

Kimberly-Clark Worldwide, Inc.



Contact & Information

Comments accepted:
March 13 – April 11, 2019

Submit comments at:
eComment:

<http://cs.ecology.commentinput.com/?id=S67cx>

For questions about the Site:
Andy Kallus, Site Manager
andrew.kallus@ecy.wa.gov
(360) 407-7259

Document review locations:
Site webpage:

<https://fortress.wa.gov/ecy/gsp/Sitepage.aspx?csid=2569>

Everett Public Library
2702 Hoyt Avenue
Everett, WA 98201
Phone: (425) 257-8000

By Appointment:
Ecology Headquarters
300 Desmond Drive SE
Lacey, WA 98503
Phone: (360) 407-7224

Facility Site ID: 9

Cleanup Site ID: 2569

For more information, visit:

<https://fortress.wa.gov/ecy/gsp/Sitepage.aspx?csid=2569>

Ecology Wants Your Input!

Ecology invites your comments on proposed plans to cleanup a site on Puget Sound. The Kimberly-Clark Worldwide Site (Site) is one of several properties on the Everett waterfront identified for cleanup under the state's Puget Sound Initiative. The Site is located at 2600 Federal Avenue in Everett, Snohomish County, Washington.

You are invited to:

- **Review** the draft Amended Agreed Order, draft Interim Action Work Plan (Exhibit G to the Amended Order), and the draft State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) Mitigated Determination of Non-Significance (MDNS). The SEPA MDNS is for Kimberly-Clark's overall project that includes Ecology's Order and Interim Cleanup Action and the company's removal of crushed material. The SEPA MDNS can be viewed on the City of Everett's webpage: <https://everettwa.gov/CivicAlerts.aspx?CID=37>
- **Send** your comments on the Agreed Order and Interim Action to Ecology for consideration. Comments will be accepted from **March 13 – April 11, 2019**. Send comments on the SEPA MDNS to the City of Everett at <https://everettwa.gov/CivicAlerts.aspx?CID=37>
- Ecology will consider all comments before making a final decision.

See details in the box to the left about where to review and how to send comments on Ecology's documents. A public meeting on the proposed plan will be held if one is requested by at least ten people during the comment period.

Site Background

The property was first developed in the early 1900s and was used for pulp and paper manufacturing from 1931 to 2012. Other uses included bulk petroleum storage and sawmilling. All manufacturing operations at the facility stopped in 2012, and the former structures were demolished with the exception of the warehouse building on the south side and wastewater treatment facilities on the north side. The property includes about 56 acres of uplands and 12 acres of adjacent tidelands.

Site Photos



Figure 1 - K-C Mill in 2012



Figure 2 - K-C Site in 2013 during interim cleanup work



Figure 3 - Groundwater treatment in 2013 during interim action cleanup work



Figure 4 - K-C warehouse building that remains on the Site

In 2012, Ecology entered into a legal agreement, called an Agreed Order (Order), with the Kimberly-Clark Worldwide company for the upland portion of their property. Kimberly-Clark is the Potentially Liable Person at the Site. The in-water area of the Site, known as East Waterway, will be addressed under a separate Order. This will allow cleanup of the upland area to keep pace with potential redevelopment opportunities.

Under the upland Order, Kimberly-Clark conducted a significant interim cleanup action beginning in 2013, to address contaminated soil and groundwater encountered during mill demolition. An interim action is a remedial action that cleans up part of a site. The 2013 interim action removed about 39,000 tons of contaminated soil and more than 6,000 gallons of petroleum contaminated water.

The main contaminants that were addressed as part of the 2013 interim action were metals such as copper and lead, petroleum, polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs), and xylenes. After the interim action, Kimberly-Clark conducted a remedial investigation (RI)/feasibility study (FS) that identifies the nature and extent of contamination in soil and groundwater at the Site along with cleanup alternatives. A draft RI/FS report is being prepared for the upland portion of the Site.

Amended Agreed Order

The RI showed additional contamination in upland soil. This contamination needs to be resolved more quickly to respond to pending redevelopment projects. In addition, inactive pipes need to be plugged to prevent the potential discharge of shallow groundwater from the upland area to adjacent surface water. This includes the City of Everett's Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) pipe that discharges at the PS04 location under the wharf.

The interim action also includes monitoring groundwater pH levels and any necessary groundwater treatment while the crushed material is removed from the Site. The material, primarily composed of concrete, brick, and masonry, was spread on the Site during the mill demolition in 2013. The removal of the material is not part of Ecology's Intertim Cleanup action (*see* more details in the next section).

