

## **Cleanup Plan and SEPA Documents Available for Public Comment**

In 2009, the Department of Ecology (Ecology) entered into an agreed order (legal agreement) with White Birch Group, LLC and E.I. du Pont de Nemours and Company (the potentially liable parties or PLPs) to begin cleanup at the Superlon Plastics site. The site is located at 2116 Taylor Way in Tacoma.

As part of this legal agreement, Ecology required the PLPs to conduct an interim action (partial cleanup) at the site. The PLPs began the first interim action in 2010 (see box on page 2).

Now the PLPs are planning a new interim action (see map on page 3) which will:

- Remove sludge containing volatile organic compounds, and contaminated soil from an area of the site (see box on page 2).
- Backfill the excavated area with some soil and gravel from the site and some new soil and gravel.

Two documents are available for review and comment at the locations listed to the right:

- **Draft Interim Action Work Plan**—Describes the proposed interim action tasks.
- **State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) Checklist and Determination**—Describes the potential environmental impacts of the cleanup work. Ecology reviewed the proposed interim cleanup actions and determined they were not likely to have significant negative environmental impacts (a Determination of Non-Significance).

### **Ecology Wants Your Comments!**

Ecology is accepting comments on the SEPA documents from **October 20 - November 2**. Submit comments on the Agreed Order Amendment and Interim Action Work Plan from **October 20 - November 18**. The box to the right shows document review locations and where to submit comments.

Ecology will review and consider all comments. Ecology may, if necessary, ask the PLPs to make changes to the plan based on comments, even after work has begun. The PLPs may begin work on the interim action after the SEPA comment period ends on November 2.

### **Comments Accepted**

on

#### **SEPA Documents**

**October 20 - November 2, 2011**

#### **Interim Action Work Plan**

**October 20 - November 18, 2011**

#### **Submit Comments and**

#### **Technical Questions to:**

Marv Coleman, Site Manager  
WA Department of Ecology  
P.O. Box 47775  
Olympia, WA 98504-7775  
Phone: (360) 407-6259  
E-mail: Marv.Coleman@ecy.wa.gov

#### **Public Involvement Questions:**

Diana Smith  
Phone: (360) 407-6255  
E-mail: Diana.Smith@ecy.wa.gov

### **DOCUMENT REVIEW LOCATIONS**

#### **Tacoma Public Library**

1102 Tacoma Avenue South  
Tacoma, WA 98402  
(253) 591-5666

#### **Citizens for a Healthy Bay**

535 Dock Street, Suite 213  
Tacoma, WA 98402  
(253) 383-2429

#### **WA Department of Ecology Southwest Regional Office**

300 Desmond Drive SE  
Lacey, WA 98503

By appointment only:

Contact Debbie Nelson,  
Debbie.Nelson@ecy.wa.gov or  
(360) 407-6365

#### **Ecology's Toxics Cleanup Web site**

<https://fortress.wa.gov/ecy/gsp/Sitepage.aspx?csid=2096>

**Facility Site ID #: 2776343**



## Site Background

The site was once a lead-arsenate plant and a wood treatment and lumber facility. These two types of uses led to soil and groundwater contamination. In 1990, Ecology and the Environmental Protection Agency discovered the contamination during site inspections.

Investigations have found several contaminants above state cleanup levels in soil, groundwater and standing water. Contaminants include:

- Metals (arsenic, cadmium, lead, and mercury).
- Gasoline and diesel range hydrocarbons.
- Semi-volatile organic compounds (pentachlorophenol).
- Volatile organic compounds (tetrachloroethylene, trichloroethylene, cis-1,2-dichloroethylene, vinyl chloride, and chloromethane).

In 2007, Governor Gregoire and the Washington State Legislature approved the Puget Sound Initiative to restore the health of the Sound by 2020. As part of the Initiative, the Toxics Cleanup Program received resources to accelerate cleanups near Puget Sound. Ecology began to re-evaluate sites near the Sound where there had been no action due to lack of resources.

Ecology evaluated Superlon, and several other sites, and made them high priority sites. Ecology entered into an agreed order with the PLPs in 2009 to begin cleanup work.

## Why Cleanup Matters

Historic filling of the tide flats, business practices and spills contaminated the site with toxics like volatile organic compounds, metals, and total petroleum hydrocarbons (see above). This poses a threat to human health and the environment, especially the nearby Blair and Hylebos Waterways.

## PARTIAL CLEANUP ACTIONS 1996-2011

Several interim actions were completed between the time contamination was discovered in 1990 and 2009. These included:

- Removing pipe insulation containing asbestos.
- Removing dust in Building B.
- Cleaning the floor in Building C.
- Removing soil related to former tank near Building C.
- Short-term groundwater treatment.

