

Looking back on 2015 with the Ecology Site Managers

Hello,

Now that 2015 has come to a close, so has a key part of the investigation into contamination from the Boeing Auburn Fabrication site. This past year, Ecology has overseen the near-completion of the data gathering work for the first major phase of the cleanup process, the Remedial Investigation (RI). We know where the contamination is located and have started exploring options for cleaning up and remediating the groundwater. We are compiling a report on this 13-year investigation and will be asking for public comments after it is published in 2016.

Early in 2015 Ecology presented an update on the investigation at the Algona Public Awareness Coalition (APAC) community forum, Groundwater 101. If you were unable to attend, please see [videos](#) of the presentations on APAC's website. You may have spoken with Ecology staff at a community event, such as the Algona Health Fair or at Auburn or Algona City Council meetings.

In March, Landau Associates, Boeing's contractor, added permanent wells in parts of northeastern Algona's residential and commercial areas. The purpose of the wells is to make sure nothing was missed in the first set of wells. Regular quarterly monitoring of these wells has been ongoing and will continue. Data from these samples and for the whole site are in quarterly status reports on the website.

Ecology also directed Boeing to test soil air in the commercial districts of Algona, southwest Auburn, and the Outlet Collection to see if contaminants were getting into the air spaces in the soil from groundwater. Based on the results, no further testing was required in those areas. There is still a little more work to do to wrap up this part of the investigation and that should be completed early in 2016.

Also in 2015, we directed Boeing to do additional surface water sampling in the Chicago Avenue ditch in Algona and in streams in western Auburn. Most of the sample results were similar to those reported last year: contamination was not detected or detected at levels mostly below state clean-up levels. However, with Mill Creek and its wetlands a short distance from the groundwater plume, Ecology wanted to determine whether contaminants from the plume had any effect on the Mill Creek ecosystem. Results of samples taken in or near Mill Creek and its wetlands showed neither of the plume's key contaminants – TCE and vinyl chloride.

In 2016 or early 2017, you will have a chance to review the draft Remedial Investigation report and give Ecology your comments. Ecology will hold at least one public event leading up to the official comment period to answer questions and hear your concerns. After reviewing comments, Ecology will finalize the RI. We then will review Boeing's work on the next stage of the cleanup process, the Feasibility Study (FS), which also has a public comment period. In the FS, Ecology will evaluate all options for cleaning up and remediating the contamination, then select the most suitable methods. Boeing has a head start on the FS from the Bioremediation Pilot Study that was done this past summer in commercial Algona. We will continue to keep you informed of progress on the website or you can sign up for the listserv.

Thank you for your interest and involvement in all the progress made in 2015. We look forward to working with you on the important steps expected in the coming year.

Please contact Neal or Robin if you have questions.

Sincerely,

Robin Harrover and Neal Hines



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Boeing Auburn Fabrication Site 2015 IN REVIEW

Distributed Algona air quality flyer

Mailed Algona drilling flyer

Mailed commercial Auburn and Algona drilling flyer

Presented at Algona Public Awareness Coalition's (APAC) public forum

Mailed outreach survey

Algona City Council update

Algona Days Health Fair

Mailed Pilot Study flyer

Created outreach video

January – March

April – June

July – September

2014 Algona Groundwater Report

Private Well Survey Memo

Synoptic water level evaluations data collection

8 new monitoring wells installed in northeast Algona and one new monitoring well installed on Lund Rd in Auburn

11 temporary direct push borings for combined soil gas and groundwater sampling in commercial Auburn and Algona

First quarter groundwater sampling

2015 Groundwater Well Data Summary

Commercial Vapor Intrusion Work Plan, Tier 2

13 temporary direct push borings for combined soil gas and groundwater sampling in commercial Auburn and Algona

20 air and sub-slab vapor samples collected in commercial Auburn

Annual groundwater sampling

Synoptic water level evaluations data collection

2014 Surface Water Report

Commercial Vapor Intrusion Data Summary, Tier 1

14 new bioremediation study wells installed in commercial Algona for Pilot Study

12 surface water samples collected in Auburn wetlands, Mill Creek and the Chicago Ave ditch

