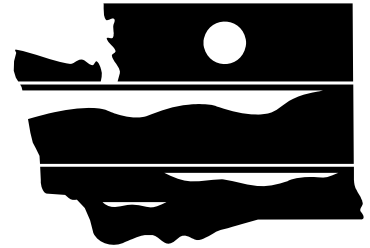


Yakima Railroad Area: Cameron Yakima Inc. Yakima County



WASHINGTON STATE
DEPARTMENT OF
E C O L O G Y

Ecology seeks cleanup of contamination at Cameron Yakima, Inc. through settlements.

The Washington State Department of Ecology's Toxics Cleanup Program (Ecology) is seeking to achieve faster and more direct cleanup of contamination at the Cameron Yakima, Inc. (Cameon Yakima) facility by entering into a consent decree with several Potentially Liable Persons (Settlors). The proposed consent decree will settle the cleanup liability of the Settlers and will provide resources for continued investigation and cleanup actions at the Cameron Yakima facility in the Yakima Railroad Area.

The Settlers included in this proposed consent decree include Atlantic Richfield Company; Chevron USA, Inc.; Exxon Corporation; General Electric Company; Minnesota Mining And Manufacturing Company And Imation Corp.; Shell Oil Company, and Western Farm Service, Inc. These businesses had sent contaminated carbon to Cameron Yakima for treatment. The carbon that these businesses, and other businesses that are not included in the currently proposed consent decree, shipped to Cameron Yakima is the source of contamination found in soil and ground water at the Cameron Yakima facility.

The Yakima Railroad Area is the name given to a portion of the cities of Yakima and Union Gap that straddles the railroad tracks and is underlain by solvent contaminated groundwater. The Yakima Cameron

facility, located at 1414 South First Street Yakima, is nearly the center of the Yakima Railroad Area which, roughly defined, includes the area from about "B" street to Washington Ave and from 9th Avenue to Interstate 82.

An End Providing the Means

The Consent Decree is an agreement between Ecology and the Settlers that is filed in federal court. The proposed consent decree will accept work that has been completed by the Settlers and includes a contribution of funds to continue environmental work associated with the Cameron Yakima, Inc. facility cleanup.

The work that has been completed, and is being accepted as part of this proposed settlement, includes nine monitoring wells that have been installed at the Cameron Yakima facility.

Settlors will provide Ecology with \$750,000 for additional cleanup at the Cameron Yakima facility. Ecology will oversee the use of these funds for the cleanup activities.

A Matter of Trust

Ecology will use a trust fund created by earlier settlements in the Yakima Railroad Area to manage the funds from the current settlement. The Yakima Railroad Area Trust Fund has been established to provide for future work in the Yakima Railroad

FACT SHEET DECEMBER 1998

**For Technical Questions,
Please contact:**

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**For other questions or to be
placed on the site mailing list,
Please contact:**

Mark Peterschmidt
Toxics Cleanup Program
Ecology, Central Regional Office
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**Public Comment Period
December 4, 1998 through
January 8, 1999.**

Documents are available for
public review at:

Ecology Central Regional Office
address listed above

Yakima Valley Regional Library
102 N. 3rd Street, Yakima

Seattle Public Library
1000 4th Avenue,
Seattle, WA 98104

**Para asistencia bilingue, favor
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Yakima Railroad Area; Cameron Yakima, Inc.

Area. Monies from the proposed consent decree will be specifically for cleanup at the Cameron Yakima facility.

The trust fund will assure funding for work that would include continued environmental investigation, interim actions (like expanding municipal water service to areas of threatened ground water), cleanup action plan development and implementation, and long term sampling and testing of ground water.

Payment of \$750,000 to the trust fund will generally fulfill the proposed consent decree between Ecology and the Settlers. Future settlements with other Potentially Liable Persons for solvent contamination of ground water in the Yakima Railroad Area will include payments to the trust fund. The settlement value is based on the total amount of solvent contaminated carbon shipped to the Cameron Yakima facility and the estimated past and future costs to protect the community and the environment from the solvent contamination.

An End in Sight

This consent decree provides an end to the liability regarding cleanup of the Yakima Railroad Area for the Settlers who are included in it. By settling, Ecology is agreeing that this settlement provides the best opportunity to move forward with investigations and cleanup actions designed to protect the people living in the area of known ground water contamination.

Community Effects?

Ecology recognizes that actions related to the cleanup of the Yakima Railroad Area may need to be undertaken by local governments. Local government projects related to the contamination and cleanup in the area may be eligible for funding with

money from the Yakima Railroad Area trust fund.

Ecology needs to know if the proposed consent decree, and the actions that have been taken as part of this settlement, is acceptable to the people in the community. Ecology would like to know if the community would prefer an alternative approach to address the contamination in the Yakima Railroad Area, and what that alternative should be. Written comments from the public will be accepted by Ecology from December 4, 1998 through January 8, 1999. Please send your comments, post dated on or before January 8, 1999, to Rick Roeder, Ecology Site Manager, 15 West Yakima Avenue, Suite 200, Yakima, 98902.

A public meeting and hearing is scheduled for December 17, 1998, at 7:00 PM at the Ecology's Yakima office. A meeting in which questions and answers can be discussed will be immediately followed by the public hearing to take public comments about the consent decrees.

What happens next?

When Ecology has received the public's comments on this consent decree, Ecology will respond in writing to the comments and incorporate needed changes into the consent decree. The response to comments will accompany the consent decrees when they are filed in court. The date this decree will take effect will depend on the amount of comments received and any subsequent changes to the consent decree.

Any future consent decrees in the Yakima Railroad Area will be announced by publication of notice in the Yakima Herald Republic. Also, direct mailed fact sheets to affected and interested parties, public hearings, and information repositories as designated on the first page of this fact sheet will be used. Please watch

for further information and opportunity to be involved in Yakima Railroad Area cleanup issues.

If you have special accommodation needs, or require this document in an alternative format, please call Mark Peterschmidt (509)454-7840 (voice) or (509)454-7673(TDD) Para asistencia bilingue, favor de hablar a Greg Bohn (509)454-4174