

Proposed Removal of Environmental Covenant

The Washington Department of Ecology (Ecology) invites you to comment on our proposal to remove a restrictive covenant (also called an environmental covenant) for the Alexander Farms Site located at 179101 West King Tull Road in Benton County, Washington.

What is a Restrictive Covenant?

A restrictive covenant (also called an environmental covenant) is a legal document. It prohibits activities that may result in the release of a hazardous substance that remains on a site after cleanup. A covenant is attached to the property deed and filed with the County Assessor.

Public Comment Invited

Ecology is asking for your comments on the proposed removal of the environmental covenant. You are invited to:

- **Review** the restrictive covenant, recorded in 2006, and the covenant removal request.
- Review the Consent Decree Notice of Completion letter, issued in 2009.
- **Send** your comments to Ecology for consideration. Comments will be accepted *April 2, 2015 through May 4, 2015*.

See the box at the right for details about where to review documents and submit comments.

Site Background and Cleanup

In April 1998, Ecology responded to complaints of yellow water coming from two domestic wells in the vicinity of the Alexander Farms site. Ecology determined that the soil and groundwater at the site was contaminated with Dinoseb, a herbicide that was banned from use by the United States Environmental Protection Service (US EPA) in 1986.

Comments Accepted

April 2, 2015 through May 4, 2015

Submit Comments and Technical Questions to:

Jeff Newschwander
WA Department of Ecology
Toxics Cleanup Program
15 W Yakima Avenue, Ste 200
Yakima, WA 98902-3452
Phone: (509) 454-7842
E-mail: Jeff.Newschwander@ecy.wa.gov

DOCUMENT REVIEW LOCATIONS

Grandview Library

500 W Main Street
Grandview, WA 98930
Phone: (509) 882-7034
Hours:

Mon-Tues: 1:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m.
Wed-Thurs: 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m.
Fri-Sat: 10 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

WA Department of Ecology

Central Regional Office

15 W Yakima Avenue, Ste 200
Yakima, WA 98902

By appointment only:

Contact CRO Public Records Coordinator
at cropublicrequest@ecy.wa.gov or
(509) 454-7658

Ecology's Toxics Cleanup Website

<https://fortress.wa.gov/ecy/gsp/Sitepage.aspx?csid=478>

Facility/Site ID #: 23975611

Cleanup Site ID #: 478

Between 1998 and 2005, approximately 15,000 tons of Dinoseb contaminated soil was excavated from the site. The soil, which was acting as the source of ground water contamination, was hauled to a licensed disposal facility in Arlington, Oregon.

Between 2005 and 2008, 14 ground water monitoring wells were sampled quarterly (every 3 months) and analyzed until the ground water in all the wells remained below cleanup levels for Dinoseb for eight consecutive quarters (2 years). As of January 2008, the ground water from all 14 wells had tested below cleanup levels for two years.

Based upon review of the Cleanup Action Reports and 11 years of data, Ecology determined the site is no longer a threat to human health and the environment. Ecology removed the Site from the Hazardous Sites List in May 2009.

Proposed Covenant Removal

The property owner has requested permission to rescind the restrictive covenant for the Alexander Farms Site. The restrictive covenant explicitly states that it may be rescinded when groundwater concentrations of Dinoseb are below 7 micrograms per liter. This condition has been met at the Site. Ecology proposes to grant permission for the restrictive covenant to be rescinded for the Site.

What Happens Next?

After the public comment period ends, Ecology will review comments received during the comment period. If no changes are necessary, Ecology will grant permission to rescind the covenant from the Site.

For information about other opportunities for public involvement such as meetings, hearings, open houses and workshops, please visit Ecology's Public Involvement Calendar at <http://apps.ecy.wa.gov/pubcalendar/calendar.asp>

While you are at the calendar page, you may click on the link Frequently Asked Questions about Effective Public Commenting and learn more about the public comment process.

What can you do?

1. Read about the cleanup in this handout.
2. To get more detailed information, review the supporting documents at the locations listed in this document.
3. Write down your comments and questions. Send them to the Department of Ecology at the address provided in this document.

We appreciate your comments and concerns. *Thank you.*

Help with other languages and formats?

Para asistencia en español: (509) 575-2490

To request ADA accommodation for disabilities, or printed materials in a format for the visually impaired, call Frosti Smith at Ecology, 509-454-7841. Persons with impaired hearing may call Washington Relay Service at 711. Persons with speech disability may call TTY at 877-833-6341.