Alcoa Vancouver Potliner

8/30 FS 75

William 22 P2 05

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF CLARK

STATE OF WASHINGTON, DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY,

NO.

Plaintiff,

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CONSENT DECREE

ALUMINUM COMPANY OF AMERICA, a Pennsylvania corporation,

92-2-00783-9

Defendant,

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INTRODUCTION

A. In entering into this Consent Decree (Decree), the mutual objective of the Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) and the Aluminum Company of America (hereafter Alcoa) is to provide for remedial action at a Site where hazardous substances have been released. The Site was listed by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency on the "National Priorities List" at 40 CFR Part 300 Appendix B.

This Decree requires Alcoa to undertake the following remedial action:

- 1. Remove approximately 47,500 cubic yards of spent potlining and reclaimed alumina insulation materials, most of which are stored in three piles located in the southeast corner of Vancouver operations at the old Alcoa complex at 5509 N.W. Lower River Road, Vancouver, Washington;
- 2. Transport removed spent potlining and reclaimed alumina insulation material to a RCRA-permitted hazardous waste landfill for permanent disposal;
- 3. Perform soil sampling and analyses after the spent potlining and reclaimed alumina insulation materials are removed;
- Cap the area of the surface of the Site where three piles are located;
- Grade the Site and surrounding area;

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- Vegetate graded area and fence the Site; 6.
- Perform ongoing groundwater and surface water 7. monitoring.
- .B. The Complaint in this action is being filed simultaneously with this Decree. An Answer has not been filed and there has not been a trial on any issue of fact or law in However, the parties wish to resolve the issues this case. raised by Ecology's Complaint. In addition, the parties agree that settlement of these matters without litigation is reasonable and in the public interest and that entry of this Decree is the most appropriate means of resolving these matters.
- In signing this Decree, Alcoa agrees to its entry and agrees to be bound by its terms.
- By entering into this Decree, the parties do not D. intend to discharge nonsettling parties from any liability they may have with respect to matters alleged in the Complaint.
- The Court is fully advised of the reasons for entry Ε. of this Decree, and good cause having been shown, it is hereby ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED AS FOLLOWS:

JURISDICTION I.

This Court has jurisdiction over the subject matter Α. and over the parties pursuant to Chapter 90.48 RCW and the Model Toxics Control Act (MTCA) which was passed by initiative

 (Initiative 97) and which took effect on March 1, 1989. The MTCA has been codified as Chapter 70.105D RCW.

- Attorney General by RCW 70.105D.040(4)(a) to agree to a settlement with any potentially liable person if, after public notice and hearing, Ecology finds the proposed settlement would lead to a more expeditious cleanup of hazardous substances in compliance with cleanup standards under RCW 70.105D.030(2)(d). RCW 70.105D.040(4)(b) requires that such a settlement be entered as a consent decree issued by a court of competent jurisdiction.
- C. Ecology has given notice to Alcoa, as set forth in RCW 70.105D.020(8), of Ecology's determination that it is a potentially liable person for the Site. Alcoa has been given notice of the release of hazardous substances at the Site.
- D. Ecology has determined that past practices at the Site have given rise to a release of hazardous substances, causing contamination of ground waters, surface waters and soils, and will continue to cause contamination unless the release is abated or mitigated.
- E. The actions to be taken pursuant to this Decree will protect the public health, welfare and the environment.
- F. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (hereafter EPA) listed the Site on the "National Priorities List" at 40 CFR Part 300 Appendix B. EPA and Ecology, through a written

Memorandum of Agreement, have agreed that Ecology shall be the lead agency to work with Alcoa in conducting and evaluating 2 Alcoa's Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study (or RI/FS), selecting a remedial alternative, preparing a Cleanup Action Plan (or CAP); implementing the selected remedial action and 5 In carrying out conducting post-action compliance monitoring. this work, Ecology has informed EPA, and obtained EPA's 7 comments on a draft version of this Decree. This Decree will 8 expedite remedial action which in Ecology's view is not 9 inconsistent with the National Contingency Plan and is 10 consistent with applicable laws. 11 By entering into this Decree, Alcoa agrees and shall 12

not challenge the jurisdiction of Ecology in any proceeding to enforce this Decree.

PARTIES BOUND II.

This entire Decree shall apply to and be binding upon Alcoa and Ecology, their successors and assigns. undersigned representative of each party hereby certifies that he or she is fully authorized to enter into this Decree and to execute and legally bind such party to comply with the Decree. Alcoa agrees to undertake all actions required of it by the terms and conditions of this Decree and agrees not to contest state jurisdiction regarding this Decree. No change in ownership or corporate status shall alter the responsibility of Alcoa under this Decree. Alcoa shall provide a copy of

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this Decree to all contractors and subcontractors retained to perform work required by this Decree and shall institute its best efforts to assure that all work undertaken by such contractors and subcontractors will be in compliance with this Decree.

III. DEFINITIONS

A. <u>Site</u>: Refers to the three piles of spent potlining and reclaimed alumina insulation materials in the southeast corner of the old Alcoa complex at 5509 N.W. Lower River Road, Vancouver, Washington. Also refers to subsurface areas impacted by cyanide and fluoride, as documented through ground water, subsurface sediment, and soil sampling performed by Alcoa, within the shallow zone, intermediate zone, deep zone and aquifer zone. The Site is more particularly described in Exhibit A to this Decree which is a two-page, detailed Site diagram. Alcoa shall supplement Exhibit A with a legal description of the Site to be prepared during remedial action.

The Site shall not include the wastewater treatment facility located at the old Alcoa complex, nor shall the Site include any subsurface conveyances or utilities connected to or relating to the use of the wastewater treatment facility.

Ownership, operation and maintenance of the wastewater treatment facility and the related subsurface conveyances and utilities shall not be affected by the terms of this Consent

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Decree or any of the exhibits and attachments to this Consent Decree.

- B. Remedial Action: See definition of same at RCW 70.105D.020(11).
- C. <u>Model Toxics Control Act</u>: Refers to Chapter 70.105D RCW which took effect on March 1, 1989.
- D. <u>Days</u>: Refers to calendar days unless specified otherwise.
- E. <u>Parties</u>: Refers to the State of Washington through its Department of Ecology and Alcoa.
- F. <u>Consent Decree</u>: Refers to this Consent Decree and each of the exhibits to the Decree. All exhibits are integral and enforceable parts of this Consent Decree.

