been found in soil at TDF-3. Tailings at TDF-3 were processed by the same mill and came from the same ore extracted from a geologic area called the Josephine Horizon as were most of the tailings in TDF-1 and 2. TDF-3 is about 20 acres in size and lies under the newly permitted tailings collection facility used by Teck Washington Incorporated. The facility is managed as part of the current mine and mill operations. Teck will address closure of TDF-3 under a separate approved plan that is not part of this cleanup.

#### **Remedial Investigation Results**

The Remedial Investigation examined the extent of metals contamination at TDF 1 and 2. Arsenic, cadmium, copper, lead, manganese, mercury, selenium, and zinc as well as other metals in soils, groundwater and surface water were evaluated. The following are some of the investigation results.

#### Groundwater

- There are elevated levels of iron in groundwater in TDF-2 and elevated manganese in groundwater downgradient of TDF-1. Groundwater in these areas flows toward the Pend Oreille River.
- One of the primary purposes of the work at the site is to protect the river and local streams.
- Drinking water has not been impacted by site-related contaminants.

#### Soil

- There are elevated levels of arsenic, cadmium, copper, lead, mercury, and zinc in soils from the tailing piles.
- The elevated levels of these metals are based on ecological risk factors.
- Lead and arsenic in soil exceed standards for human health.

#### **Feasibility Study Report**

The original Feasibility Study Report evaluated six cleanup alternatives for the site. Protection of human health and the environment were key components of the evaluation. Other factors considered were effectiveness, potential for implementation, cost, compliance with all applicable laws, and long-term monitoring.

Three alternatives from the original Feasibility Study Report were evaluated in more depth. Teck chose Alternative 4 as their preferred cleanup option. Alternative 4 was presented to Ecology for approval, and Ecology selected a modified version of that alternative for the Draft Cleanup Action Plan.

#### **Selected Cleanup Actions**

A Draft Cleanup Action Plan (DCAP) and Consent Decree have been developed for the site. The DCAP identifies the cleanup actions Ecology has selected from the Feasibility Study. Some of the cleanup actions include:

- Re-grade and shape the tailings facilities' slopes.
- Compact the surface of tailings in TDF-1 and 2 to protect groundwater.
- Place a cover system over TDF-1 and 2.
- Control stormwater.

## State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) and Determination of Non-Significance (DNS)

The State Environmental Policy Act, known as SEPA, requires government agencies to consider potential environmental impacts of a project before beginning the cleanup.

- After review of a completed environmental checklist and other site-specific information, Ecology has determined the cleanup of metals contamination will not have a probable adverse impact on the environment.
- This action will benefit the environment by reducing the release of toxic chemicals from the site.
- Therefore, Ecology has issued a Determination of Non-Significance.

#### **Contaminants of Concern**

Arsenic, cadmium, copper, lead, manganese, mercury, selenium, and zinc as well as other metals in soils, groundwater and surface water were evaluated.

#### **COMMUNITY BACKGROUND**

#### **Community Profile**

Four communities are found near the Site:

- Pend Oreille Village
- Metaline Falls
- Metaline
- Ione

The Pend Oreille Village and town of Metaline Falls are approximately 2-3 miles southwest of the site and east of the river. Metaline is southwest of Metaline Falls on the west side of the river. Ione is southwest of the site on the west side of the river. The combined populations of Pend Oreille Village, Metaline Falls, Metaline and Ione are approximately 1,000. English is the primary language in the area.

The primary employers are the Selkirk School District, Seattle City Light, Teck Washington Incorporated, US Forest Service and US Customs and Immigration. Art and culture is particularly important to Metaline Falls which was voted one of the "100 Best Small Art Towns in America" in 1996. Metaline Falls includes a number of historical buildings including the Cutter Theatre which features live performances, an art gallery, the Historic Schools Display, and houses the Metaline Library.

Land in the immediate vicinity of the site is both privately and publicly owned. Private lands include the communities listed above as well as farmlands, ranches, homes and cabins. Most of the land in the vicinity of the site is public land of the Colville National Forest. This land is managed by the federal government for multiple uses, with emphasis on recreation, wildlife and timber harvesting.

Important local industries include mining, timber, agriculture and recreation. Mining has occurred in the area since the late 1800s. Timber has been harvested for many years in the area on both private and public lands for lumber and other forest products. However, this industry has declined within the past five years. There are a few privately owned hay and beef cattle farms in the vicinity of the Site. These farms also lease Colville National Forest lands for summer pasture.