Ecology prepared an Amended Agreed Order to allow for the actions described above at the Site. The Interim Action Work Plan (Appendix G to the Amended Order) describes the process for managing contaminated soil and groundwater in the soil removal areas and also details the approach for plugging pipes and monitoring groundwater pH.

Nine areas are targeted for soil removal as part of this interim action. The contaminants in one or more of the soil removal areas include copper, lead, mercury, zinc, petroleum, polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), and PAHs. Over 20 inactive pipes have been identified for

plugging including the city's CSO. The CSO pipe is deteriorated and its current location may interfere with planned redevelopment. The city will temporarily re-route the existing CSO pipe and then install a CSO pipe at a different location. Groundwater pH levels will be monitored for areas where crushed materials are present including downgradient areas towards East Waterway.

SEPA Checklist and Determination of Non-significance

SEPA makes sure that environmental impacts are considered during agency decisionmaking. The interim action is being conducted in accordance with the states Model Toxics Control Act (MTCA) and will occur at about the same time as another project that is taking place at the Site. Kimberly-Clark is working separately with the Snohomish Health District to remove the crushed material. Both of these actions will occur before the Site can be redeveloped. A SEPA checklist was prepared to identify potential environmental impacts of the combined projects on the surrounding environment. It was led by the City of Everett with Ecology as co-lead. The city and Ecology determined that the environmental cleanup of the Site and removal of the crushed material will not have a probable significant adverse impact on the environment (Mitigated Determination of Non- Significance). The checklist and determination are both available for public comment and can be viewed on this City of Everett webpage: <https://everettwa.gov/CivicAlerts.aspx?CID=37>.

Public Participation

Ecology and Kimberly-Clark are committed to providing the public with timely information and meaningful opportunities to participate in decisions about the cleanup process. As part of this commitment, Ecology developed a Public Participation Plan in 2012. This plan was updated in February 2019 and can be viewed on Ecology's website at <https://fortress.wa.gov/ecy/gsp/CleanupSiteDocuments.aspx?csid=2569>. This plan outlines how you can learn about and provide input on the cleanup. Your comments and ideas are needed to improve the cleanup. The Public Participation Plan explains how Ecology will:

- Notify the public when and where documents are available for review and comment.
- Notify the public about how they can get involved.
- Provide public participation opportunities.
- Consider public comments in cleanup decisions.

Why This Cleanup Matters (Protecting and Restoring Puget Sound)

In 2007, Washington State established the Puget Sound Initiative to protect and restore Puget Sound. Several baywide areas in the Sound have been identified as high priority cleanup areas as part of this Initiative, including Port Gardner where Kimberly-Clark is located. Other bays include Port Gamble, Dumas Bay, Padilla and Fidalgo Bays, Port Angeles, and Budd Inlet. This work entails cleaning up 50-60 sites within one-half mile of the Sound. These cleanup actions will help to reduce pollution and restore habitat and shorelines in Puget Sound. For more information about other Puget Sound Initiative cleanup sites, go to: <https://ecology.wa.gov/Spills-Cleanup/Contamination-cleanup/Cleanup-sites/Toxic-cleanup-sites/Puget-Sound>.

What Happens Next?

Once the public comment period ends, Ecology will review and consider all comments received. The Agreed Order, Interim Action Plan and SEPA determination may be modified based on your comments. As future documents on the Site are developed, you will be notified of additional public comment periods.

For information about other Ecology public comment periods, meetings, and other events, please visit Ecology's public events calendar at: <https://ecology.wa.gov/Events/Search/Listing>.



Toxics Cleanup Program
Attn Andrea Flaherty
PO Box 47600
Olympia, WA 98504-7600

Join the discussion about cleanup!



**Kimberly-Clark Worldwide, Inc.
Everett, Snohomish County, WA**

Public Comment Period

March 13 – April 11, 2019

For more information, visit:

<https://fortress.wa.gov/ecy/gsp/Sitepage.aspx?csid=2569>

Información en Español incluida

Si necesita esta información en español,
contactenos a preguntas@ecy.wa.gov

Accommodation Requests

To request ADA accommodation including materials in a format for the visually impaired, call Ecology at 360-407-7170 or visit <https://ecology.wa.gov/accessibility>. People with impaired hearing may call Washington Relay Service at 711. People with speech disability may call TTY at 877-833-6341.