IV. LIABILITY AND RESERVATION OF RIGHTS

Subject to Section XXVI of this Consent Decree, nothing in this Consent Decree shall constitute a release or waiver of any claim, cause of action or demand in law or equity which Alcoa may have against any person or entity for any liability arising out of or relating in any way to any hazardous substance found at, taken to or taken from the Site. Alcoa expressly reserves any and all rights of contribution and indemnity it has or may accrue against any person or entity.

Alcoa does not admit liability under any and all applicable law for any costs or damages caused by or arising out of conditions at or arising from the Site. However, Alcoa

agrees to comply with this Consent Decree. Further, by agreeing to comply with this Decree, Alcoa does not admit any allegations contained herein, nor does it admit liability for any purpose or admit any issues of law or fact or any responsibility for the alleged release or threat of release of any hazardous substance into the environment.

V. STATEMENT OF FACTS

Ecology makes the following finding of facts without any express or implied admissions by Alcoa.

- A. The spent potliner and reclaimed alumina insulation material is stored in three waste piles at Vancouver operations in the southeast corner in the old Alcoa complex. In addition, some spent potliner and reclaimed alumina insulation materials have been spilled on the south side of the largest waste pile, and along the south side of the railroad track. The Vancouver operations are located on the Columbia River in unincorporated Clark County, northwest of the city of Vancouver, Washington.
- B. The Site is situated on flood plains and terraces laid down by the nearby Columbia River during recent and Pleistocene times. The hydrogeology of the area has been characterized by numerous borings in the vicinity of the three waste piles. The groundwater system in the area can be divided into four general hydrologic units: the shallow zone, the intermediate zone, the deep zone, and the aquifer zone.

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The predominant groundwater flow direction beneath the waste piles is toward the Columbia River. The shallow zone consists of 10 feet of dredged sand placed on the Site during the late 1940s and early 1950s. A perched water table is located in the shallow zone during the wetter months of the year. movement of ground water in the saturated portions of the shallow zone is to the northwest. The materials directly below the dredged sand are the intermediate zone silty clays and clayey silts that were deposited in relatively low energy This zone is of relatively low flood plain environments. permeability materials and is saturated. The movement of ground water in the intermediate zone is predominantly downward due to high vertical hydraulic gradient. intermediate zone silts and clays, which are approximately 30 to 40 feet thick, are underlain by a deposit of medium to fine sand that is 40 to 50 feet thick. This sand deposit is the The groundwater flow in the deep zone is predominantly toward the Columbia River. The zone is recharged from the overlying intermediate zone. Beneath the deep zone sand deposit is the aquifer zone, which is tapped by Alcoa production wells. The aquifer zone is known in the region as the Troutdale Formation and is composed of coarse sands and gravel. The relative response of the aquifer and the deep zones to well pumping indicates that the zones are hydraulically separated. Three domestic wells are present

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within one mile of the Site but only one of these wells is in use currently. The wells are located either upgradient or crossgradient from the three waste piles, and the potential for these piles to contaminate the aquifer is extremely low. The nearest municipal supply wells are located approximately three miles to the northeast and upgradient of the waste piles.

- C. The Aluminum Company of America is a Pennsylvania corporation which started aluminum smelting operations in Vancouver during the late 1940s. Byproducts of the smelting process included spent potlining materials and reclaimed alumina insulation materials. These materials were stored on-Site during the early years of operations. During the early 1950s through 1973, waste materials were shipped off-Site for disposal. Between 1973 and 1981, these waste materials were stored on-Site in three waste piles. Some waste materials also were spilled near the waste piles.
- D. The largest waste pile contains primarily spent potlining. The second largest waste pile contains primarily reclaimed alumina insulation. The smallest pile contains a mixture of the two materials. No detailed chemical analysis of the spent potlining or reclaimed alumina insulation has been completed, but the approximate composition of the waste piles can be estimated based on knowledge of the composition of fresh potlining and reclaimed alumina insulation. Fresh

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potlining consists primarily of carbon, fluoride, oxides and nitrides, aluminum, and sodium, with minor amounts of calcium, silica, iron, and cyanide. Reclaimed alumina insulation consists primarily of aluminum oxide. Bioassay and EP TOX tests have been conducted on the waste.

- E. The two large piles were covered with a synthetic membrane and clean sand in 1978. The smaller pile was covered in 1981.
- F. Since 1982, Alcoa has been conducting an ongoing groundwater monitoring program to assess the impact of the piles on ground water at Vancouver. This study, and a remedial investigation/feasibility study prepared by Alcoa indicates groundwater and soil contamination exist at the Site and have been caused by the leaching of chemicals from the waste piles.
- G. The spent potlining is a listed hazardous waste (KO88) under RCRA and bioassay results indicate that all three piles contain Dangerous Waste under Ecology regulations.
- H. A remedial investigation/feasibility study prepared by Alcoa was submitted to Ecology on July 31, 1987. In the feasibility study, Alcoa reviewed seven alternatives for remedying any threat to human health and the environment caused by Alcoa's spent potlining and alumina insulation waste materials at the Site. The alternatives reviewed included:
 - Continued groundwater monitoring;

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- Earth cover with Site grading;
- Earth cover with Site grading and paving;
- 4. Earth cover with Site grading and pumping and treating ground water;
- Waste disposal in landfill and grade Site;
- 6. Waste disposal in landfill with Site grading and paving;
- 7. Waste disposal in landfill with Site grading, and pumping and treating ground water.

See Hart Crowser, "Feasibility Study, Potlining Waste Piles, Aluminum Company of America, Vancouver Operation, Vancouver, Washington", July 27, 1987, pp. 35-42. Alcoa estimated the cost for this range of alternatives to be from approximately \$300,000 to \$14,700,000. In September 1990, Ecology informed Alcoa that another alternative was available. This alternative was to remove the three waste piles to an approved storage building, and to begin treating or recycling the material when an approved method was developed.