Recreation provides important income to the local communities. Popular attractions to the area include nearby Sullivan Lake, Gardner Caves, Boundary and Box Canyon Dams, the Pend Oreille River, the North Pend Oreille Scenic Byway and International Selkirk Loop. Activities include hiking, cross-county skiing, camping, rock climbing, boating, hunting, fishing, wildlife and scenery viewing. The Metaline Falls Golf Course is located adjacent and to the east of the Site on lands leased from Teck Cominco. The nine-hole golf course includes a small club house and parking area. The Gun Club includes skeet shooting (on the golf course in the winter) and gun sighting and target practice facilities.

#### **Public Participation Activities and Timeline**

The following is a list of some of the public participation efforts that will occur until the cleanup actions are completed:

❖ A mailing list has been developed for individuals who live near the site. The potentially affected vicinity covers any adjacent properties and homes and businesses within close proximity to the site, and areas to be investigated. These individuals and businesses, along with the PLPs, will receive copies of all fact sheets developed regarding the cleanup process via first class mail. Additionally, individuals, organizations, local, state, and federal governments, and any other interested parties will be added to the mailing list as requested. Others who may be interested may request to be on the mailing list at any time by contacting Carol Bergin at the Department of Ecology (see page 4 for contact information).

❖ Public Repositories are locations where documents may be reviewed. The following locations contain copies of documents that go through the public review process related to this site:

**WA Department of Ecology** 

4601 N. Monroe

Spokane, WA 99205-1295 Contact: Ms. Kari Johnson

Public Disclosure Coordinator

509/329-3415

**Public Library** 

Cutter Theatre Building 302 Park Street

Metaline Falls, WA 99153

509/446-3232

#### Ecology's Web Site at

http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/tcp/sites/Pend\_Or\_Mine/POM\_hp.htm

#### **❖** Opportunity to Comment

During each stage of cleanup **fact sheets** are created by Ecology and distributed to individuals on the mailing list. These fact sheets explain the stage of cleanup, the site background, what happens next in the cleanup process, and ask for comments from the public. The fact sheets are also posted on Ecology's web page under the Toxics Cleanup Program at <a href="http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/tcp/sites/Pend\_Or\_Mine/POM\_hp.htm">http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/tcp/sites/Pend\_Or\_Mine/POM\_hp.htm</a>

❖ A **30-day comment period** allows interested parties time to comment on the process. The fact sheet contains contact information about where to submit comments and where and when public meetings or hearings will be held.

#### Site Register

A notice is also published in a statewide **Site Register.** It is sent electronically to individuals and organizations who request the publication. If you are interested in receiving the Site Register, contact Linda Thompson of Ecology at 360/407-6069 or e-mail <a href="mailto:Linda.Thompson@ecy.wa.gov">Linda.Thompson@ecy.wa.gov</a>.

- ❖ **Display ads or legal notices** are published in the Statesman Examiner, Newport Miner, and Spokesman-Review to inform the general public. These notices correlate with the 30-day comment period and associated stage of cleanup. They also are used to announce public meetings, workshops, or hearings.
- ❖ Public meetings, workshops, open houses, and public hearings are held based on the level of community interest. If ten or more people request a public meeting or hearing based on the subject of the public notice, Ecology will hold a meeting or hearing and gather comments. Ecology is required to hold meetings in public facilities that meet American Disabilities Act (ADA) requirements and will make every effort to find such a location near the site.
- ❖ Flyers posted at local businesses, schools, libraries and other locations in the community may be used to announce public meetings, hearings, or workshops.

#### **Answering Questions from the Public**

If you have questions about fact sheets, documents available for public comment, meetings and hearings, or about the general cleanup process, you are encouraged to contact one of the individuals listed on page 4.

#### **Public Notice and Comment Periods – Timeline**

DATE	ACTION TAKEN
February 11, 2005	Teck and Ecology began negotiations for the Agreed Order for a Remedial Invesitgation and Feasibility Study – Notice was given in Ecology's Site Register.
May 25, 2005 through June 23, 2005	Fact Sheet Mailed: 30-day public comment period for the Agreed Order for a Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study.
June 21 through July 22, 2010	Fact Sheet Mailed: 30-day public comment period for the Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study Reports.
July 20, 2010	Teck held a public meeting at Selkirk High School to provide a site update.
September 21, 2010	The Selkirk Teck Community Planning group met to further discuss the site.
November 2, 2010	The Selkirk Teck Community Planning group met to further discuss the site.

