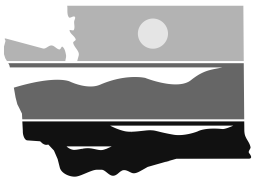

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PLAN

B&L Woodwaste
2201 6th Avenue
Milton, Washington

Facility Site Number 1203
Cleanup Site Number 2297

Prepared by
Washington State Department of Ecology
Southwest Regional Office
Toxics Cleanup Program
PO Box 47775
Olympia, Washington 98504-7775

Updated September 2013

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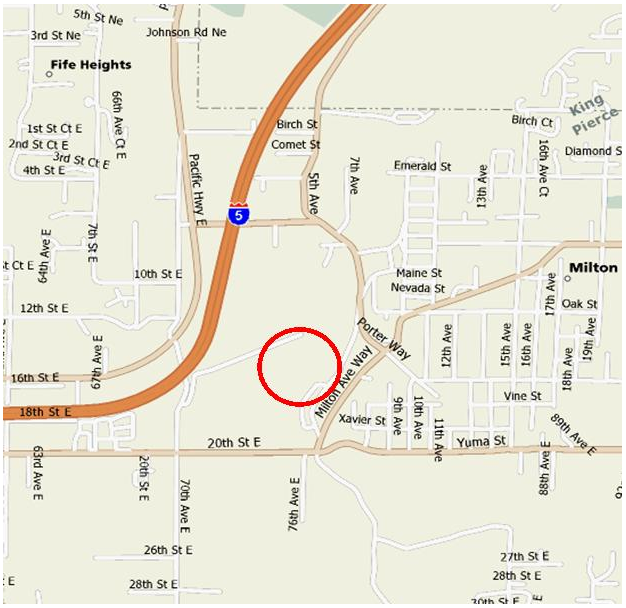
INTRODUCTION

Public participation plans promote meaningful involvement during cleanups. This plan describes the tools the Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) will use to inform the public and gather input about the B&L Woodwaste cleanup.

LOCATION AND SITE BACKGROUND

The B&L Woodwaste site is located near Fife Way and 6th Avenue along the border of Milton and Fife.



Site Background

The B&L Woodwaste Landfill received woodwaste from the mid 1970s until the early 1980s. The waste, which came from log sort yards in Commencement Bay, was contaminated with Asarco slag. The Asarco slag (which came from smelting operations) leaked arsenic into the woodwaste, soil, and groundwater at the site.

In **1982**, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) added the Commencement Bay Nearshore/Tideflats area, including Hylebos Waterway and the B&L Woodwaste site, to its National Priorities List (Superfund site list). EPA named the B&L Woodwaste site as a source of arsenic.

In **1992**, Ecology issued an Enforcement Order requiring Asarco, Inc. and other responsible parties (Murray Pacific, Louisiana-Pacific and Executive Bark) to do the following:

- Consolidate woodwaste on the 18 acre property into an 11 acre landfill.
- Construct a multi-layer capping system to prevent rain from flushing contamination from the waste.
- Install and operate a groundwater monitoring well system.
- Create a plan to address any failure of the remedy.

In response to a discovery of elevated arsenic in groundwater at the site, Ecology completed an extensive study of the wetland area and found:

- Dissolved arsenic levels in the groundwater in a nearby wetland were above cleanup standards.
- Some waste at the bottom of the landfill was in contact with the water table during the winter months.

- Plants and animals in the nearby wetland did not appear to be experiencing any toxic effects.

In **2002**, Asarco's funds became unavailable and they were unable to complete the rest of the Cleanup Action Plan. In **2005**, Ecology amended the original Enforcement Order and required the liable parties (PLPs) to complete:

- An evaluation of potential remedies to contain the release of contaminated groundwater from the site.
- An investigation of the wetland area to determine what remedial action is needed.

In **2005**, Asarco entered into bankruptcy proceedings and has not contributed towards cleanup efforts since that time. Murray Pacific has contributed to the evaluation of potential remedies and preparation of the Cleanup Action Plan.