- I. On February 7, 1992, Ecology published a draft
 Cleanup Action Plan (CAP) for the Alcoa Vancouver Site. In
 this document, Ecology selected the cleanup remedy to be
 implemented at the Site. The CAP is attached as Exhibit B to
 this Consent Decree. The selected remedy consists of:
 - Removal of approximately 47,500 cubic yards of spent potlining and reclaimed alumina insulation

materials, most of which are stored in three waste piles at Vancouver and removal of spent potlining and reclaimed alumina insulation materials spilled on the south side of the largest waste pile and along the south side of the railroad track;

- 2. Transport of these materials to a RCRA-permitted hazardous waste disposal site for permanent disposal;
- 3. Determine levels of fluoride and total cyanide in soils beneath the waste piles;
- 4. Cap only the area of the surface of the Site where the three waste piles were located with either a 40 mil PVC liner or a 50 mil HDPE liner and cover liner with two feet of clean fill including 4 to 6 inches of top soil. (No other area of the Site need be capped to comply with this Consent Decree.);
- 5. Grade the Site and surrounding area insuring that 4 to 6 inches of top soil remain on-Site;
- 6. Vegetate graded area and fence the area of the surface of the Site where the three waste piles were located; and
- 7. Continued monitoring of ground water and surface water quality.

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The program of work to be performed by Alcoa at the Site is provided below. This program implements Ecology's CAP and, with the remainder of this Consent Decree and appendices, implements the Model Toxics Control Act.

- A. <u>Cleanup Action Plan</u>. Ecology's CAP constitutes an integral part of this Decree and is attached as Exhibit B.
- B. <u>Scope of Work</u>. The scope of work for the Site consists of the following. Alcoa, through its contractor and subcontractors as necessary, shall accomplish the following work:
 - Obtain any and all state, federal or local permits required by applicable law before work on-Site can begin;
 - 2. Prepare Site health and safety plan in accord with most recent OSHA, WISHA, Department of Ecology and EPA guidance as well as applicable regulations. Specific elements to be included in the Site safety plan are decontamination areas for personnel and equipment, measures to limit generation of dust and airborne transport of contaminated soil or waste, and measures to ensure that trucks transporting removed waste from the Site are lined and covered before leaving the contaminated area. Alcoa's health and safety plan shall be submitted to Ecology

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for review and comment within 30 days of the effective date of this Decree.

- Prepare a compliance monitoring plan that meets the requirements of WAC 173-340-410 and 173-340-720 through -750. The compliance monitoring plan shall contain a sampling and analysis plan that meets the requirements of WAC 173-340-820, and shall provide that all analyses of soil and water performed pursuant to this Decree be conducted by a laboratory accredited under chapter 173-50 WAC. The compliance monitoring plan shall be submitted to Ecology for approval within 60 days of the effective date of this Decree. Upon approval, the compliance monitoring plan shall become an integral and enforceable part of this Decree;
- 4. Provide security at the Site to discourage entry by unauthorized persons. Site security shall include installation of barrier tape and signing.
- 5. Remove three waste piles and spillage containing spent potlining and alumina insulation materials and synthetic membrane covers over those piles. The amount of waste to be removed is about 47,500 cubic yards. The removed waste shall be transported to a RCRA-permitted hazardous waste landfill and placed there for final disposal. Sand placed as cover over

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the waste pile's PVC liners shall be stockpiled on-Site for use as final cover. Sand placed under the PVC liners shall be stockpiled separately on-Site for use under the synthetic liner or clay cap.

After the waste piles have been removed, soil 6. located under the piles will be characterized as The area beneath each pile will be divided into equal quarters. One random sample location will be chosen in each quarter. A systematic grid of nine equal areas in each quarter will be used to select the sample point. At each sample location, the soil will be sampled down to a depth of ten feet or one foot into the intermediate zone, whichever is Two composite samples, one from the zero to five-foot depth and one from the five-foot to tenfoot or lowest point drilled will be collected from each sample location. A total of 24 composite samples will be collected at the Site. shall be analyzed for fluoride using EPA 340.1, 340.2 or 340.3 with a preliminary distillation step (Standard Methods of the Examination of Water and Wastewater, 17th edition, 4500-F B) distilling up to 10 grams of soil in place of liquid sample (4.b). Two duplicate analyses must be conducted and Samples shall be analyzed for total reported.

cyanide using EPA Method 335.2 or 335.3 with a preliminary distillation step (Standard Methods for the Examination of Water and Wastewater, 17th edition, 4500-CN C) modified to use a 250 mL flask. Distill 2 gm of soil in 50 Ml distilled water with 2 mL 1+1 H₂SO₄ and 2 mL of MgCl₂, reagent. Two duplicate analyses must be conducted and reported.

- 7. Alcoa shall cap the entire area where the waste piles were located. Alcoa may cap this area with either a synthetic liner (50 mil HDPE or 40 mil PVC) covered with two feet of clean sand and topsoil including vegetation, or with two feet of recompacted clay or other material with a permeability of no more than 1 x 10⁻⁶ cm/sec. that is covered by six inches of topsoil and is revegetated. The area shall then be graded for proper surface water drainage. Install fencing that completely surrounds the liner, and post signs warning persons not to enter the fenced area.
- Waste removal shall be accomplished in compliance with all state, federal and local requirements, including the provision of manifests for waste shipment, permits and reports and other record-keeping as appropriate.

- phases of the waste removal program, soil replacement and revegetation, cap installation, and grading and sampling elements of this scope of work. This report shall be certified by a professional engineer and submitted to Ecology with appendices made up of original documentation for the work.
- After the three waste piles and the spillage has 10. been removed and/or the cap has been installed Alcoa shall perform groundwater monitoring for five years. At the end of the five-year period, Ecology and Alcoa shall exchange proposals to amend this Consent Decree (pursuant to Section XV. AMENDMENT OF CONSENT DECREE) with regard to whether continued groundwater monitoring is necessary to protect public health or the environment and, if so, what would constitute an appropriate monitoring regime. Ecology and Alcoa shall exchange proposals to amend, in the manner just described, at five-year intervals thereafter until the levels of free cyanide (Standard Method 4500-CN G, or Standard Method 4500-CN I, if promulgated by EPA as the method for determining the drinking water MCL) and total fluoride (EPA 340.2) in the intermediate, deep and aquifer zones drop to or below 0.2 parts per million

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and 4 parts per million, respectively. Groundwater monitoring of the following wells shall be performed quarterly during years one through five:

Shallow zone: MW6S, MW8S, MW30S, MW38S.

