

Comments Invited on Agreed Order for a Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study

The Washington State Department of Ecology proposes to enter into an Agreed Order with BNSF Railway Company and Marathon Oil Company. The Order requires BNSF and Marathon to conduct a Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study at the Black Tank site. The site is located near 3202 E Wellesley Avenue in the Hillyard area of Spokane, Spokane County, Washington (see Figure 1).

The purpose of the Remedial Investigation is to gather information to further assess the extent of petroleum-related contamination in soil and groundwater at the site. The Feasibility Study will evaluate cleanup options.

You are invited to:

- **Review** the Agreed Order and the associated documents which include a Scope of Work and a Public Participation Plan. The Scope of Work outlines details of work to be completed. The Public Participation Plan outlines the ways Ecology, BNSF and Marathon will involve and inform the public about the site cleanup.
- **Send** your comments to Ecology for consideration. **Comments will be accepted July 20 through August 20, 2012.** The shaded box at the right provides details about where to review documents and submit comments.

Site Overview

The site is located in the Hillyard neighborhood of Spokane and lies directly over the Hillyard Trough portion of the Spokane Valley Rathdrum Prairie Aquifer. The aquifer provides drinking water to nearly 500,000 residents in the Spokane area.

A black above-ground storage tank that was 50-foot in diameter contained petroleum products at the site. The tank was connected to the various piping and other infrastructure facilities. The petroleum products were used in various industrial operations, and storage began at least as early as 1955 and continued until 2006. These historic site operations resulted in releases of petroleum-related contamination to soil and groundwater.

Actions Taken

In 2006 the Black Tank and contaminated soil under and around the tank were removed. This work was completed independently by BNSF.

Comments Accepted

July 20 through August 20, 2012

ADA accommodations or documents in an alternate format, call Carol Bergin 509/329-3546 (voice), 711 (relay service), or 877/833-6341(TTY).

Para asistencia en Español
Richelle Perez 360/407-7528

Если вам нужно помощь по русский, звоните Larissa Braaten 509/710-7552

Submit Comments/Technical Questions

Jeremy Schmidt
WA Department of Ecology
4601 N. Monroe St.
Spokane WA 99205-1295
509/329-3484 or
jeremy.schmidt@ecy.wa.gov

Public Involvement Questions

Carol Bergin, WA Department of Ecology
4601 N. Monroe St.
Spokane, WA 99205-1295
509/329-3546 or cabe461@ecy.wa.gov

Document Review Locations

WA Department of Ecology
Kari Johnson, Public Disclosure
4601 N. Monroe St.
Spokane, WA 99205-1295
Call for an appointment 509/329-3415

Spokane Public Library

Hillyard Branch, 4005 N. Cook Street
Spokane, WA 99207

Ecology's Toxics Cleanup Website

<https://fortress.wa.gov/ecy/gsp/Sitepage.aspx?csid=3243>

Facility Site ID No. 98615712

Cleanup Site ID No. 3243

Groundwater samples from eight monitoring wells downgradient and adjacent to where the tank was previously located contain petroleum products.

Ecology conducted an assessment of the property in 2006 and ranked the site a three on the Hazardous Sites List. The Hazardous Sites List is a record of contaminated sites throughout the state that are ranked on a scale of one to five. One represents the greatest potential threat to human health and the environment; five represents the least potential threat.

Contaminants of Concern

Current information indicates petroleum products are the chemical of concern in soil and groundwater. The Remedial Investigation will provide additional information to identify the extent and concentration of contaminants at the site.

Is My Drinking Water Safe?

Yes. Current information indicates that drinking water has not been impacted by the site. If the Remedial Investigation shows drinking water is impacted by the site in some way, Ecology and the local Health Department will notify residents immediately and take actions to protect the public.

What Happens Next?

Ecology will review and consider all comments that have been **received by August 20, 2012**. The Agreed Order, Scope of Work, and Public Participation Plan may be modified based upon public comments. As the cleanup moves forward and new documents are developed, the public will be notified of additional comment periods.

Why This Cleanup Matters

- The site lies over the Spokane Valley Rathdrum Prairie Aquifer that supplies drinking water to approximately 500,000 residents.
- Petroleum products are found in soil and groundwater at the site.
- The Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study will provide Ecology the necessary information to select the best cleanup method for the site.
- Cleanup will improve protection for human health and the environment.

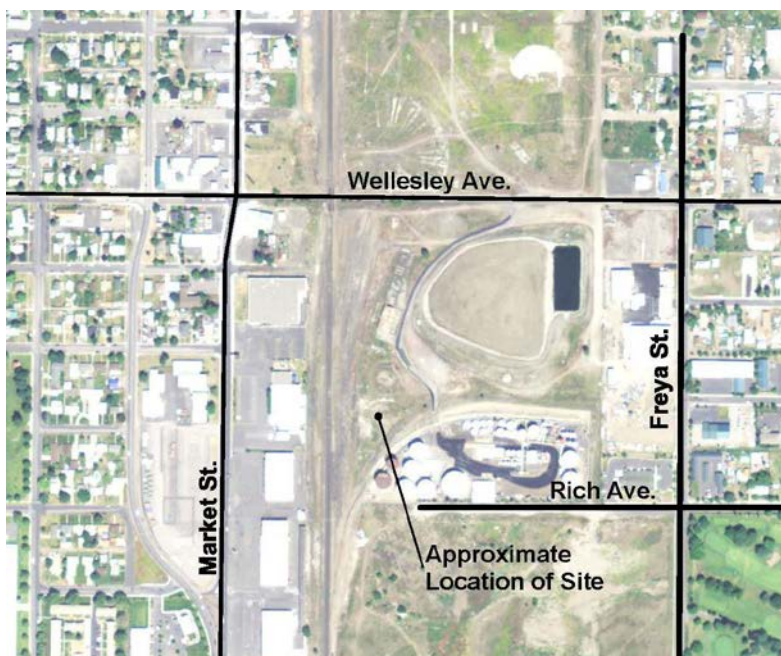


Figure 1



4601 North Monroe
Spokane, WA 99205-1295

BNSF Black Tank Site
Comment Accepted July 20 through August 20, 2012
Agreed Order for a Remedial Investigation
and Feasibility Study