4 porewater samples collected from the bottom of Mill Creek

Third quarter groundwater sampling

Key

 Outreach Activities

 Published Reports*

 Technical Work

* For full copies of these reports, visit the website: Bit.ly/EcyBoeingAuburn

Cookies and questions at
Algona City Hall

Mailed and distributed
project folios

Auburn City Council update

Algona City Council update

October – December

Start of Remedial
Investigation Report

1 new multi-level
monitoring well installed
in commercial Algona

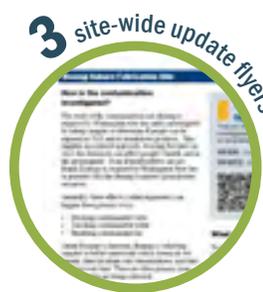
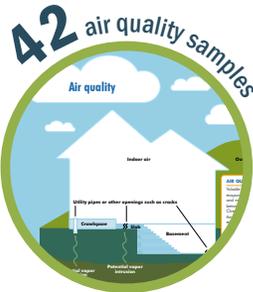
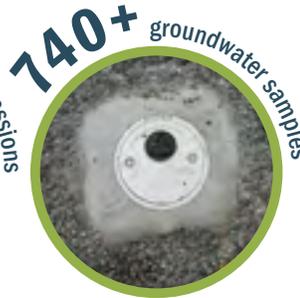
Semi-annual
groundwater sampling

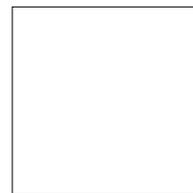
Synoptic water level
evaluations data collection

WHAT'S NEXT: The Remedial Investigation Public Comment Period

In late 2016 or early 2017, you will have an opportunity to give Ecology your comments on the Remedial Investigation (RI), which will include investigation results for the contaminated groundwater plume. After the RI is complete, you can comment on the Feasibility Study that will evaluate potential methods for cleanup.

2015 by the Numbers





Do you want to learn more about the groundwater investigation in Auburn and Algona? Please join us at a drop-in open house, where you can see informational displays about the study and speak with people from the Department of Ecology, state and federal health officials, and the Algona Public Awareness Coalition. Stop by any time to learn more and ask questions.

Displays in English and Spanish, with staff interpreters available. Childcare will be provided.

When: February 27, 2016, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Where: Alpac Elementary School Gym,
310 Milwaukee Blvd N,
Pacific, WA 98047

Please visit our website for more information and background on the project:

Bit.ly/EcyBoeingAuburn

To request ADA accommodation for disabilities, call Hannah Waterstrat at Ecology, 360-407-7668. Persons with impaired hearing may call Washington Relay Service at 711. Persons with speech disability may call TTY at 877-833-6341.

¿Quiere informarse mejor sobre la investigación del agua subterránea en Auburn y Algona? Por favor asista a una reunión informativa a puertas abiertas, donde usted podrá ver exhibiciones informativas y hablar con gente del Departamento de Ecología, funcionarios de salud federales y estatales, y la Coalición de Conciencia Pública de Algona. Asista a cualquier hora para informarse mejor y hacer preguntas.

Exhibiciones en inglés y español con personal e intérpretes disponibles. Cuidado de niños disponible.

Cuándo: el 27 de febrero de 2016, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Dónde: Gimnasio de la Escuela Primaria Alpac,
310 Milwaukee Blvd N, Pacific, WA 98047

Por favor visite nuestro sitio Web para obtener más información y antecedentes sobre el proyecto:

Bit.ly/FabricaciónBoeingAuburn

Para solicitar acomodación ADA para personas discapacitadas, comuníquese con Luis Buen Abad al Ecología, 425-649-4485. Personas con discapacidad auditiva puede llamar el Servicio de Retransmisión de Washington al 711. Personas con discapacidad del habla puede llamar TTY al 877-833-6341.