Intermediate zone: MW8I, MW11I, MW19I, MW16I, MW20I, MW28I, MW36I, MW38I.

Deep zone: MW8D, MW10D, MW19D, MW20D, MW21D.

Aquifer zone: MW8A, MW18A, MW21A, MW22A, MW23A.

MW20D shall be monitored in accordance with this schedule after it is repaired or replaced. shall construct a new deep zone monitoring well, MW41D, between MW11 and MW20, and after constructing it shall monitor MW41D in accordance with this In the first year of monitoring and in schedule. the fifth year of monitoring all monitoring wells shown on Exhibit C at the Vancouver Operations of the old Alcoa complex shall be sampled. Water wells 14, 15, 18, 19, and 22 will not be sampled unless they are in production. Parameters to be analyzed include Ph, conductivity, temperature, fluoride (through EPA method 340.2), and total cyanide (through EPA method 9012), and free cyanide/by Standard Method 4500-CN G, or Standard Method 4500-

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CN I, if promulgated by EPA as the method for determining the drinking water MCL.

Monitoring well sampling shall conform to QA/QC standards established in the compliance monitoring plan. Monitoring wells shall be flushed at least one pore volume for low-yield formations and at least three pore volumes for high-yield formations prior to sampling. The monitoring well shall be allowed to recover for up to 24 hours prior to sampling. If the well contains less than one-half a pore volume after the 24-hour recovery period then it need not be sampled.

11. Perform surface water sampling of the Columbia
River. Samples shall be collected from two
locations: the first, no more than fifteen feet
from the shoreline at a point approximately one
thousand feet southeast of Alcoa's property
boundary; and the second, no more than fifteen feet
from the shoreline at a point due south of MW19. At
each location Alcoa shall collect a grab sample as
close as possible to the river bed. Samples shall
be collected during the first hour of flood tide
and, if possible, during low river stages. Samples
shall be analyzed for fluoride using EPA method
340.2 and weak acid dissociable cyanide using

Standard Method 4500-CN I. Alcoa shall collect and analyze such samples once each quarter for two years and then annually if cyanide and fluoride are below 0.01 mg/L and 4 mg/L for a total period of five years. At the end of the five-year period, Ecology shall reevaluate the surface water monitoring program. If required by Ecology, Alcoa shall perform additional surface water monitoring.

- regularly scheduled groundwater monitoring activities. The frequency of final cap inspections shall be modified, as required by Ecology, to reflect changes in post-remediation Site conditions and uses. Alcoa shall notify Ecology prior to changing cap inspection schedules. Maintenance requirements for the final cap shall include grading to maintain proper Site drainage, repair of any erosion or areas of distressed vegetation, and repair of Site perimeter fencing and warning signs.
- c. <u>Schedule</u>. The schedule for performance of the work identified above is as follows:
 - 1. Permits: Apply within 30 days of effective date of Decree.
 - 2. Health and safety plan: Submit within 30 days of effective date of Decree.

- 3. Waste removal/soil sampling: Complete within 180 days of effective date of Decree.
- 4. Cap installation: Complete within 270 days of effective date of Decree.
- 5. Project completion report: Submit within 366 days of effective date of Decree.
- 6. Groundwater monitoring: Quarterly for years one through five starting with the installation of the cap, and thereafter as determined pursuant to this Decree.
- 7. Surface water monitoring: Quarterly for the first two years and then annually if weak acid dissociable cyanide and total fluoride are below 0.01 mg/L and 4.0 mg/L, and thereafter as deemed necessary by Ecology.

VII. DESIGNATED PROJECT COORDINATORS

On or before the entry of this Decree, Ecology and Alcoa shall each designate a project coordinator. Each project coordinator shall be responsible for overseeing the implementation of this Decree. The Ecology project coordinator will be Ecology's designated representative at the Site. To the maximum extent possible, communications between Ecology and Alcoa, and all documents, including reports, approvals and other correspondence concerning the activities performed pursuant to the terms and conditions of this Decree,

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project coordinators may designate, in writing, working level 2 staff contacts for all or portions of the implementation of 3 the remedial work required by this Decree. 4 Any party may change its respective project coordinator. 5 Written notification shall be given to the other party at 6 least ten (10) calendar days prior to the change. 7 The initial project coordinator for Ecology is: 8 Mr. Paul Skyllingstad 9 Industrial Section Department of Ecology 10 P.O. Box 47706 Olympia, Washington 98504-7706 11 (206) 586-0583 Ph: 12 Fax: (206) 586-1469 13 The initial project coordinator for Alcoa is: 14 Mr. S.H. Myers Aluminum Company of America 15 P.O. Box 970 98666 Vancouver, Washington 16 (206) 699-5842 Ph: 17 Fax: (206) 696-479818 PERFORMANCE VIII. 19 All work performed pursuant to this Decree shall be under 20 the direction and supervision, as necessary, of a professional 21 engineer registered in the State of Washington or 22 hydrogeologist, or equivalent. Alcoa shall notify Ecology in 23

shall be directed through the project coordinators.

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writing as to the identity of such engineer(s) or

hydrogeologist(s) or others and of any contractors and

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Decree in advance of their involvement at the Site.

subcontractors to be used in carrying out the terms of this

IX. ACCESS

Alcoa agrees that Ecology or any Ecology authorized representatives shall have the authority to enter and freely move about all property at the Site at all reasonable times for the purposes of, inter alia: inspecting records, operation logs and contracts related to the work being performed pursuant to this Decree; reviewing the progress in carrying out the terms of this Decree; conducting such tests or collecting samples as Ecology may deem necessary; using a camera, sound recording, or other recording equipment to record work done pursuant to this Decree; and verifying the Upon request, Ecology data submitted to Ecology by Alcoa. shall split any samples taken during an inspection unless Alcoa fails to make available a representative for the purpose of splitting samples. All parties with access to the Site pursuant to this paragraph shall comply with approved health and safety plans. Except in emergency situations, Ecology personnel and authorized representatives shall give Alcoa reasonable notice prior to entering the Site.

X. SAMPLING, DATA REPORTING AND AVAILABILITY

With respect to the implementation of this Decree, Alcoa shall make the results of all sampling, laboratory reports and/or test results generated by it or on its behalf available

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to Ecology.

