## **Everett Landfill/Tire Fire Site**



## Public comment on work plan

The Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) has prepared this fact sheet to inform you of the cleanup activities at the Everett Landfill/Tire Fire Site. Cleanup actions are being conducted at this site according to the terms of the Model Toxics Control Act (MTCA), Chapter 70-105D of the Revised Code of Washington (RCW).

Public Comment Period: March 20 - April 19

Public Meeting: Wednesday, March 29, 1995 7:00 p.m. Everett Public Works Building Spada Conference Room 3200 Cedar Street, Everett

Ecology ordered the City of Everett (City) to perform interim actions and a supplemental remedial investigation/feasibility study (RI/FS) at the Everett Landfill/Tire Fire site in June of 1994.

The work plan for the interim actions at the landfill and the supplemental remedial investigation and feasibility study has been completed and is available for comment.

The interim actions consist of installing a leachate collection system along the eastern border of the site to eliminate or reduce the migration of contaminated groundwater into the Snohomish River.

Surface water management controls will also be implemented. The supplemental RI/FS includes an investigation of landfill gas, gathering information to determine an appropriate landfill cover, and evaluation of a proposal by the City to treat the tire fire ash.

The Everett Landfill is located between Interstate Highway 5 and the Snohomish River, east of downtown Everett, Washington. The site is bordered on the north by 36th Street SE and on the south by Burlington Northern Railroad tracks at about 45th Street SE. The landfill closed under applicable state regulations in the mid-1970s.

You are invited to comment on the work plan during a 30-day public comment period from March 20 through April 19, 1995. A public meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 29 to talk with you about the details of the work plan. At the meeting you will also meet Ecology's new site manager, Sunny Lin.

You may review the documents at the information repositories listed in the box at the right. Send comments in writing to Site Manager Sunny Lin at the address listed at the right.

## Interim cleanup actions leachate collection system and surface water management

According to the work plan, the leachate collection system will consist of a ground-

## **March 1995**

Send comments to:

Sunny Lin, Site Manager Department of Ecology 3190-160th Avenue SE Bellevue, WA 98008-5452 (206) 649-7187

For more information:

Susan Lee, Public Involvement (206) 649-7138

To review documents:

Everett Public Library 2702 Hoyt Everett, WA 98201 (206) 259-8000

Department of Ecology 3190 160th Avenue SE Bellevue, WA 98008-5452 (206) 649-7239

For special accommodation needs or language translation assistance, call (206) 649-7138 or (206) 649-4259 (TDD).

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water interception trench. The interception trench will be installed along the eastern edge of the landfill and above the lower permeable silt layer that lies below the landfill. The trench will generally follow the alignment of a temporary access road along the landfill's eastern side.

Surface water management will be implemented along with the interception trench. The surface water controls will divert the relatively clean water runoff from coming into contact with the landfill interception trench.

## Supplemental RI/FS

The following supplemental remedial investigation tasks were requested in the order:

- summarize previous work on the landfill
- characterize existing landfill cover
- provide adequate information on landfill gas.

The City requested Ecology to consider an additional alternative for capping the landfill that had not been considered in the original RI/FS report. The additional alternative was to use biosolids from the City of Everett Sewage Treatment Plant as a cover for the landfill and treatment for the tire fire ash.

Column leaching studies to evaluate whether biosolids and lime are effective in stabilizing and immobilizing contaminants in the tire fire ash are currently underway at the University of Washington. The results of these studies and the feasibility of using biosolids as a cover for the landfill will be described in the supplemental feasibility study report.

## Field work has begun

Field work to construct the leachate collection system, implement surface water controls, and gather information for the supplemental RI/FS began a few weeks. The field work includes:

construction of a temporary access road

- installation of soil borings and soil probes along the access road
- installation of a monitoring well on the access road
- installation of shallow borings on the landfill.

The temporary access road is needed to conduct the field investigation that will be done on the site. Work on the temporary access road began the week of March 13th. The work requires clearing brush along the eastern edge of the landfill near the rail road tracks. Two soil borings and one hundred soil probes will be installed along the access road to assess the landfill conditions. The probes and boring holes will be sealed before installing the next one. A monitoring well will be installed on the access road to monitor the groundwater quality in the landfill. The borings and probes will be installed using a specially equipped 2-1/2 ton truck. A larger truck will install the well.

Work will also be done on top of the landfill. A small tractor will be used to install shallow borings two to five feet deep. These shallow borings will be used to learn the thickness of soil cover over the garbage. Gas emissions from the landfill will be tested. All field work will be limited to daylight hours.

The first phase of work has been completed. Fifty shallow borings recently drilled over the entire landfill area show that there is a uniform 18 to 24 inch clay cover with a fairly consistent presence of methane gas underneath it.

The work began before public comment on the work plan was completed because the City and Ecology wanted to be sure to have an opportunity to install the system this construction season. However, the work plan will not be final until the public has the opportunity to comment. All comments from the public will be considered. The City understands that changes may have to be made based on those comments.

