

Interim Action Work Plan and SEPA Documents Available for Public Review and Comment

The Washington Department of Ecology (Ecology) and the Port of Ridgefield (Port) are planning to complete an Interim (partial) Cleanup Action as part of a 2001 Agreed Order (legal agreement) to clean up property at the Port of Ridgefield.

Several interim actions have already been taken to remove contamination from this site. The Port will complete additional Interim Actions this summer including:

- Removing contaminated soil from two areas of the property. Excavation areas will be backfilled with soil.
- Installing a minimum 2 foot thick cover of soil over areas of site (see map on page 3) where some residual contamination will remain.
- Placing an environmental covenant (type of deed restriction) on the property to protect people from contamination remaining on site.

Ecology has completed a State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) review of the proposed Interim Action and determined that it is not likely to have significant negative environmental impacts (a Determination of Non-Significance). **The Checklist and Determination are available for public comment for a two week period: from June 7 - June 21, 2010.**

Ecology Wants Your Input!

Ecology is asking for your comments on the Interim Action Work Plan and the SEPA Determination of Non-Significance and Checklist. You are invited to:

- **Review** these documents at locations listed in the box to the right.
- **Send** your written comments to Ecology for consideration. Comments for the **SEPA documents will be accepted until June 21, 2010**. Comments on the **Interim Action Work Plan will be accepted until July 8**.

What Happens Next?

- Ecology will review and consider all public comments. Ecology may, if necessary, ask the Port to make changes to the work plan based on public comments, even after the work has begun.

Comments Accepted on

SEPA Documents

June 7 - June 21, 2010

Interim Action Work Plan

June 7 - July 8, 2010

Submit Comments and Technical Questions to:

Craig Rankine, Site Manager
WA Department of Ecology
SWRO Toxics Cleanup Program
2108 Grand Boulevard
Vancouver, WA 98661

Phone: (360) 690-4795

E-mail: Craig.Rankine@ecy.wa.gov

Public Involvement Contact:

Meg Bommarito

Phone: (360) 407-6255

E-mail: Meg.Bommarito@ecy.wa.gov

Document Review Locations

Ridgefield Library

210 N Main Avenue

Ridgefield, WA 98642

Phone: (360) 887-8281

WA Department of Ecology

Southwest Regional Office

300 Desmond Drive SE

Lacey, WA 98503

By appointment only:

Contact Debbie Nelson,
dene461@ecy.wa.gov or

(360) 407-6365

Ecology's Toxics Cleanup Website

http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/tcp/sites/pacWoodTreat/pacWoodTreat_hp.html

Facility Site ID #1019



Pacific Wood Treating

- The Port will:
 - ⇒ May begin work on the interim actions at the end of the SEPA comment period on June 21.
 - ⇒ Continue to remove contamination through the steam enhanced treatment system already in operation on the property (see page 3).
 - ⇒ Complete the Remedial Investigation (RI) by determining the full nature and extent of contamination.
 - ⇒ Conduct a Feasibility Study (FS) to examine possible cleanup alternatives. The RI and FS reports will be available for public comment.
 - ⇒ Draft a Cleanup Action Plan which will outline the chosen cleanup action. This document will be available for public comment.

Site Background

The 41-acre former Pacific Wood Treating facility is located at 111 West Division in Ridgefield. The property was leased from the Port of Ridgefield (see page 3).

From 1964-93, Pacific Wood Treating pressure-treated specialty wood products with wood preservatives such as creosote, pentachlorophenol (PCP) and copper/chromium/arsenic solutions. Contaminants were released to the environment through spills, leaking wastewater storage tanks, storm water run off and leaks from the buried drain system.

Environmental Protection Agency Investigation

In 1985, as part of a focused nationwide effort to address impacts from wood treating facilities, the US Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) investigated the property. Wood treating chemicals, including PCP, polyaromatic hydrocarbons, arsenic (in soil and groundwater), and dioxins (in soil); were found above state cleanup standards.

Pacific Wood Treating entered into a legal agreement with the EPA through the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act. This agreement required Pacific Wood Treating to determine the full extent of contamination and then clean it up. In 1993, Pacific Wood Treating stopped operations and declared bankruptcy. The company discontinued cleanup work.