#### APPENDIX A SITE MAP

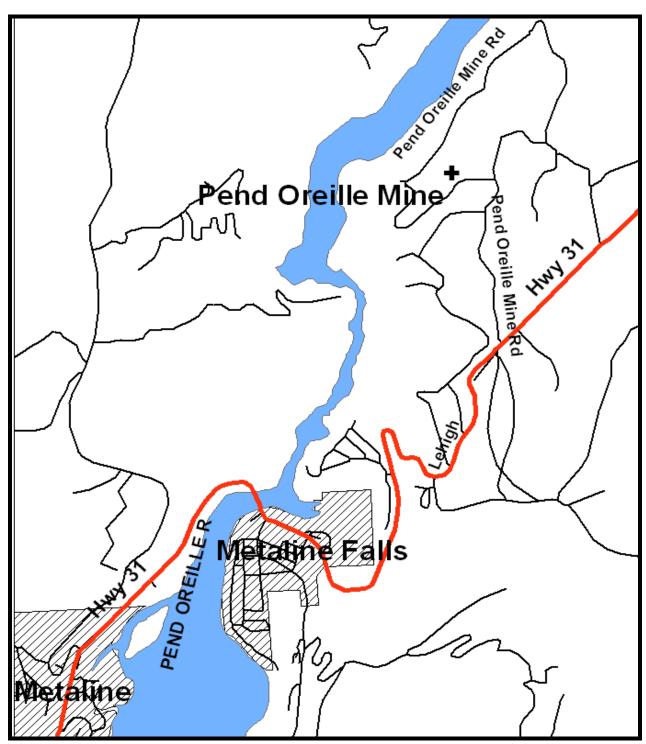


Figure 1

APPENDIX A
MAP OF TDF-1, TDF-2 AND TDF-3

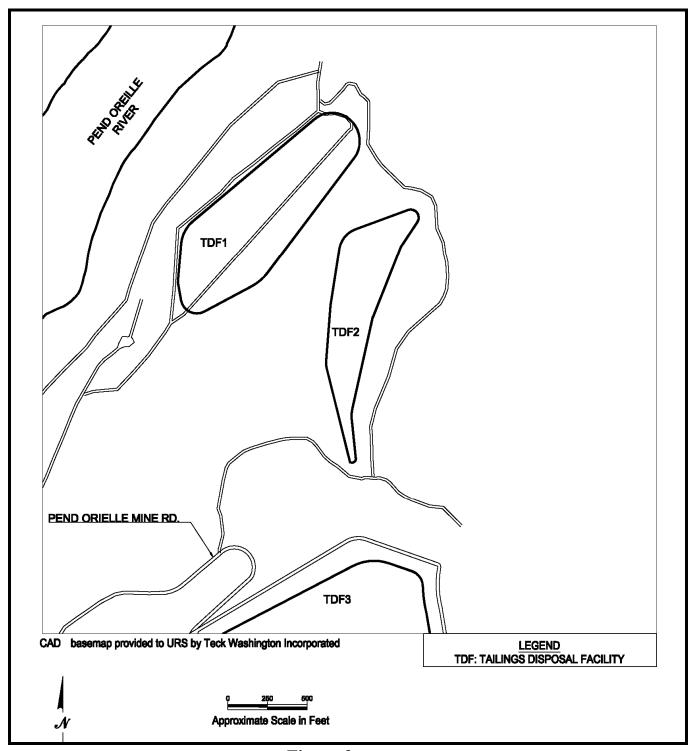


Figure 2

#### **APPENDIX B**

#### **CURRENT MAILING LIST**

(to be included in final hard copy of the Agreed Order)

