

# SCHWERIN CONCAVES, INC. ENFORCEMENT ORDER



The Washington Department of Ecology is issuing Enforcement Order No. 00HWTRER-693 to Schwerin Concaves, Inc. who has been found to be a “potentially liable person” for the hard chromium electroplating facility (Site) on their property located in Walla Walla County, Washington. This Order is issued under requirements set forth in the Model Toxics Control Act (MTCA) Chapter 70.105D RCW.

The Order requires Schwerin Concaves, Inc. to conduct and report on a Remedial Investigation/ Feasibility Study (RI/FS) at the Site. The purpose of the RI/FS is to collect, develop, and evaluate information regarding contamination in affected areas on and off site. The Remedial Investigation will also define the type, extent, and degree of soil and groundwater contamination and the impacts to the affected areas. The Feasibility Study will identify, evaluate and propose alternative cleanup actions. Ecology believes that the RI/FS is necessary to protect human health and the environment in affected areas.

Ecology invites the public to review and comment on the Enforcement Order **March 1 through March 31, 2000**. The box at the right, as well as information on page two, indicates where these documents may be

found, how comments may be submitted and additional information obtained.

## SITE BACKGROUND

The Site is located two miles north of Hwy. 12 on Sapolil Road in Walla Walla County, WA. Schwerin Concaves, Inc. has owned and operated a hard chromium electroplating facility on this property from the late 1970s to the present. Contamination of soil and groundwater has been documented at two locations at the Site.

Past wastewater treatment operations resulted in high levels of hexavalent chromium being deposited in soil from a leaking treatment tank. This tank is located just north of the electroplating shop. Soil contamination to a depth of 24 feet has been documented with the full characterization of this contamination being incomplete. Chromium contamination in soil has also occurred in the area formerly used to store “self-propelled” equipment. Wastewater and/or wastewater treatment sludge containing chromium was ponded and allowed to evaporate in this area. Contamination of soil to a depth of nine feet has been documented with the full characterization of this

## FACT SHEET: MARCH 2000

### REPOSITORIES:

Walla Walla Public Library  
238 East Alder Street  
Walla Walla, WA 99362  
Hours: M/T:12-8 W:10-8  
Th/F/Sat:10-5

WA Department of Ecology  
Eastern Regional Office  
4601 N. Monroe  
Spokane, WA 99205-1295

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For more information  
and/or submission of  
written comments contact:

Mr. Keith Stoffel  
Site Manager  
Department of Ecology  
Hazardous Waste Toxics  
Reduction Program  
4601 N. Monroe  
Spokane, WA 99205-1295  
E-mail: [ksto461@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:ksto461@ecy.wa.gov)  
Phone: (509) 456-3176

**PUBLIC COMMENT: For  
the Schwerin Concaves, Inc.  
Enforcement Order:  
March 1 through March 31,  
2000.**

### MAILING LIST:

If you want to be on the  
Schwerin Concaves, Inc.  
Site mailing list please call  
Carol Bergin of Ecology toll  
free at 1-800-826-7716 or in  
Spokane at (509) 456-6360.  
E-mail: [cabe461@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:cabe461@ecy.wa.gov)

contamination also being incomplete.

Chromium contamination in groundwater has also occurred at the facility in two drinking water wells. The extent of this groundwater contamination has not been fully characterized.

To review additional Site information available in Ecology's Eastern Regional Office, contact Johnnie Harris at (509) 456-2751 to schedule an appointment. Files may be reviewed Monday through Thursday 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. by appointment only.

## **WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?**

A Remedial Investigation/ Feasibility Study Work Plan for the Site will be submitted to Ecology. Ecology will review and comment on the Work Plan and formally approve it if appropriate. Following approval by Ecology, Schwerin Concaves, Inc. will implement the RI/FS Work Plan.

## **ECOLOGY WANTS YOUR COMMENTS!**

This public comment period represents an opportunity to have your ideas and comments heard by Ecology. You may review and comment on the Enforcement Order **March 1 through March 31, 2000**. Copies of the Order are located at the repositories listed in the shaded box on page one.

Written comments may be addressed to Mr. Keith Stoffel, Site Manager at the addresses listed in the shaded box on page one. Ecology will review all written comments submitted on the Enforcement Order. If written comments are received, a Responsiveness Summary will be prepared and made available at the information repositories. If appropriate, Ecology will revise the Order based on written comments received.