Department of Ecology Cleanup

In 1995, Ecology and the Port entered into an Agreed Order to conduct Interim (partial cleanup) Actions to address the most contaminated areas of the site, the tank farm. The Agreed Order required the Port to:

- Upgrade the stormwater system.
- Empty, dismantle and remove storage tanks.
- Dispose of solid waste and hazardous chemicals.
- Fully characterize contamination in soil and groundwater.
- Excavate and remove contaminated soil.

The Port completed the Interim Actions between 1996-98. Groundwater sampling conducted in 2001 revealed groundwater contamination had extended into the Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge.

Second Cleanup Agreement with Ecology

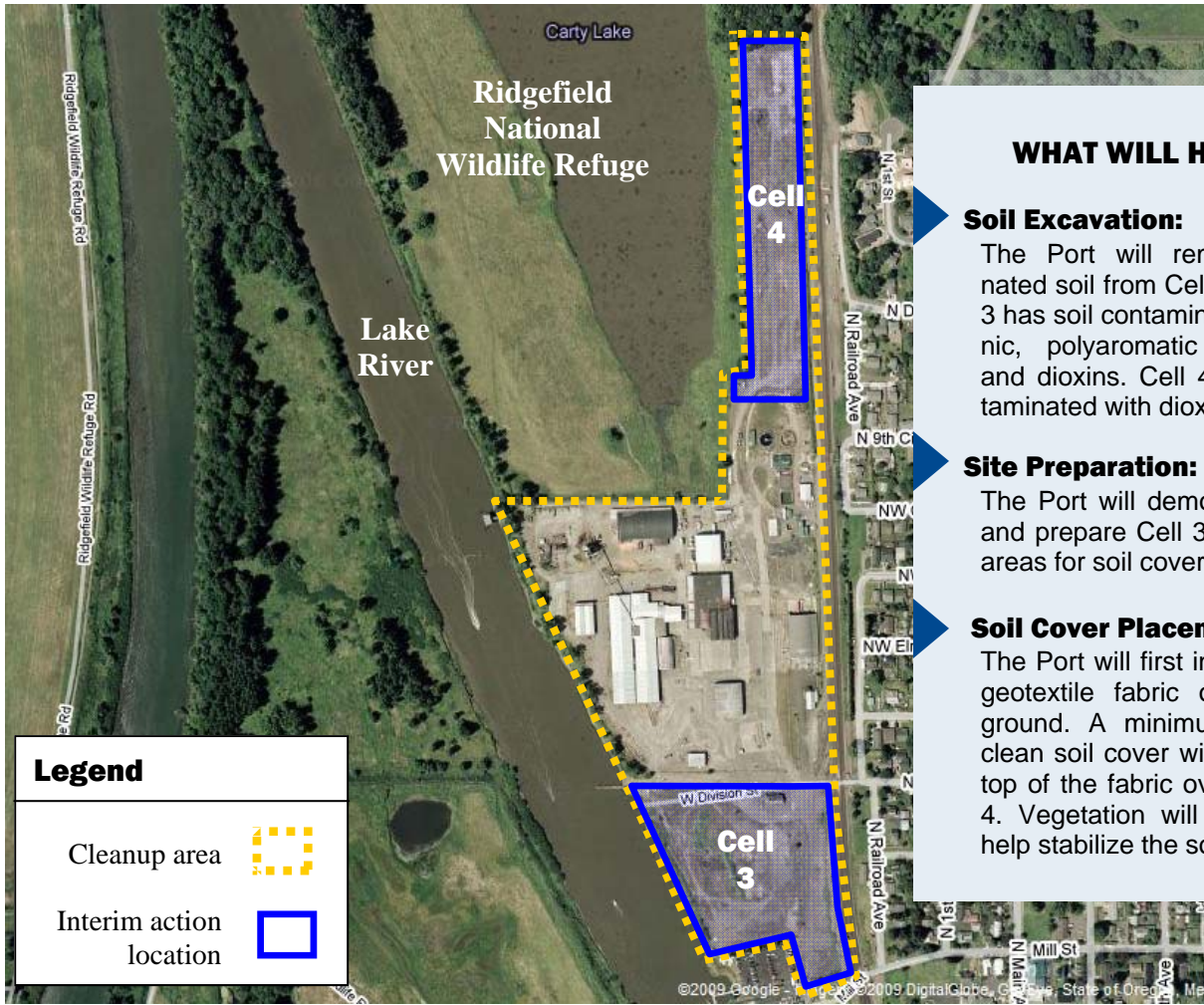
In 2001, Ecology and the Port entered into a second Agreed Order to address remaining contamination on the property, in the refuge and in the river. This agreement required the Port to:

- Clean up the worst areas of contamination in the former tank farm area (next to refuge) and other highly contaminated areas.
- Improve stormwater quality and demolish some buildings and structures to make cleanup easier.
- Finish the Remedial Investigation and conduct a Feasibility Study to evaluate cleanup alternatives.