The leachate collection system is an interim cleanup action. Ecology will not consider this action a final cleanup action until the supplemental remedial investigation and

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feasibility study is completed, and the cleanup action plan is written.

#### Schedule

The City and Ecology are currently working towards beginning construction of the interception trench in mid to late summer. Construction should begin before weather conditions deteriorate in the fall. With saturated soils during the rainy season, poor surface drainage at the landfill makes construction very difficult and expensive. To begin construction in this summer, investigation work must be conducted to begin the preliminary design work. Therefore, while aware that public comment may require some changes to the on-going field work, the City and Ecology decided to begin some of the work before the public comment on the work plan is complete.

#### Documents for public comment

The work plan is organized into four separate documents. These documents are titled:

- \*Draft Final Work Plan
- Draft Final Sampling and Analysis Plan
- Draft Final Health and Safety Plan
- - Draft Final Quality Assurance Project Plan.

The sampling and analysis plan document contains the detailed information on the work that will be accomplished for the interim actions and the supplemental RI/FS.

You may review these documents at the information repository in your community at the Everett Public Library. (See location information on page one.) Inquire at the Information Desk on the second floor of the library.

# City receives grant from Ecology to conduct work

The City has received a grant of \$529,526 from Ecology to pay for a portion of the cost to do the work outlined in Ecology's enforcement

order. It is estimated that this portion of the project will cost \$1,247,422. This includes the design and construction of the interception trench, surface water controls, and the additional investigation work associated with the landfill cover and methane gas.

### What happens next

If significant changes are made to the work plan based on the comments received, you will be notified and have an opportunity to comment on the changes.

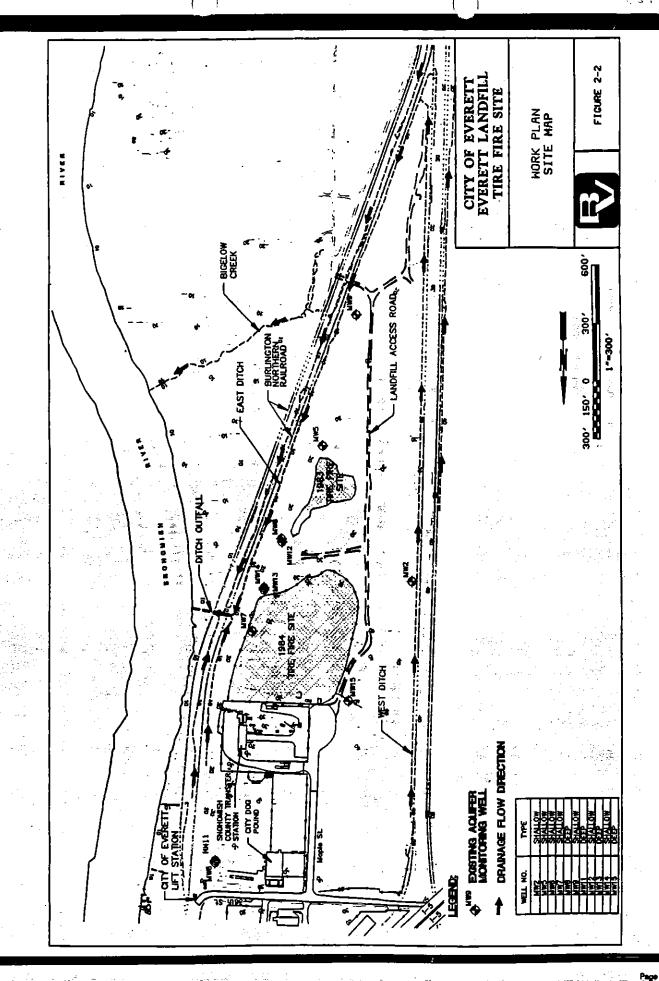
Written comments received during the comment period will be addressed in a document called a responsiveness summary. The responsiveness summary will be mailed to all who comment and will be available for review at the Everett Library and Ecology's Northwest Regional Office in Bellevue.

### Site background

The site is a 70-acre closed municipal landfill with approximately 7 acres of tire fire ash on top of the landfill. The landfill contains a variety of contaminants consistent with those generally associated with landfill debris. The tire fire ash contains zinc and other metals, along with polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs).

The landfill was used from approximately 1917 until 1974 for various purposes. Some of the purposes included a burn dump, a scrap metal burial site, and a municipal landfill. In 1975, the site was graded and covered. Beginning in 1977, a commercial recycling operation stored old rubber tires at the site.

In 1983 and 1984, two separate fires occurred in the piles of used rubber tires at the landfill. The fires, involving approximately one million tires, were allowed to burn themselves out, leaving several acres of ash. An emergency environmental cleanup involving collection and removal of the oil produced by the fire reduced the immediate threat to nearby wetlands and the Snohomish River. The ash was left in place while cleanup options were studied.



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