When the PLPs entered into an agreed order in 2009, they agreed to do interim cleanup actions. The interim action that began in 2010 includes:

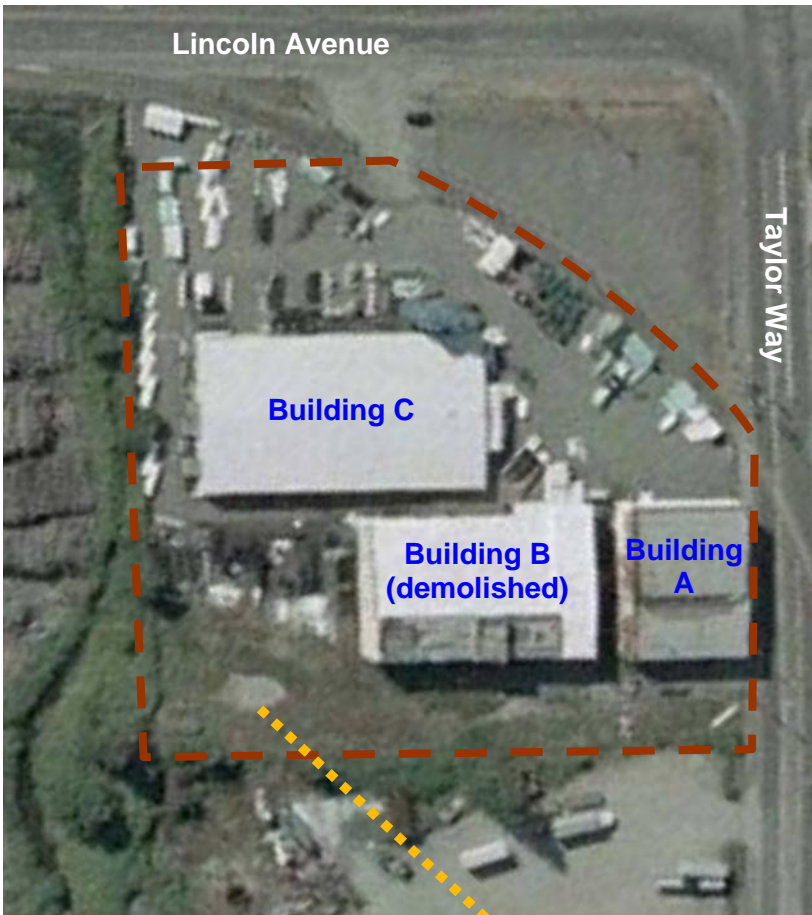
- Installing a gravel cap behind and next to Buildings A and B and in the basement of Building B.
- Removing debris in the basement of Building B.
- Demolishing and removing Building B.




