

# Former Bear Creek Motors

## Proposal to remove site from Ecology's Hazardous Sites List



### Introduction

The Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) has prepared this fact sheet pursuant to the Model Toxics Control Act (MTCA) Chapter 70.105D to provide you with information about the proposed removal of the former Bear Creek Motors site from the state's Hazardous Sites List. The site is currently ranked "4" on the list (a rank of "1" represents the highest level of risk compared to other sites, and a rank of "5" represents the lowest). You are welcome and encouraged to comment on this proposal through March 7, 2002.

### Site background

The former Bear Creek Motors site covers 6.5 acres and is located at 6014 238th Street SE, Woodinville, Snohomish County, Washington. It borders 238th Street SE to the north, Arrow Metals to the east, an undeveloped parcel to the south, and residences to the west.

From 1978 until 1999, Bear Creek Motors stored scrap metal and used trailers, semi-trailers, truck tractors, and truck parts on the property. This process involved using and storing various petroleum products. As a result, some of the products leaked or spilled and contaminated site soils. Ecology inspectors discovered the contamination in 1996. That same year, Snohomish County conducted a Site Hazard Assessment on the property, ranked the site, and placed it on its Hazardous Sites List.

In 1999, Bear Creek Motors ceased its operations and leased a major portion of the property to Rinkers Materials Northwest (RMN).

### Work performed

In 1999, RMN conducted a site investigation prior to entering into the lease agreement. Using MTCA Method A (residential use standards), RMN determined that petroleum-contaminated soils throughout the site exceeded the cleanup level of 200 milligrams per kilogram (mg/kg). RMN removed several thousand tons of soil from the site. Some of this contaminated soil was disposed of at an approved landfill while some was treated by a thermal desorption process (see box below) before disposal. In 2001, Ecology revised the Method A cleanup levels for petroleum-contaminated soils from 200 to 2,000 mg/kg; accordingly, the remaining soil cleanup was guided by the revised cleanup levels.

### What is thermal desorption?

*Thermal desorption is a technology that treats contaminated soils by heating them to temperatures of 200-1,000°F so that contaminants with low boiling points will vaporize (turn into gas) and, consequently, separate from the soil. The vaporized contaminants are collected and treated, typically by an air emissions treatment system.*

**February 2002**

### FACT SHEET

### Public Comment Period:

February 6 – March 7, 2002

Comments should be directed to:

Richard Thomas, Site Manager  
Ecology Northwest Regional Office  
Toxics Cleanup Program  
3190 160th Avenue SE  
Bellevue, WA 98008  
(425) 649-7208 (voice)  
(425) 649-4259 (TDD)  
e-mail rith461@ecy.wa.gov

### Information Repositories

#### Documents can be reviewed at the following locations:

Woodinville Library  
17105 Avondale Road NE  
Woodinville, WA

Department of Ecology  
3190 160th Avenue SE  
Bellevue WA 98008  
Call Sally Perkins  
for an appointment  
Phone: (425) 649-7190

For special accommodation needs or language translation assistance, call Rebekah Padgett, Ecology's Public Information Specialist at (425) 649-7257, or (425) 649-4259 (TDD).

Ecology is an equal opportunity and affirmative action agency.

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## Why delist the site?

The site has been sampled and the contamination remaining on site is below current state cleanup standards. Ecology has determined that this site does not pose a threat to human health or the environment and proposes removing the site from the Hazardous Sites List.

## Public comment period

Ecology's proposal to delist the former Bear Creek Motors site from the Hazardous Sites List is open for public comment through March 7, 2002. The documents pertaining to the delisting are available at Ecology's Northwest Regional Office, 3190 160th Avenue SE, Bellevue, WA 98008. Call (425) 649-7190 for an appointment. The documents also are available at the Woodinville Library, 17105 Avondale Road NE, in Woodinville.

## The public's role in removing the site from the Hazardous Sites List

You have an opportunity to review the Site Hazard Assessment and Final Cleanup Report and to comment on Ecology's decision to remove the site from the Hazardous Sites List. Please send your comments before March 7, 2002, to Richard Thomas, Site Manager, at Ecology's Northwest Regional Office, 3190 160th Avenue SE, Bellevue, WA 98008, by e-mail to [rith461@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:rith461@ecy.wa.gov), or by phone at (425) 649-7208.

If substantive comments are received, further site investigation or cleanup may be required before the site is de-listed.



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