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progress reports submitted in accordance with Section XI of this Decree.

Alcoa shall submit these results in quarterly

If requested by Ecology, Alcoa shall allow split or duplicate samples to be taken by Ecology and/or its authorized representatives of any samples collected by it pursuant to the implementation of this Decree. Alcoa shall notify Ecology five (5) working days in advance of any sample collection or work activity at the Site.

Ecology shall, upon request, allow split or duplicate samples to be taken by Alcoa or their authorized representatives of any samples collected by Ecology pursuant to the implementation of this Decree. Without limitation on Ecology's authority to enter the Site without notice, as set forth in Section IX of this Consent Decree, Ecology shall endeavor to give five (5) days' notice prior to taking samples at the Site.

The requirements of this Section do not include reports, test results and data which must be submitted to Ecology under Alcoa's NPDES permit.

XI. PROGRESS REPORTS

Alcoa shall submit to Ecology written progress reports every three months, beginning on the date three months after the effective date of this Decree. The reports shall describe the actions taken during the previous three months to

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implement the requirements of this Decree. The progress reports shall include the following:

- A. A list of on-Site activities that have taken place during the prior three months;
- B. Detailed description of any deviations from required tasks not otherwise documented in project plans or amendment requests;
- C. Description of all deviations from the schedule (Section VI.C.) during the previous three months and any planned deviations in the upcoming three months;
- D. For any deviations in schedule, a plan for recovering lost time and maintaining compliance with the schedule;
- E. All raw data (including laboratory analysis) received by Alcoa during the past three months and an identification of the source of the sample; and
- F. A list of deliverables for the upcoming three months if different from the schedule.

All progress reports shall be submitted by the tenth day of the month in which they are due after the effective date of this Decree. Unless otherwise specified, progress reports and any other documents submitted pursuant to this Decree shall be sent to Ecology's project coordinator. Progress reports shall be submitted every three months until all construction

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activity required by this Decree is completed. Thereafter, Alcoa shall agree to a modified progress report interval.

XII. RETENTION OF RECORDS

Alcoa shall preserve, during the pendency of this Decree and for ten (10) years from the date of completion of compliance monitoring, all records, reports, documents and underlying data in its possession relevant to the implementation of this Decree, and shall insert in contracts with project contractors a similar record retention requirement. Upon request of Ecology, Alcoa shall make all non-archived records available to Ecology and allow access for review. All archived records shall be made available to Ecology within a reasonable period of time.

XIII. TRANSFER OF INTEREST IN PROPERTY

Alcoa shall not convey or relinquish title, any easement, any leasehold or any other interest in any portion of the Site unless, prior to said transfer, it has provided for continued performance of all of Alcoa's obligations under this Decree. This requirement shall not apply to the conveyance or relinquishment of any interest in any portion of the Site which is "involuntary". "Involuntary", for the purposes of this section, includes, but is not limited to, taking of property by condemnation or inverse condemnation, appointment of a receiver or an involuntary petition under the bankruptcy code.

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While this Decree remains in effect (<u>see XXV. DURATION</u> OF DECREE), Alcoa shall serve a copy of this Decree on any prospective purchaser, lessee, transferee, assignee or other successor in interest to the Site or portion of the Site.

Alcoa shall serve a copy of this Decree as provided herein at least ten (10) days prior to any transfer and it shall notify Ecology of any contemplated transfer at least ten (10) days prior to any transfer.

XIV. RESOLUTION OF DISPUTES

- A. In the event Alcoa disputes an approval, disapproval, proposed modification or other decision or action by Ecology's project coordinator, Alcoa shall utilize the dispute resolution procedure set forth below.
 - 1. Upon receipt of the Ecology project coordinator's decision, Alcoa has fourteen (14) days within which to notify Ecology's project coordinator of its objection to the decision.
 - 2. The parties' project coordinators shall then confer in an effort to resolve the dispute. If the project coordinators cannot resolve the dispute within fourteen (14) days, Ecology's project coordinator shall issue a written decision.
 - 3. Alcoa may then request Ecology management review of the decision. This request shall be submitted in writing to Ecology's Toxics Cleanup Program Manager

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- or her or his designee within seven (7) days of receipt of Ecology's project coordinator's decision.
- 4. Ecology's Toxics Cleanup Program Manager or her or his designee shall conduct a review of the dispute and shall issue a written decision regarding the dispute within thirty (30) days of Alcoa's request for review.
- B. If Ecology's final written decision is unacceptable to Alcoa, Alcoa has the right to submit the dispute to the Court for resolution. Alcoa and Ecology agree that one judge should retain jurisdiction over this case and shall, as necessary, resolve any dispute arising under this Decree. In the event Alcoa presents an issue to the Court for review, the Court shall review the action or decision of Ecology on the basis of whether such action or decision was arbitrary and capricious or contrary to law and render a decision based on such standard of review.
- c. Ecology and Alcoa agree to only utilize the dispute resolution process in good faith and agree to expedite, to the extent possible, the dispute resolution process whenever it is used. Where any party utilizes the dispute resolution process in bad faith or for purposes of delay, the other party may seek sanctions.

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Implementation of these dispute resolution procedures may provide a basis for delay of any activities required in this Decree.

XV. AMENDMENT OF CONSENT DECREE

This Decree may be amended by a written stipulation among the parties to this Decree that is entered by the Court. Such amendment shall become effective upon entry by the Court. Agreement to amend shall not be unreasonably withheld by any party to the Decree.

Alcoa shall submit any request for an amendment to Ecology for approval. Ecology shall indicate its approval or disapproval in a timely manner after the request for amendment is received. If Ecology disapproves, reasons for disapproval shall be stated in writing. If Ecology disapproves, then the parties' project managers shall confer in an effort to resolve the dispute. If the project managers cannot resolve the dispute within 14 working days of Alcoa's receipt of Ecology's disapproval, then Alcoa may petition the Court for relief.

Alcoa for approval. Alcoa shall indicate its approval or disapproval in a timely manner after the request for amendment is received. If Alcoa disapproves, reasons for disapproval shall be stated in writing. If Alcoa disapproves, then the parties' project managers shall confer in an effort to resolve the dispute. If the project managers cannot resolve the

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dispute within 14 working days of Ecology's receipt of Alcoa's disapproval, then Ecology may petition the Court for relief.