In July **2007**, the draft Cleanup Action Plan (CAP) was finalized after a public comment period. Ecology entered into bankruptcy court proceedings with Asarco and settlement negotiations with Asarco, Murray Pacific, Wasser and Winters and Louisiana Pacific related to those proceedings.

In **2008**, Ecology and Murray Pacific Corp (Murray Pacific) entered into a Consent Decree requiring Murray Pacific to implement the Cleanup Action Plan which required:

- Completion of an archeological survey of the area to determine if cultural artifacts are present.
- Design and construction of the cleanup remedy detailed in the CAP.

Cleanup Plan

The CAP requires cleanup remedies in three areas: the landfill and surrounding ditches, the wetlands, and the end of the plume.

End of Plume

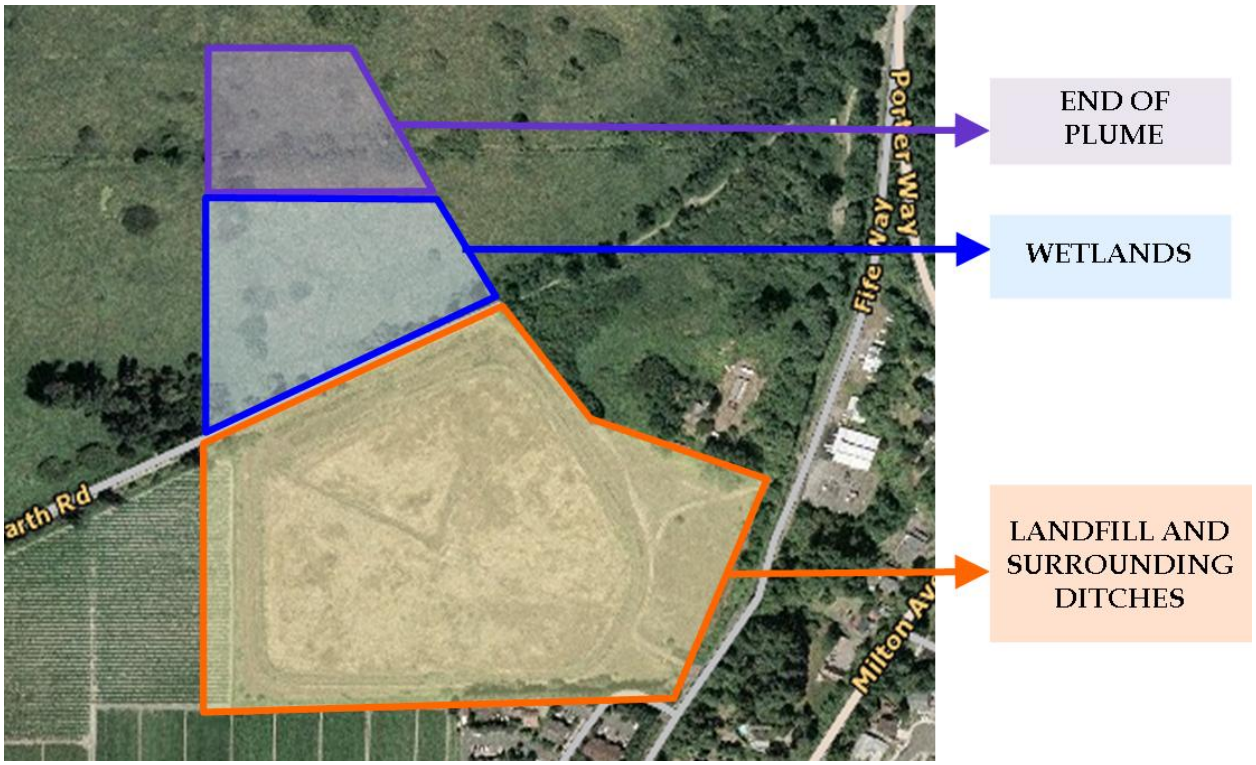
- Groundwater in the area will be treated to stop movement of arsenic beyond the wetland.
- Long term monitoring to ensure arsenic levels are below Model Toxic Control Act standards.

