

Agreed Order Available for Review and Comment

The Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) is providing an opportunity for the public to comment on the Agreed Order for Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study for the Smith KEM Site located at 200 South Railroad Avenue in Ellensburg.

Public Comment Invited

Ecology is asking for your comments on the Agreed Order. You are invited to:

- **Review** the *Agreed Order*
- **Send** your comments to Ecology for consideration. Comments will be accepted March 4, 2016, through April 3, 2016

See the box at the right for details about where to review documents and submit comments.

Site Background

The current Smith KEM site was operated as a bulk fuel facility by Shell Oil Company from approximately 1923 until the early 1970s. From 1948 until February 2, 1973, Shell leased a portion of the site to Smith KEM, an agrichemical business.. The chemicals offered by Smith KEM included anhydrous ammonia, fertilizers, petroleum, and pesticides. These chemicals were handled, stored and distributed by Smith KEM.

Site investigations began in 2007 and continue currently. Sampling shows groundwater contaminated with petroleum hydrocarbons, nitrates, ammonia, chlorinated pesticides and herbicides. In 2015, Ecology began negotiations for investigation and cleanup with Shell Oil Company and Smith KEM. Ecology considers both companies to be “potentially liable persons (PLPs).” PLPs are responsible for cleanup under Washington State law. The investigation and cleanup are outlined in the Agreed Order.

Comments Accepted

March 4, 2016 through
April 3, 2016

Submit Comments and Technical Questions to:

John Mefford - Site Manager
WA Department of Ecology
Toxics Cleanup Program
1250 W Alder St
Union Gap, WA 98903-0009
Phone: (509) 454-7836
E-mail: John.Mefford@ecy.wa.gov

DOCUMENT REVIEW LOCATIONS

Ellensburg Public Library

209 N Ruby St
Ellensburg, WA 98926
Phone: (509) 962-7250

Hours:

Mon.-Thurs.	10 a.m.-7 p.m.
Fri.	10 a.m.-6 p.m.
Sat.-Sun	1 p.m.-5 p.m.

WA Department of Ecology Central Regional Office

1250 W Alder St
Union Gap, WA 98903-0009
By appointment only:
Contact CRO Public Records
Coordinator at
cropublicrequest@ecy.wa.gov or
(509) 575-2027

Ecology's Toxics Cleanup Website

<https://fortress.wa.gov/ecy/gsp/Sitepage.aspx?csid=4257>

Facility/Site ID #: 12832256

Cleanup Site ID #:4257

Toxics Cleanup Program

An Agreed Order is an agreement between Ecology and the PLPs about what work should take place. Ecology is requiring the PLPs to complete a remedial investigation and feasibility study. A remedial investigation provides information about what contamination is present, and how far it extends. A feasibility study will compare different ways to clean up the site. It includes information about how much the cleanup will cost as well as how long it will take. After Ecology reviews this information, a decision about how to move forward with cleanup will be made.

Why This Investigation Matters

The contamination present at the Site includes petroleum hydrocarbons, herbicides and pesticides. Petroleum hydrocarbons contain many chemicals that are harmful to human health and the environment, like benzene, a known carcinogen. Herbicides and pesticides are pollutants that accumulate in the food chain and persist in human and animal tissue. Ecology wants to address risks to human health and the environment.

What Happens Next?

After the public comment period ends, Ecology will review comments received during the comment period and respond. We will make changes to the Agreed Order if needed based on public comments.

For information about other opportunities for public involvement such as meetings, hearings, open houses and workshops, please visit Ecology's Public Involvement Calendar at <https://fortress.wa.gov/ecy/publiccalendar/>

While you are at the calendar page, you may click on the link Frequently Asked Questions about Effective Public Commenting and learn more about the public comment process.

What can you do?

1. Read about the cleanup in this handout.
2. To get more detailed information, review the supporting documents at the locations listed in this document.
3. Write down your comments and questions. Send them to the Department of Ecology at the address provided in this document.

We appreciate your comments and concerns. *Thank you.*

Help with other languages and formats?

Para asistencia en Español, llame 509-575-2490, o mande un correo electrónico al equipo de la lengua española de Ecología a preguntas@ecy.wa.gov.

Accommodation Requests

To request ADA accommodation including materials in a format for the visually impaired, call the Toxics Cleanup Program at 509-454-7834. Persons with impaired hearing may call Washington Relay Service at 711. Persons with speech disability may call TTY at 877-833-6341. Speech disability call 877-833-6341.