**Pend Oreille Mine Site** 

#### APPENDIX C GLOSSARY

- **Agreed Order:** A legal document issued by Ecology which formalizes an agreement between the department and potentially liable persons (PLPs) for the actions needed at a site. An agreed order is subject to public comment. If an order is substantially changed, an additional comment period is provided.
- **Applicable State and Federal Law:** All legally applicable requirements and those requirements that Ecology determines are relevant and appropriate requirements.
- **Area Background:** The concentrations of hazardous substances that are consistently present in the environment in the vicinity of a site which are the result of human activities unrelated to releases from that site.
- **Carcinogen:** Any substance or agent that produces or tends to produce cancer in humans.
- **Chronic Toxicity:** The ability of a hazardous substance to cause injury or death to an organism resulting from repeated or constant exposure to the hazardous substance over an extended period of time.
- **Cleanup:** The implementation of a cleanup action or interim action.
- Cleanup Action: Any remedial action, except interim actions, taken at a site to eliminate, render less toxic, stabilize, contain, immobilize, isolate, treat, destroy, or remove a hazardous substance that complies with cleanup levels; utilizes permanent solutions to the maximum extent practicable; and includes adequate monitoring to ensure the effectiveness of the cleanup action.
- Cleanup Action Plan: A document which identifies the cleanup action and specifies cleanup standards and other requirements for a particular site. After completion of a comment period on a Draft Cleanup Action Plan, Ecology will issue a final Cleanup Action Plan.
- **Cleanup Level:** The concentration of a hazardous substance in soil, water, air or sediment that is determined to be protective of human health and the environment under specified exposure conditions.
- **Cleanup Process:** The process for identifying, investigating, and cleaning up hazardous waste sites.
- **Consent Decree:** A legal document approved and issued by a court which formalizes an agreement reached between the state and potentially liable persons (PLPs) on the actions needed at a site. A decree is subject to public comment. If a decree is substantially changed, an additional comment period is provided.

- **Containment:** A container, vessel, barrier, or structure, whether natural or constructed, which confines a hazardous substance within a defined boundary and prevents or minimizes its release into the environment.
- **Contaminant:** Any hazardous substance that does not occur naturally or occurs at greater than natural background levels.
- **Enforcement Order:** A legal document, issued by Ecology, requiring remedial action. Failure to comply with an enforcement order may result in substantial liability for costs and penalties. An enforcement order is subject to public comment. If an enforcement order is substantially changed, an additional comment period is provided.
- **Environment:** Any plant, animal, natural resource, surface water (including underlying sediments), ground water, drinking water supply, land surface (including tidelands and shorelands) or subsurface strata, or ambient air within the state of Washington.
- **Exposure:** Subjection of an organism to the action, influence or effect of a hazardous substance (chemical agent) or physical agent.
- **Exposure Pathways:** The path a hazardous substance takes or could take form a source to an exposed organism. An exposure pathway describes the mechanism by which an individual or population is exposed or has the potential to be exposed to hazardous substances at or originating from the site. Each exposure pathway includes an actual or potential source or release from a source, an exposure point, and an exposure route. If the source exposure point differs from the source of the hazardous substance, exposure pathway also includes a transport/exposure medium.
- **Facility:** 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 or, placed, or otherwise come to be located.
- **Feasibility Study (FS):** A study to evaluate alternative cleanup actions for a site. A comment period on the draft report is required. Ecology selects the preferred alternative after reviewing those documents.
- **Free Product:** A hazardous substance that is present as a nonaqueous phase liquid (that is, liquid not dissolved in water).
- **Groundwater:** Water found beneath the earth's surface that fills pores between materials such as sand, soil, or gravel. In aquifers, groundwater occurs in sufficient quantities that it can be used for drinking water, irrigation, and other purposes.

- **Hazardous Sites List:** A list of sites identified by Ecology that requires further remedial action. The sites are ranked from 1 to 5 to indicate their relative priority for further action.
- Hazardous Substance: Any dangerous or extremely hazardous waste as defined in RCW 70.105.010 (5) (any discarded, useless, unwanted, or abandoned substances including, but not limited to, certain pesticides, or any residues or containers of such substances which are disposed of in such quantity or concentration as to pose a substantial present or potential hazard to human health, wildlife, or the environment because such wastes or constituents or combinations of such wastes; (a) have short-lived, toxic properties that may cause death, injury, or illness or have mutagenic, teratogenic, or carcinogenic properties; or (b) are corrosive, explosive, flammable, or may generate pressure through decomposition or other means,) and (6) (any dangerous waste which (a) will persist in a hazardous form for several years or more at a disposal site and which in its persistent form presents a significant environmental hazard and may affect the genetic makeup of man or wildlife; and is highly toxic to man or wildlife; (b) if disposed of at a disposal site in such quantities as would present an extreme hazard to man or the environment), or any dangerous or extremely dangerous waste as designated by rule under Chapter 70.105 RCW: any hazardous substance as defined in RCW 70.105.010 (14) (any liquid, solid, gas, or sludge, including any material, substance, product, commodity, or waste, regardless of quantity, that exhibits any of the characteristics or criteria of hazardous waste as described in rules adopted under this chapter,) or any hazardous substance as defined by rule under Chapter 70.105 RCW; petroleum products.
- **Hazardous Waste Site:** Any facility where there has been a confirmation of a release or threatened release of a hazardous substance that requires remedial action.
- **Independent Cleanup Action:** Any remedial action conducted without Ecology oversight or approval, and not under an order or decree.
- **Initial Investigation:** An investigation to determine that a release or threatened release may have occurred that warrants further action.
- **Interim Action:** Any remedial action that partially addresses the cleanup of a site.
- **Mixed Funding:** Any funding, either in the form of a loan or a contribution, provided to potentially liable persons from the state toxics control account.
- **Model Toxics Control Act (MTCA):** Washington State's law that governs the investigation, evaluation and cleanup of hazardous waste sites. Refers to RCW 70.105D. It was approved by voters at the November 1988 general election and known is as Initiative 97. The implementing regulation is WAC 173-340.
- **Monitoring Wells:** Special wells drilled at specific locations on or off a hazardous waste site where groundwater can be sampled at selected depths and studied to determine the direction of groundwater flow and the types and amounts of contaminants present.