Wetlands

- The new groundwater treatment system will treat pumped groundwater to remove arsenic.
- In-place treatment will be used to remove arsenic that cannot be removed by pumping.

Landfill and Surrounding Ditches

- Installation of a perimeter slurry wall around the landfill to provide a barrier that prevents contaminated groundwater from moving away from the landfill.
- Removal and treatment of contaminated water from beneath the capped landfill.
- Excavation and disposal of contaminated sediments in the drainage ditches.



CURRENT ACTIVITY

Levels of arsenic in groundwater outside the landfill are still above state cleanup standards. To finish cleaning up the site, the B&L Custodial Trust (trust) will:

- Use a groundwater treatment system to pump groundwater from areas in and around the landfill, and remove arsenic from it.
- Keep pumping groundwater to keep contaminated water in the landfill once there is no more contaminated water outside of it. The system will likely have to pump and treat water from the landfill indefinitely or until conditions improve.
- Test a process to treat arsenic in water that cannot be removed from the wetlands. The trust will use a chemical that binds arsenic to soil. Arsenic in this soil will be below state cleanup levels

SITE CLEANUP PROCESS

Washington's Model Toxics Control Act (MTCA) requires that cleanups meet standards that are safe for both human health and the environment. For more information on MTCA, please visit Ecology's website at http://www.ecy.wa.gov/biblio/ftc94129.html.

Toxic sites are cleaned up in stages, described below. Each stage has a related report or plan that the public is welcome to review and comment on.

Remedial Investigation & Feasibility Study (RI/FS) - The RI looks at the extent and type of pollution on the site. It also looks at possible human health and environmental impacts. The FS identifies and evaluates different cleanup options.

Interim Actions - Ecology may allow Interim Actions to partly clean up a site before the final cleanup plan is complete.

Cleanup Action Plan (CAP) - The CAP describes the cleanup methods and how they will meet Ecology's cleanup standards. The Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study provide the data and analysis to write a CAP. The CAP also takes into account public comments and concerns.

Cleanup - Cleanup removes contaminants from the site, contains them on the site, or treats them to make them less toxic. Based on the information in the RI/FS, Ecology selects a cleanup action and develops a new legal agreement for cleanup. A CAP requires a public comment period.

Delisting - Ecology keeps track of toxic cleanup sites on the Hazardous Sites List. Once cleanup is complete, the public will have a chance to comment before Ecology takes a site off the list.

You can find more information about toxic cleanups on Ecology's website: http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/tcp/cu_support/cu_process__steps_defns.htm.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ACTIVITIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The purpose of this Public Participation Plan is to promote public understanding and participation in the cleanup. This section of the plan describes how Ecology will share information and receive public comments on cleanup activities. Ecology will use the following public involvement activities during the B&L Woodwaste cleanup:

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. WAC 173-340-600 requires them at key points during the investigation and cleanup process, before final decisions are made. During a comment period, the public can comment in writing. Ecology can only take verbal comments during a public hearing.

After comment periods, Ecology reviews all comments and may respond in a document called a responsiveness summary. Ecology considers whether a document or decision needs to be changed or revised based on public input. If there are major changes, Ecology may hold a second comment period. If there are no major changes, Ecology finalizes the draft document(s).

Public Meetings and Hearings

Ecology may hold public meetings at key points during the investigation and cleanup. Ecology

also may offer public meetings for actions expected to be of particular interest to the community. Ecology will also hold a public meeting if ten or more people request one. These meetings will be at places and times convenient to the public.

