

# Custom Plywood Mill Site Anacortes, Skagit County, WA

*Site Investigation Documents Ready for Public Review*

*A PUGET SOUND INITIATIVE site – Reaching the goal of a healthy, sustainable Puget Sound now and forever*



*The Department of Ecology welcomes your comments on the proposed Agreed Order and draft Public Participation Plan for a new cleanup site.*

## Cleanup investigation begins

A waterfront site in Anacortes that was used as a mill and box factory, Custom Plywood Mill will be investigated for cleanup under the state's Puget Sound Initiative. Public input is invited as this cleanup begins.

## Ecology wants your comments

Ecology is asking for your comments on the proposed Agreed Order for a Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study (RI/FS) and Cleanup Action Plan (CAP), and on the draft Public Participation Plan at the Custom Plywood Mill site.

These documents provide information about the investigation and cleanup that is about to begin at the Custom Plywood Mill site. This site is located on the west shore of Fidalgo Bay near 35<sup>th</sup> Street in Anacortes, Skagit County, WA. The property can be viewed from the Tommy Thompson hiking trail.

The Agreed Order is a legal document. It describes the agreement between

Ecology and Concorde, Inc. for cleanup actions needed at the site. It ensures that cleanup happens in a timely manner and according to Washington State's cleanup law, the Model Toxics Control Act.

The draft Public Participation Plan outlines how citizens and interested parties can learn about and provide input on the cleanup.

## Site background

The site is currently vacant property with abandoned building remnants and debris. A sawmill and wood-box factory and then a plywood mill operated on the site for almost a century. Mill features included a hog-fuel boiler, drum storage tank area, transformer yard, above-ground storage tanks containing fuel oil, gasoline, diesel and/or propane, phenolic formaldehyde resin and caustic storage tanks (both used in making plywood glue), a machine shop, a metal shop, and an area for spraying paint and oil.

Samples collected in 1995 and 1997 showed high levels of gasoline and oil, arsenic, cadmium, chromium, lead, and PCB contamination in soil. Contamination has also been detected in marine sediments and groundwater.

**Public comment period:  
November 30, 2007 to  
January 2, 2008**

*Send comments to:*  
**Andy Kallus, Site Manager  
WA Department of Ecology  
Toxics Cleanup Program  
300 Desmond Drive  
Lacey, WA 98504-7600  
(360) 407-7259  
E-mail: [akal461@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:akal461@ecy.wa.gov)**

*To review documents:*  
**Anacortes Public Library  
1220 10th Street  
Anacortes, WA 98221  
Hours: Mon-Thurs 11am-8 pm,  
Fri. 11am-5pm, Sat-Sun noon-  
5pm**

**WA Department of Ecology  
Headquarters  
300 Desmond Drive  
Lacey, WA 98503-7600  
By appointment only:  
Contact Carol Dorn,  
[cesg461@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:cesg461@ecy.wa.gov) or  
(360) 407-7224**

**Ecology web site:**  
[http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/tcp/sites/custom\\_ply/custom\\_ply\\_html](http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/tcp/sites/custom_ply/custom_ply_html)

Facility Site #2685

## Overview of the Agreed Order

Publication Number 07-09-163

*If you need this publication in an alternate format, please call the Toxics Cleanup Program at (360) 407-7170. Persons with hearing loss can call 711 for Washington Relay Service. Persons with a speech disability can call (877) 833-6341.*

## Custom Plywood Mill Site, Skagit County WA

The Agreed Order outlines the investigation and cleanup process for the Custom Plywood Mill site. As part of the process, Concorde agrees to prepare the following studies and documents:

- An RI/FS work plan, which will explain how Concorde will look for and analyze contamination in soil, water, and sediments.
- An RI/FS report, which will present the results of the investigation and propose alternatives for cleanup actions.
- A CAP, which will use RI/FS information to identify a preferred cleanup action and a schedule to remediate the contamination.

## Overview of the draft Public Participation Plan

Ecology is committed to providing the public with timely information and meaningful opportunities to participate in the cleanup process. Your comments and ideas are needed to improve the cleanup. The Public Participation Plan explains how Ecology will do the following:

- Notify the public when and where documents are available for review and comment;
- Notify the public about how they can become involved;

- Provide public participation opportunities; and
- Consider public comments in cleanup decisions.

## Protecting and restoring Puget Sound at the Custom Plywood site

Governor Chris Gregoire and the Washington State Legislature have authorized a new Puget Sound Initiative. One of the objectives of the Initiative is to protect and restore Puget Sound, cleaning up 50-60 sites within one-half mile of the Sound. A number of sites in the Anacortes area are being cleaned up in a baywide effort. One of these is the Custom Plywood Mill site. These cleanup actions will help to reduce pollution and restore habitat and shorelines in Puget Sound.

## How to submit your comments

Ecology is holding a public comment period for you to review the Agreed Order and Public Participation Plan from November 30, 2007 through January 1, 2008. These documents are found on the Ecology web site and at the information repositories listed on the first page of this fact sheet.

Please send your comments by January 1, 2008, to Ecology's Site Manager, Andy Kallus. Contact addresses can be found on the first page of this fact sheet. Comments may be sent by mail or e-mail. Please include "Custom Plywood" in the subject line.

## What's next?

Once the public comment period ends, Ecology will review and respond to all comments that have been received. The Agreed Order may be modified based upon your comments.

Additional public comment periods will be noticed and conducted as future documents on the site are developed.

**For information about other Ecology public comment periods, meetings, hearings, workshops, and open houses, please visit Ecology's public events calendar at:**

<http://apps.ecy.wa.gov/pubcalendar/calendar.asp>. Read *Frequently Asked Questions about Effective Public Commenting* at this link to learn more about the public comment process.

## Custom Plywood Mill Site, Skagit County, WA



The Custom Plywood site is located east of 35<sup>th</sup> Street and V Avenue, Anacortes, WA.

**Custom Plywood Mill Site, Anacortes  
Skagit County, WA**

*Ecology Seeks Public Comment  
on Draft Documents*

Public Comment Period  
November 30, 2007 – January 1, 2008

**Department of Ecology**



**Toxics Cleanup Program  
PO Box 47600  
Olympia, WA 98504-7600**

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