- **Natural Background:** The concentration of hazardous substance consistently present in the environment which has not been influenced by localized human activities.
- **National Priorities List (NPL):** EPA's list of hazardous waste sites identified for possible long-term remedial response with funding from the federal Superfund trust fund.
- **Owner or Operator:** Any person with any ownership interest in the facility or who exercises any control over the facility; or in the case of an abandoned facility, any person who had owned or operated or exercised control over the facility any time before its abandonment.
- **Polynuclear Aromatic Hydrocarbon (PAH):** A class of organic compounds, some of which are long-lasting and carcinogenic. These compounds are formed from the combustion of organic material and are ubiquitous in the environment. PAHs are commonly formed by forest fires and by the combustion of fossil fuels.
- **Potentially Liable Person (PLP):** Any person whom Ecology finds, based on credible evidence, to be liable under authority of RCW 70.105D.040.
- **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 or county) newspaper of largest circulation; and opportunity for 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.
- **Recovery By-Products:** Any hazardous substance, water, sludge, or other materials collected in the free product removal process in response to a release from an underground storage tank.
- **Release:** Any intentional or unintentional entry of any hazardous substance into the environment, including, but not limited to, the abandonment or disposal of containers of hazardous substances.
- **Remedial Action:** Any action to identify, eliminate, or minimize any threat posed by hazardous substances to human health or the environment, including any investigative and monitoring activities of any release or threatened release of a hazardous substance and any health assessments or health effects studies.
- **Remedial Investigation (RI):** A study to define the extent of problems at a site. When combined with a study to evaluate alternative cleanup actions it is referred to as a Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study (RI/FS). In both cases, a comment period on the draft report is required.

- **Responsiveness Summary:** A compilation of all questions and comments to a document open for public comment and their respective answers/replies by Ecology. The Responsiveness Summary is mailed, at a minimum, to those who provided comments and its availability is published in the Site Register.
- **Risk Assessment:** The determination of the probability that a hazardous substance, when released into the environment, will cause an adverse effect in exposed humans or other living organisms.
- **Sensitive Environment:** An area of particular environmental value, where a release could pose a greater threat than in other areas including: wetlands; critical habitat for endangered or threatened species; national or state wildlife refuge; critical habitat, breeding or feeding area for fish or shellfish; wild or scenic river; rookery; riparian area; big game winter range.

**Site:** See Facility.

- **Site Characterization Report:** A written report describing the site and nature of a release from an underground storage tank, as described in WAC 173-340-450 (4) (b).
- **Site Hazard Assessment (SHA):** An assessment to gather information about a site to confirm whether a release has occurred and to enable Ecology to evaluate the relative potential hazard posed by the release. If further action is needed, an RI/FS is undertaken.
- **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.
- **Surface Water:** Lakes, rivers, ponds, streams, inland waters, salt waters, and all other surface waters and water courses within the State of Washington or under the jurisdiction of the State of Washington.
- **TCP:** Toxics Cleanup Program at Ecology
- **Total Petroleum Hydrocarbons (TPH):** A scientific measure of the sum of all petroleum hydrocarbons in a sample (without distinguishing one hydrocarbon from another). The "petroleum hydrocarbons" include compounds of carbon and hydrogen that are derived from naturally occurring petroleum sources or from manufactured petroleum products (such as refined oil, coal, and asphalt).
- **Toxicity:** The degree to which a substance at a particular concentration is capable of causing harm to living organisms, including people, plants and animals.
- **Underground Storage Tank (UST):** An underground storage tank and connected underground piping as defined in the rules adopted under Chapter 90.76 RCW.

**Washington Ranking Method (WARM):** Method used to rank sites placed on the hazardous sites list. A report describing this method is available from Ecology.