Cleanup Actions Taken

To date, the Port of Ridgefield has completed several cleanup actions including;

- Removal of 100 tons of solid waste and 1,222 tons of hazardous waste.
- Installation and operation of a steam-enhanced treatment system to remove contamination from groundwater and soil (page 3).
- Removal of 110 million gallons of contaminated water.
- Removal of most of the former Pacific Wood Treating infrastructure to allow better access to cleanup areas.



WHAT WILL HAPPEN?

Soil Excavation:

The Port will remove contaminated soil from Cells 3 and 4. Cell 3 has soil contaminated with arsenic, polyaromatic hydrocarbons and dioxins. Cell 4 has soil contaminated with dioxins.

Site Preparation:

The Port will demolish a building and prepare Cell 3 and 4 surface areas for soil cover installation.

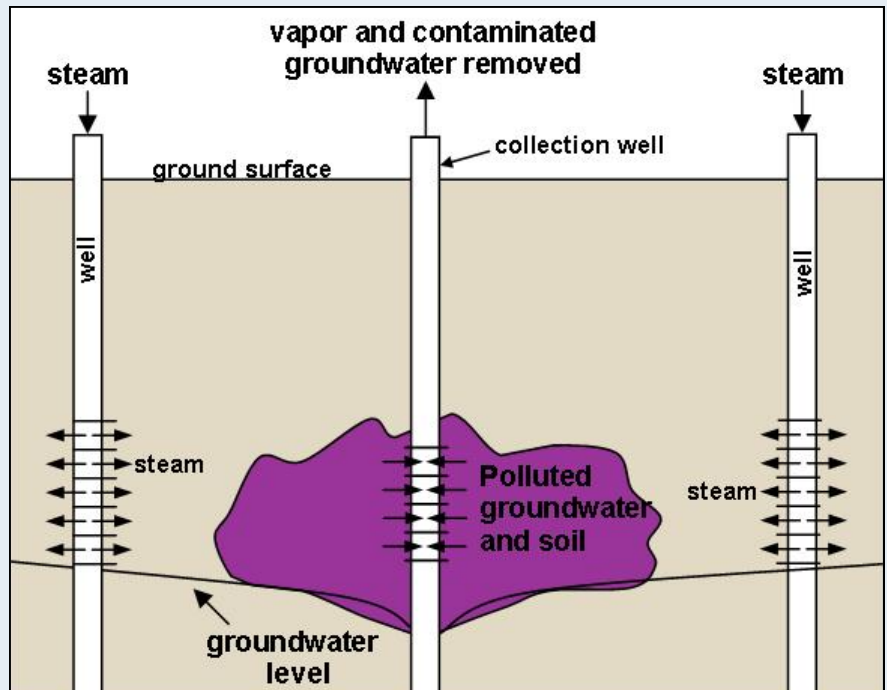
Soil Cover Placement:

The Port will first install a layer of geotextile fabric on top of the ground. A minimum of 2' thick clean soil cover will be placed on top of the fabric over Cells 3 and 4. Vegetation will be planted to help stabilize the soil cover.

Steam Injection Treatment

Steam injection treatment is being used to remove contamination from soil and groundwater on the property. Polluted soil and groundwater are heated with steam to help remove chemicals from soil or groundwater through collection wells. After contaminated groundwater is captured by the wells, it is treated. Recaptured contamination is sent off-site for disposal.

To date, the system has removed 24,000 gallons of contamination, destroyed 1,105,980 pounds of contaminated sludge and treated over 110 million gallons of contaminated water.



Adapted from Environmental Protection Agency Publication 542-F-01-012



DEPARTMENT OF
ECOLOGY
State of Washington

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Pacific Wood Treating Ridgefield, WA

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