No guidance, suggestions or comments by Ecology will be construed as relieving Alcoa of its obligation to obtain formal approval as may be required by this Decree. No verbal communication by Ecology shall relieve Alcoa of the obligation specified herein.

XVI. EXTENSION OF SCHEDULE

A. An extension of schedule shall be granted only when a request for an extension is submitted in a timely fashion and good cause exists for granting the extension. All extensions shall be requested in writing. The request shall specify the reason(s) the extension is needed.

An extension shall only be granted for such period of time as Ecology determines is reasonable under the circumstances. A requested extension shall not be effective until approved by Ecology. Ecology shall act upon any written request for extension in a timely fashion not to exceed ten (10) working days after receipt of Alcoa's written request for an extension. It shall not be necessary to formally amend this Decree pursuant to Section XV when a schedule extension is granted.

B. The burden shall be on Alcoa to demonstrate to the satisfaction of Ecology that the request for such extension has been submitted in a timely fashion and that good cause

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exists for granting the extension. Good cause includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- 1. Circumstances beyond the reasonable control and despite the due diligence of Alcoa, including but not limited to delays caused by unrelated third parties or Ecology, such as delays by Ecology in reviewing, approving or modifying documents submitted by Alcoa or the unavailability of the Chemical Waste Management of the Northwest Site in Arlington, Oregon; or
 - 2. Delays directly attributable to any agency permit application review period or public comment period or other cause related to any permit(s) or to any changes in or need to comply with permit terms or conditions or to appeals on or lack of a permit, concurrence, or approval needed to implement this Decree, if Alcoa filed a timely application for such permit, concurrence, or approval.
 - 3. Acts of God, including fire, flood, blizzard, extreme temperatures, storm, wave or water conditions, or other unavoidable casualty; or
 - 4. Endangerment as described in Section XVII.

However, neither increased costs of performance of the terms of the Decree nor changed economic circumstances shall

- C. Ecology may extend the schedule for a period not to exceed ninety (90) days, except where an extension is needed as a result of:
 - Delays in the issuance of a necessary permit which was timely applied for; or
 - Other circumstances deemed exceptional or extraordinary by Ecology; or
 - Endangerment as described in Section XVII.

In any of the three situations described above, Ecology may extend the schedule for a period Ecology determines is reasonable under the circumstances. Extensions of more than 90 days may not be granted unless the public is given an opportunity to comment on the proposed extension. Ecology shall give Alcoa written notice in a timely fashion of any extensions granted pursuant to the Decree.

XVII. ENDANGERMENT

In the event Ecology determines that activities implementing or in compliance with this Decree, or any other circumstances or activities, are creating or have the potential to create a danger to the health or welfare of the people on the Site or in the surrounding area or to the environment, Ecology may order Alcoa to stop further implementation of this Decree for such period of time as

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OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL Ecology Division 4407 Woodview Drive S.E. QA-44 Olympia WA 98504-8077 needed to abate the danger or may petition the Court for an order as appropriate. During any stoppage of work under this section, the obligations of Alcoa with respect to the work under this Decree which is ordered to be stopped shall be suspended and the time periods for performance of that work, as well as the time period for any other work dependent upon the work which is stopped, shall be extended, pursuant to Section XVI of this Decree, for such period of time as Ecology determines is reasonable under the circumstances.

In the event Alcoa determines that activities undertaken in furtherance of this Decree or any other circumstances or activities are creating an endangerment to the people on the Site or in the surrounding area or to the environment, Alcoa may stop implementation of this Decree for such periods of time necessary for Ecology to evaluate the situation and determine whether Alcoa should proceed with implementation of the Decree or whether the work stoppage should be continued until the danger is abated. Alcoa shall notify Ecology's project coordinator as soon as is possible, but no later than twenty-four (24) hours after such stoppage of work, and thereafter provide Ecology with documentation of the basis for If Ecology disagrees with Alcoa's the work stoppage. determination, it may order Alcoa to resume implementation of If Ecology concurs in the work stoppage, Alcoa's this Decree. obligations shall be suspended and the time period for

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performance of that work, as well as the time period for any other work dependent upon the work which was stopped, shall be extended, pursuant to Section XVI of this Decree, for such period of time as Ecology determines is reasonable under the circumstances. Any disagreements pursuant to this clause shall be resolved through the dispute resolution procedures in Section XIV.

XVIII. INDEMNIFICATION

A. Alcoa agrees to indemnify and save and hold the State of Washington, its employees and agents harmless from any and all claims or causes of action for death or injuries to persons or for loss or damage to property arising solely from or on account of the negligent acts or omissions of Alcoa, its officers, employees, agents or contractors in entering into and implementing this Decree. However, Alcoa shall not indemnify the State of Washington nor save nor hold its employees and agents harmless from any claims or causes of action arising solely out of the negligent acts or omissions of the State of Washington, or the employees or agents of the State, in implementing the activities pursuant to this Decree.

B. As Washington has a comparative fault statute (Ch. 4.22 RCW) which provides a right of contribution between tortfeasors (RCW 4.22.040), Alcoa and Ecology agree to the following provision concerning Alcoa's obligation to indemnify the State of Washington with regard to a loss which is not

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caused solely by the negligence of Alcoa, its officers, employees, agents or contractors, or by the sole negligence of the State or any agent or employee of the State. In the event that a claim or cause of action for death or injuries to persons or for loss or damage to property is asserted against the State of Washington, or any of its employees or agents, and the basis of the claim or cause of action includes an allegation that the negligence of Alcoa, its officers, employees, agents, or contractors and the negligence of any other party caused the death or injury to persons or loss or damage to property, then Alcoa shall not be obliged to indemnify and save and hold the State of Washington harmless, but in the event that costs or fees are incurred by the State of Washington in defending against the claim or cause of action, or in the event that a judgment is entered against the State of Washington and satisfied by the State of Washington, Alcoa agrees to reimburse the State for the share of the State's costs, fees and the judgment as satisfied by the State in an amount representing that percentage of the loss adjudged to have been caused by the negligence of Alcoa, its officers, employees, agents or contractors.

XIX. COMPLIANCE WITH APPLICABLE LAWS

All actions carried out by Alcoa pursuant to this Decree shall be done in accordance with all applicable federal, state and local requirements.

