



RESPONSIVENESS SUMMARY

Weyerhaeuser Sawmill Aberdeen

June 25 – July 27, 2015 Public Comment Period

Agreed Order

**Prepared by
Washington State Department of Ecology
Southwest Regional Office
Toxics Cleanup Program
Lacey, Washington**

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Site Information

Address: 500 North Custer Street, Aberdeen

Site Manager: Joyce Mercuri

Public Involvement Coordinator: Audrey Kuklok

The Department of Ecology (Ecology) held a public comment period on a proposed agreed order for the Weyerhaeuser Sawmill Aberdeen site from June 25 – July 27, 2015. Ecology received one public comment. The comment and Ecology's response are summarized in this document.

Site Background

Sawmills operated on the property since the early 1900s. Weyerhaeuser ran the mill facilities between 1955 and 2009.

In 2013, testing found chemical byproducts of past mill operations on the site. Contaminants included dioxins, mercury, petroleum hydrocarbons and polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs). Woodwaste was also found in sediments beneath the former over-water mill structures.

The Grays Harbor Historical Seaport Authority (GHSA) bought the former sawmill complex from Weyerhaeuser in 2013. Part of the agreement was that GHSA would take responsibility for cleaning up the tidelands adjacent to the property.

Next Steps

Ecology will finalize the agreed order. GHSA will conduct investigations of the tidelands study area. The public will be invited to review and comment on the investigation and cleanup documents as the cleanup moves forward.

Comment

From: John Olson
Sent: 7/27/15
To: Audrey Kuklok
Subject: Weyerhaeuser Sawmill Aberdeen

Please extend the public comment period.

Ecology Response

Hello Mr. Olson;

I am the project manager for the old Weyerhaeuser sawmill site in Aberdeen (now Grays Harbor Historical Seaport Authority).

I wanted to let you know that I am available to answer any questions you may have. At this point, the Agreed Order is for conducting some sediment sampling and upland sampling near the shoreline to determine pollution conditions near the river. There are some existing data that show the little beach/wetland which was underneath the former sawmill buildings is contaminated with petroleum, metals, and dioxins, and we need to get some more information to determine the extent of it into the river and along the shore. Also, some soil borings will be done near the beach to figure out if there is a source coming from the land into the river.

Any decisions about potential cleanup options will be made in later phases of the project. For now, we are going to proceed with the Agreed Order for the investigations.

Please let me know if I you would like to chat or if you have any questions.

Sincerely,
Joyce Mercuri
Cleanup Project Manager
Southwest Region