### Proposed Interim Action

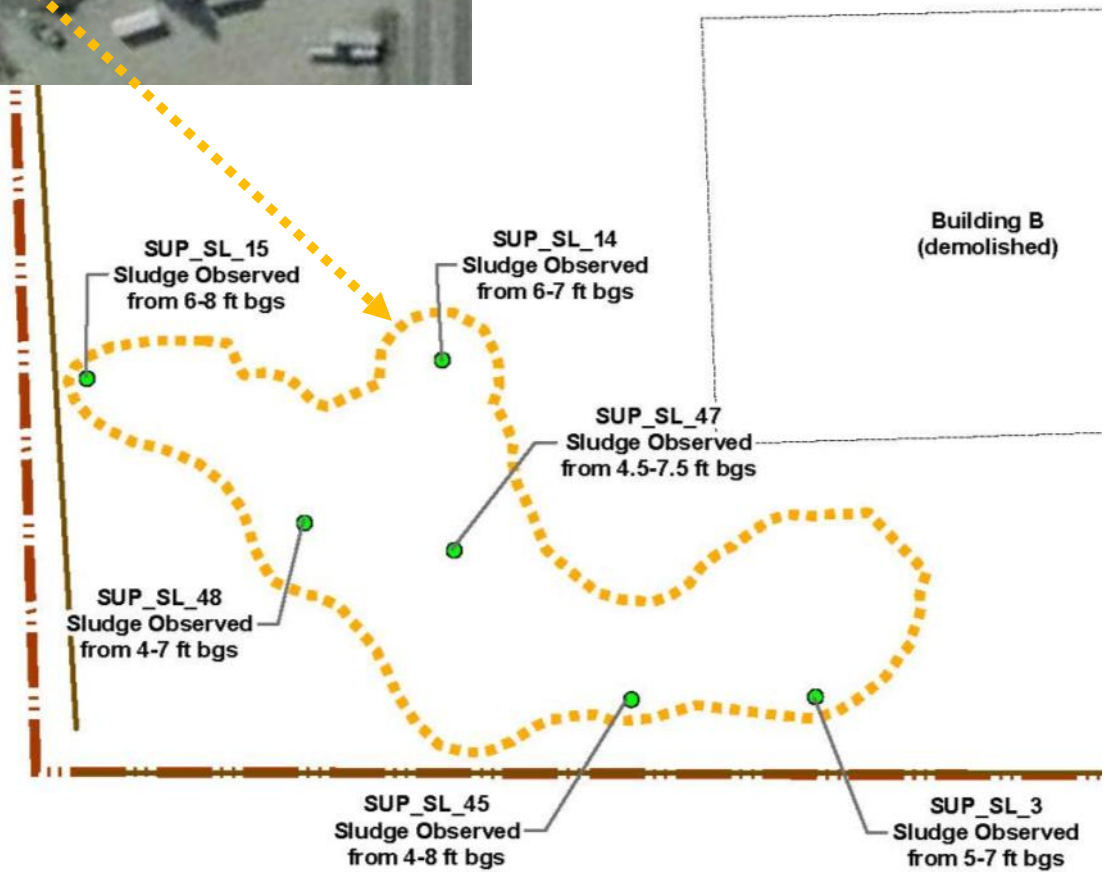
The proposed interim action (see map on page 3) will remove sludge containing volatile organic compounds. Ecology and the PLPs agree that the sludge that will be removed appears to be industrial waste sludge from the Occidental Chemical Plant.

The proposed interim action will also allow the PLPs to construct a building to replace Building B.

**Superlon Plastics Site Location**



Legend	
	Property boundary
	Approximate interim action area
	Locations of sludge (bgs = below ground surface)





DEPARTMENT OF  
**ECOLOGY**  
State of Washington

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## Superlon Plastics Tacoma, WA

Ecology seeks public comment on a partial cleanup and SEPA determination

Interim Action Work Plan

Public Comment Period:

October 20 — November 18, 2011

SEPA Documents

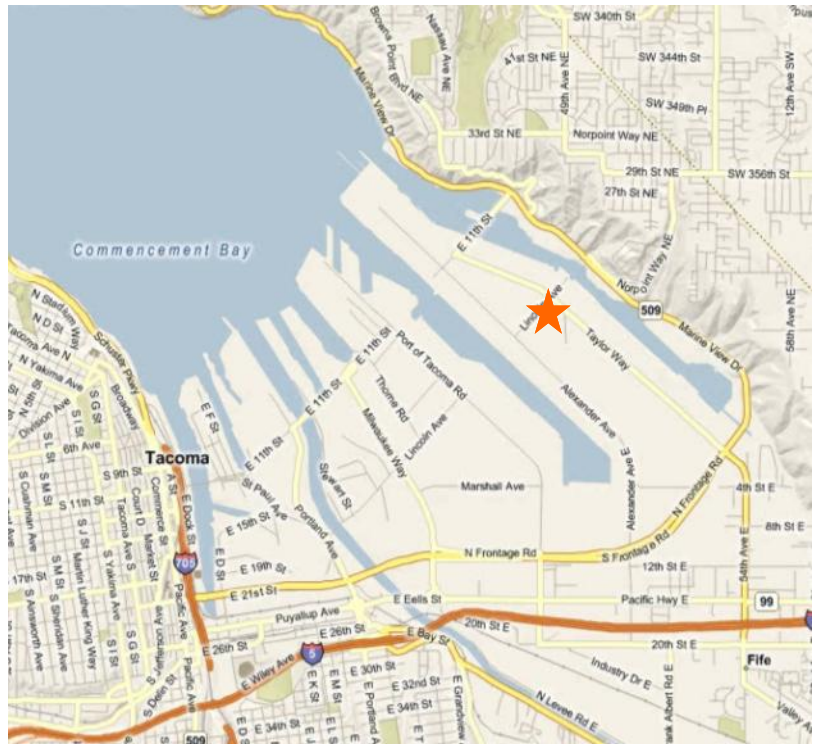
Public Comment Period:

October 20 — November 2, 2011

Facility Site ID #: 2776342

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Persons with hearing loss, call 711 for Washington Relay Service. Persons with a speech disability call 877-833-6341.



2116 Taylor Way, Tacoma