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All facilities used by Alcoa for the off-Site treatment, storage or disposal of hazardous waste removed from the Site must be in compliance with the applicable requirements of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, as amended, 42 U.S.C. §9601, et seq. and Chapter 70.105 RCW. Alcoa proposes to use Chemical Waste Management of the Northwest's RCRA-permitted landfill at Arlington, Oregon for disposal of hazardous waste.

XX. LIABILITY INSURANCE

Within thirty (30) days of the entry of this Decree and for the duration of the remedial action required by this Decree, Alcoa shall provide Ecology with Alcoa's contractor's current certificates of insurance certifying coverage for general liability which may arise in carrying out this Decree with minimum limits of One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000.00) per occurrence and an annual aggregate of at least Five Million Dollars (\$5,000,000.00), exclusive of legal defense costs, for bodily injury and property damage liability combined. Alcoa shall provide thirty (30) days written notice prior to canceling such insurance.

These insurance limits are not to be construed as maximum limits. Alona is solely responsible for determining the appropriate amount of insurance it should carry for injuries or damages that may result from the implementation of this Decree.

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XXI. IMPLEMENTATION OF REMEDIAL ACTION

If Ecology determines that Alcoa has failed, without good cause, to implement the remedial action, Ecology may, after notice to Alcoa and, except in emergency situations, an opportunity to adequately implement the remedial action required by this Decree, perform any or all portions of the remedial action that remain incomplete. If Ecology performs all or portions of the remedial action because of Alcoa's failure to comply with its obligations under this Decree, Alcoa shall reimburse Ecology for the costs of doing such work within thirty (30) days of receipt of demand for payment of such costs, provided that Alcoa is not obligated under this section to reimburse Ecology for costs incurred for work inconsistent with or beyond the scope of the Cleanup Action Plan (Exhibit B).

XXII. OVERSIGHT COSTS

- A. Alcoa agrees to reimburse the State Toxics Control

 Account for the following oversight costs associated with

 Ecology activities at the Site. Ecology agrees to submit its

 time keeping records and accounting and bookkeeping procedures

 to Alcoa for review.
 - 1. The sum of \$36,013.14 for costs incurred by Ecology from 1989 up through September 30, 1991.
 - For costs incurred by Ecology after September 30,
 1991, Alcoa shall reimburse the State Toxics Control

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Account for Ecology's cost of direct activities, including but not limited to employee salaries, laboratory costs, travel costs, contractor fees, and employee benefits; indirect costs of direct activities; and interest charges at 12 percent per annum for delayed payments.

B. Alcoa shall pay the amount set forth in Paragraph A(1), above, within 90 days of the effective date of this Decree. With regard to future oversight costs, Ecology shall, within 90 days of the end of each fiscal quarter, submit to Alcoa an itemized statement documenting Ecology's expenses for the quarter. Within 90 days of receiving this statement, Alcoa shall pay into the State Toxics Control Account the required sum.

XXIII. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Ecology has developed a Public Participation Plan that is attached to this Decree as Exhibit D. Ecology shall maintain the responsibility for public participation at the Site.

Ecology shall notify Alcoa's project coordinator prior to the issuance of all press releases and fact sheets, and before major meetings with the interested public and local governments. However, Alcoa shall:

A. Provide assistance as requested when Ecology prepares drafts of public notices and fact sheets at important stages of the remedial action, such as the issuance of the CAP

and the start of remedial action. Ecology will finalize (including editing if necessary) and distribute such fact sheets and prepare and distribute public notices of Ecology's presentations and meetings;

- B. Notify Ecology's project coordinator prior to the issuance of all press releases and fact sheets, and before major meetings with the interested public and local governments.
- C. Participate in public presentations on the progress of remedial action at the Site. Participation may be through attendance at public meetings to assist in answering questions; and
- D. In cooperation with Ecology, arrange and/or continue information repositories to be located at the main branch of the Vancouver Library, 1007 East Mill Plain Boulevard, Vancouver, Washington 98663 and Ecology's Industrial Section in Olympia. At a minimum, copies of all public notices, fact sheets and press releases, all quality assured ground water, surface water, soil sediment and air monitoring data, remedial action plans, supplemental remedial planning documents and all other similar documents relating to performance of the remedial action required by this Decree shall be promptly placed in these repositories.

In consideration of Alcoa's compliance with the terms and

conditions of this Decree, the State of Washington covenants not to institute legal, equitable or administrative actions against Alcoa regarding matters within the scope of this Decree.

This covenant is strictly limited in its application to

This covenant is strictly limited in its application to the Site specifically defined in Exhibit A and to those hazardous substances which Ecology knows to be located at the Site as of the entry of this Decree. This covenant is not applicable to any other hazardous substance or area and the state retains all of its authority relative to such substances and areas.

- A. Reopeners: In the following circumstances, the State of Washington may exercise its full legal authority to address releases and/or threatened releases of hazardous substances at the Site notwithstanding the Covenant Not to Sue set forth above:
 - In the event Alcoa fails to comply with the terms
 and conditions of this Consent Decree, including all
 exhibits, and Alcoa, after written notice of
 noncompliance, fails to come into compliance;
 - In the event new information becomes available regarding factors previously unknown to Ecology, including the nature or quantity of hazardous

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QA-44
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substances at the Site, and Ecology determines that these factors present a previously unknown threat to human health or the environment. For purposes of this paragraph, and this is not necessarily an exhaustive list, information which is contained in the documents listed below is known to Ecology and cannot constitute new information: Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study, with appendices, for Alcoa's waste potlining piles at Vancouver operations; Hart Crowser, Inc., "Interim Report, Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study, Vancouver Operation, Vancouver, WA," February 1987; Robinson and Noble, Inc., Investigation for Contamination at Vancouver Plant, Phase I, September 1984; Robinson and Noble, Inc., Cyanide Contamination Study of Aluminum Company of America at Vancouver, Washington, December 1982; Robinson and Noble, Inc., Investigation of Possible Groundwater Contamination for Alcoa, Vancouver, September 1979; Robinson, Noble & Carr, Inc., Interim Report on Potential Contamination of Shallow Groundwater at Aluminum Company of America, April 1981; documents reporting results of groundwater sampling and analyses that have been received by Ecology prior to the effective date of this Decree;