Information Repositories

These are places where the public can read and review site information, including public comment period documents. Ecology has two repositories for this site:

- Tacoma Main Library, 1102 Tacoma Avenue S, Tacoma 98402. (253) 591-5666.
- Pierce County Library, 900 Meridian E., Suite 29, Milton 98354. (253) 548-3325.
- Citizens for a Healthy Bay, 535 Dock St., Suite 213, Tacoma 98402. (253) 383-2429.
- Washington State Department of Ecology, 300 Desmond Drive, Lacey 98516. Please call (360) 407-6365 for an appointment.

See also Ecology's website: https://fortress.wa.gov/ecy/gsp/Sitepage.aspx?csid=2297

Site Register

Ecology's Toxics Cleanup Program uses its bimonthly Site Register to announce public meetings and comment periods, and many other activities. To receive the Site Register by e-mail, contact Seth Preston at (360) 407-6848 or Seth.Preston@ecy.wa.gov. You can also read it on Ecology's website at http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/tcp/pub_inv/pub_inv2.html.

Mailing List

Ecology's mailing list for this site includes neighboring landowners and businesses, public agencies, and other known interested parties. Ecology's Southwest Regional Office maintains the list and will update it as needed. Please contact Diana Smith at (360) 407-6255 or Diana.Smith@ecy.wa.gov if you would like to have your address added to or deleted from this mailing list.

Fact Sheets

Ecology will mail fact sheets to people and groups interested in this cleanup. Fact sheets will announce comment periods and public meetings. Ecology also may mail fact sheets with updates on cleanup progress.

Newspaper Display Ads

Ecology will place ads in *The Tacoma News Tribune* to announce public comment periods and public meetings for the site.

Plan Update

Ecology may update this Public Participation Plan as the project moves forward. The public will have a chance to comment on any major changes to the plan.

Contacts

If you have questions or need more information about this plan or the Industrial Petroleum cleanup site, please contact:

Dom Reale, Site Manager
WA Department of Ecology
PO Box 47775
Olympia, WA 98504-7775
Tel: (360) 407-6266
Email: Dom.Reale@ecy.wa.gov

Diana Smith, Public Involvement Coordinator
WA Department of Ecology
PO Box 47775
Olympia, WA 98504-7775
Tel: (360) 407-6255
Email: Diana.Smith@ecy.wa.gov

GLOSSARY

Agreed Order: A legal agreement between Ecology and a Potentially Liable Person (see below) to conduct work toward a cleanup.

Cleanup: Actions that deal with a release or threatened release of hazardous substances that could affect public health or the environment. Ecology often uses the term "cleanup" broadly to describe response actions or phases of cleanup, such as the Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study.

Contaminant: Any hazardous substance that does not occur naturally or occurs at greater than natural background levels.

Groundwater: Water found beneath the earth's surface that fills spaces between materials such as sand, soil, or gravel. In some areas, groundwater occurs in large enough amounts to be used for drinking water, irrigation and other purposes.

Information Repository: A file containing site information and reports for public review. It is usually located in a public building convenient for local residents, such as a public school, city hall, or library.

Model Toxics Control Act (MTCA): A law passed by Washington voter initiative in 1988. Its purpose is to find, investigate, and clean up places where hazardous substances have been released. It defines Ecology's role and encourages public involvement in cleanup decisions.

Potentially Liable Person: Any individual(s) or company(s) potentially responsible for, or contributing to, the contamination problems at a site. Whenever possible, Ecology requires PLPs to clean up sites.

Risk: The probability that a hazardous substance, when released into the environment, will cause an adverse effect in the exposed humans or living organisms.

Sediments: Settled particles located at the bottom of a lake, river or in wetlands. Sediment(s) also includes settled particulate matter exposed by human activity (e.g., dredging) to the biologically active aquatic zone or to the water column.

Site: Any area where a hazardous substance, other than a consumer product in consumer use, has come to be located.

Toxicity: How much harm a substance causes to living organisms, including people, plants and animals, at a certain concentration.

Voluntary Cleanup Program: An option for cleaning up hazardous waste sites. The program allows a party to clean up a site independently with technical assistance and written opinions from the Department of Ecology on the cleanup.