

Metro Dearborn Site



Public comment sought on cleanup documents

**Public comment period:
November 1 through
December 1, 1993**

**Public meeting:
5:00 to 7:00 p.m.
Tuesday, November 9, 1993
Bush Asia Center, Downstairs
409 Maynard Avenue South
Seattle, WA**

The Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) has prepared this fact sheet to inform you of the progress of cleanup at the Municipality of Metropolitan Seattle (Metro) Dearborn Site. Remedial investigations are being conducted at this site following the terms of the Model Toxics Control Act (MTCA), Chapter 70-105D of the Revised Code of Washington (RCW).

Independent remedial investigation/feasibility study

Ecology has completed a review of the independent remedial investigation and feasibility study (RI/FS) reports for the Metro Dearborn site. The reports are now available for your comment.

Metro conducted these studies to identify the presence and extent of contamination at this site. Although Metro completed the RI/FS independently, Ecology is now providing oversight for the development and implementation of the cleanup action

plan. Ecology and Metro will negotiate a legal agreement for the cleanup work that will be conducted under the cleanup action plan. This RI/FS provides the information for that cleanup work.

A public participation plan was prepared for this site to encourage a coordinated and effective public participation strategy tailored to the needs of this community.

The site is located at South Dearborn Street and 8th Avenue South in Seattle, Washington. Metro used the property as a transit operating base, storage site, parking lot, and warehouse. Contamination includes petroleum products (diesel, leaded and unleaded gasoline, oil) and solvents.

We want your comments

You are invited to comment on the RI/FS and public participation plan during a 30-day public comment period from November 1 through December 1, 1993.

An open house and public meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 9, 1993 to talk with you about the results of the investigation and the alternatives for cleaning up the site. At the meeting, you will also have an opportunity to comment.

You may review these documents in the information repositories listed in the box on the right. Send comments in writing to Maura S. O'Brien, Ecology Site Manager, at the address listed in the box on the right.

October 1993

Send written comments to:

Maura S. O'Brien, Site Manager
Department of Ecology
3190 160th Avenue SE
Bellevue, WA 98008-5452
(206) 649-7249

For information call:

Susan Lee, Public Involvement
(206) 649-7138

Repositories:

Bush Asia Center, Room 200
409 Maynard Avenue South
Seattle, WA 98104
(206) 624-8929

Metro Library, 9th Floor
821 Second Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104-1598
(206) 684-2033

Seattle Public Library, Govern. Pub.
1000 Fourth Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104
(206) 386-4636

Ecology, Central Files
3190 160th Avenue SE
Bellevue, WA 98008-5452
(206) 649-7239

This information can be provided in alternate ways for people with special accommodation needs and in other languages. Call (206) 649-7138 or (206) 649-4259 (TDD).

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Continued From Page 1

What do we know about contamination at the site?

The remedial investigation indicated that contaminants on the site are from leaked or spilled petroleum products (diesel, leaded and unleaded gasoline, oil) and solvents (primarily 1,2-dichloroethane) commonly found as an additive to gasoline. These contaminants are found in the underlying soil and ground water. Compared to other types of contamination, petroleum contamination responds to cleanup. Technical knowledge is available from experience in cleaning up leaking underground storage petroleum tanks in the past decade.

Are there human health and environmental concerns?

The contamination in the soils does not pose an immediate threat to residents, pedestrians, or people working on the site during cleanup and construction. There is also no immediate threat to human health from the ground water because this ground water is not used for drinking water.

In the long term without cleanup, the contamination may pose a threat to the environment. The contaminants have moved within the soil and into the ground water and will continue to do so. The ground water in this area flows toward Elliott Bay, and the contaminants in the ground water could pose a long-term risk to the environment.

It is unlikely that contaminants at the site will travel to other water sources, since the property is not close to other water bodies. The property is not considered to be in an environmentally sensitive area, nor near any surface water body or wetland and not within a 100-year flood plain.

What are the alternatives to clean up the site?

Cleanup alternatives at the site are:

- no action and natural attenuation

- institutional controls including maintaining existing cover (asphalt surface)
- on-site soil excavation, biological remediation, and aeration of contaminated soils
- vapor extraction of volatile contaminants from deep sandy soils and ground water vapors
- aeration and sparging of ground water.

All of these alternatives and/or a combination of them are appropriate and applicable to this site.

What is the history of the site?

Metro acquired the Dearborn site in 1974 for use in transit operations, including use as a maintenance, fueling, and storage facility. Metro used the facility for about four years. Prior to 1974, the property was owned and used by a private transit company.

When Metro removed underground storage tanks in December 1990, leakage and contaminated soils were identified. Metro conducted a site investigation to characterize the nature and extent of the contamination, a feasibility study to evaluate cleanup alternatives, and an assessment of the potential risks to the human health and the environment. These studies were prepared as an independent RI/FS and risk assessment. Ecology is now providing oversight in the next phase of the cleanup process.

How can you comment?

You can comment to Ecology about the investigation, the feasible alternatives for cleaning up the site, and the public participation plan by doing any of the following:

- write your comments and mail them to Ecology's site manager (you may use the form on the last page of this fact sheet)
- write your comments at the public meeting
- tell Ecology at the public meeting.

Yes, I would like to be included in a mailing list to receive further information about the **Metro Dearborn** site.

Please complete the form below and return the self mailer to the address shown.

Name

Organization

Address

Apt.#

City

State

Zip

Fold here

Toxics Cleanup Program
Washington Department of Ecology
3190 160th Avenue SE
Bellevue, WA 98008-5452

Susan Lee
Toxics Cleanup Program
Department of Ecology
3190 160th Avenue SE
Bellevue, WA 98008-5452

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Tape or staple here

Continued From Page 2

What happens next?

All oral and written comments received during the comment period will become part of the official record and will be addressed in a document called a responsiveness summary. This document will be mailed to all who comment and be available for review at the information repositories at the locations listed in the box on page one. Those on the mailing list will be notified by mail when the responsiveness summary is available.

After considering all comments regarding the RI/FS report, Ecology will select a cleanup action and prepare a draft cleanup action plan. This plan will include a general description of the cleanup action that has been selected. Ecology and Metro will also negotiate a legal agreement, called a consent decree, that will specify both parties' legal obligations during the cleanup. Ecology will revise the public participation plan for the next phase of cleanup.

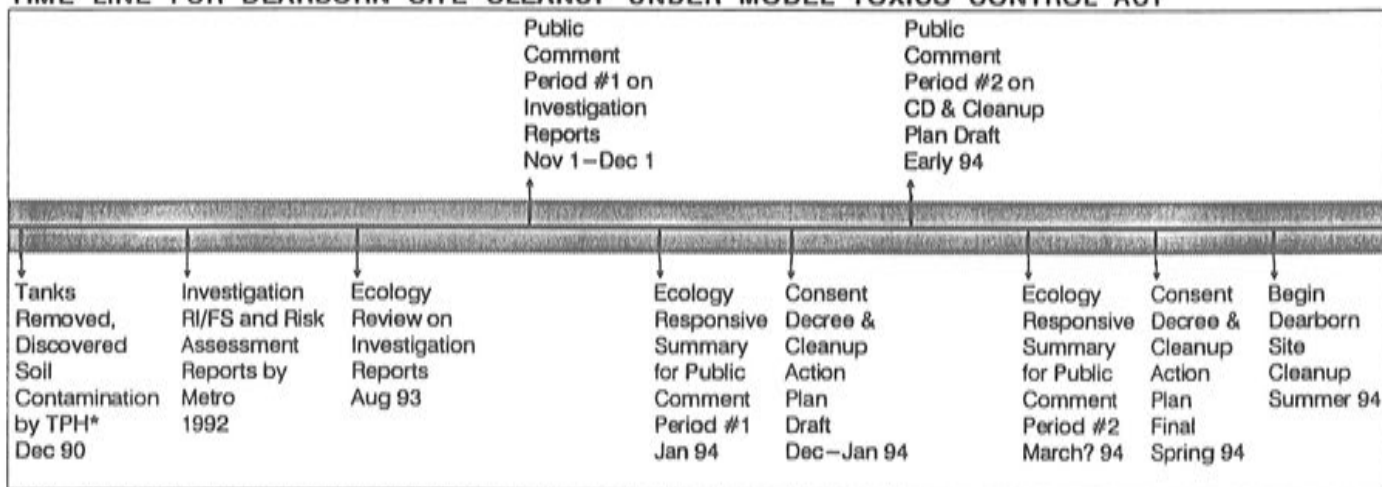
The cleanup action plan, consent decree, amended public participation plan, and SEPA environmental checklist and determination of non-significance will be available for your comments during another 30-day public comment period (estimated first half of 1994). After considering all your comments regarding the cleanup action, Ecology will issue a final cleanup action plan. Metro will then begin cleaning up the site.

For more information?

If you did not receive this fact sheet in the mail, you are not on the mail list for this site. If you would like to be on the mail list and receive further information on this site, please fill out the mailing insert on this fact sheet. Fold, stamp, and return the form to Ecology.

For questions about the technical aspects of this site, the remedial investigation, or feasibility study, contact Ecology's site manager, Maura S. O'Brien. For questions about public involvement or the cleanup process, contact Susan Lee. (The address and telephone numbers are listed in the box on page one.)

TIME LINE FOR DEARBORN SITE CLEANUP UNDER MODEL TOXICS CONTROL ACT



*TPH = Total petroleum hydrocarbons, typical substances from gasoline, diesel and oil underground storage tanks.

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