Ecology's Order DE 86-419 and all documents submitted to and actually received by Ecology under the terms of that Order, or created by Ecology in the course of working on that Order; all files and records that have been received by the Department of Ecology's Industrial Section prior to the effective date of this Decree and that pertain to Alcoa's Vancouver operations; and Waste Pile Characterization, Vancouver, Washington Site, Alcoa Report 70-90-11, 1990 May 15;

- 3. In the event the results of groundwater monitoring
 (see Section VI.B.9.) at monitoring wells 18D, 19D,
 20D or 21D indicate that concentrations of free
 cyanide or total fluoride in ground water as
 measured under this Decree have increased one order
 of magnitude over average levels found in those
 wells from 1986 through 1990;
- 4. In the event conditions at the Site cause an endangerment to human health or the environment.
- B. Applicability: The Covenant Not to Sue set forth above shall have no applicability whatsoever to:
 - 1. Criminal liability;
 - Any Ecology action against potentially liable persons not a party to this Decree.
 - 3. Liability for damages to natural resources.

XXV. DURATION OF DECREE

The remedial action required by this Decree can be divided into two phases -- the construction phase and the operation and maintenance (O&M) phase. The construction phase includes removal of waste piles, installation of a cap, and soil sampling. The O&M phase includes groundwater monitoring and maintenance of the final cap.

When the construction phase of the remedial action has been completed to Ecology's satisfaction, Ecology shall issue a written notification that the construction requirements of this Decree have been met. Upon issuance of this notification, Ecology shall not require further construction activity at the Site except consistent with the Covenant Not Issuance of the to Sue in this Decree, Section XXIV. notification of completion of construction shall represent Ecology's concurrence in any EPA-issued notice proposing that the Site be deleted from the NPL. The Site shall be considered cleaned up for the purposes of EPA review of documents which precedes a decision by EPA to delist the Site from the NPL and the State shall certify that Alcoa has completed all appropriate response action at the Site. However, this Decree shall remain in effect and Alcoa's obligations to comply with the O&M requirements of this Decree shall continue until Ecology issues a written notification

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stating that all requirements of this Consent Decree have been completed.

XXVI. CLAIMS AGAINST THE STATE

Alcoa hereby agrees that it will not seek to recover any costs accrued in implementing the remedial action required by this Decree from the State of Washington or any of its agencies; and, further, that Alcoa will make no claim against the State Toxics Control Account or any local toxics control account for any costs incurred in implementing this Decree. Except as provided above, however, Alcoa expressly reserves its rights to seek to recover any costs incurred in implementing this Decree from any other potentially liable person.

XXVII. LAND USE RESTRICTIONS

Alcoa shall, within 180 days of the effective date of this Decree, record with the Office of the Clark County Auditor the restrictive covenant attached to this Decree as Exhibit E. (The Site legal description shall be appended to Exhibit E as soon as the description is available.) This covenant is executed in compliance with WAC 173-340-440, and restricts future uses of the Site. With Ecology's approval, after completion of the remedial actions required under this Decree, and consistent with WAC 173-340-720 and applicable cleanup standards for soils, Alcoa may record an instrument providing that the restrictive covenant attached to this

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Decree as Exhibit E shall no longer limit uses of the Site or be of any further force or effect. Ecology shall not grant approval until all ground water samples taken from monitoring wells in the intermediate, deep and aquifer zones during one sampling period are found to contain levels of total fluoride (EPA 340.2) lower than 4 parts per million, and of free cyanide (Standard Method 4500-CN G or Standard Method 4500-CN I, if promulgated by EPA as the method for determining the drinking water MCL) lower than 0.2 parts per million.

Monitoring well sampling shall conform to QA/QC standards established in the compliance monitoring plan. Monitoring wells shall be flushed at least one pore volume for low-yield formations and at least three pore volumes for high-yield formations prior to sampling. The monitoring well shall be allowed to recover for up to 24 hours prior to sampling. If the well contains less than one-half a pore volume after the 24-hour recovery period then it need not be sampled.

XXVIII. OTHER REMEDIAL ACTIONS

Alcoa shall not perform any remedial actions at the Site, other than those required under this Decree, without providing prior notice to, and receiving the concurrence of, Ecology.

XXIX. HAZARDOUS WASTE REDUCTION PLAN

Alcoa shall be excused from any requirement to prepare and submit a hazardous waste reduction plan for Alcoa's Vancouver Operations under Ch. 70.105E RCW and Ch. 173-307 WAC

due to Alcoa's performing work under this Consent Decree because performance of the work at the Site is due to unique circumstances not likely to be repeated and as Alcoa is unlikely to generate sufficient waste at the old Vancouver complex to require a plan within the next five (5) years. The parties stipulate that Alcoa shall be deemed to have petitioned to be excused from the waste reduction plan requirement under WAC 173-307-120.

XXX. PRIOR AGREEMENTS OR UNDERSTANDINGS

The terms of this Consent Decree, unless modified by the Court, shall control and shall supersede any prior agreement or understanding between the parties if any prior agreement or understanding has any effect at variance with this Consent Decree.

XXXI. <u>EFFECTIVE DATE</u>

This Decree is effective upon the date it is entered by the Court.

XXXII. PUBLIC NOTICE AND WITHDRAWAL OF CONSENT

This Decree has been the subject of public notice and comment under RCW 70.105D.040(4)(a). As a result of this process, Ecology has found that this Decree will lead to a more expeditious cleanup of hazardous substances at the Site in compliance with applicable cleanup standards.

If the Court withholds or withdraws its consent to this Decree, it shall be null and void at the option of any party

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1	and the accompanying Complaint shall be dismissed without
2	costs and without prejudice. In such an event, no party shall
3	be bound by the requirements of this Decree.
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_	STATE OF WASHINGTON, STATE OF WASHINGTON,
5	DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE
6	
7	By: Carol L. Fleshes By: Tanya Darnett
8	CAROL FLESKES TANYA BARNETT Program Manager Assistant Attorney General
9	Hazardous Waste Investigation and Cleanup
10	
11	Date: March 25, 1992 Date: March 25, 1992
12	ALUMINUM COMPANY OF AMERICA
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14	By: Filand C Rawe
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16	Date: MAR 23 1992
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18	DATED this 27 day of March, 1992.
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26	CONSENT DECREE -49-
	OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL