

Port of Vancouver, Cadet/Swan, NuStar, and Kinder Morgan Site

Draft Agreed Order for Partial Site Cleanup

Available for Public Review and Comment

Comments accepted

August 27, 2020 –September 27, 2020

To comment

Online

<http://tcp.ecology.commentinput.com/?id=MgmEK>

Or by mail to

Craig Rankine
 Cleanup Project Manager
 WA Department of Ecology
 Vancouver Field Office
 12121 NE 99th St, Suite 2100
 Vancouver, WA 98682

Ecology's Site webpage

<https://fortress.wa.gov/ecy/gsp/Sitepage.aspx?csid=3450>

Site information

Facility Site ID: 1026
 Cleanup Site ID: 3450

Due to COVID-19, documents related to this site will not be available at repositories or by mail. If you are unable to view information online at the Ecology website and have questions, please contact Craig Rankine, Cleanup Site Manager at Craig.Rankine@ecy.wa.gov or 360-216-9394, or Nancy Davis, Public Involvement Coordinator at 360-489-4971.

Why you received this information

You may live or own property near the site, which is the reason you received this information in the mail.

Public comment invited

The Washington Department of Ecology (Ecology) invites your comment on the draft legal agreement, Agreed Order DE 18152 (AO DE 18152), between the Port of Vancouver (port) and Ecology. The draft AO is about cleanup of hazardous substances at and near the Cadet/Swan part of the Port of Vancouver, Cadet/Swan, NuStar, and Kinder Morgan Site (Site). The port is the only potentially liable person (PLP) subject to AO DE 18152.

These are the documents for your review and comment:

- **[Draft Agreed Order No. DE 18152 \(AO DE 18152\)](https://fortress.wa.gov/ecy/gsp/docviewer.ashx?did=93659)** (https://fortress.wa.gov/ecy/gsp/docviewer.ashx?did=93659). The port will complete a feasibility study and preliminary draft cleanup action plan for the area at and near the Cadet/Swan part of the Site. Ecology will prepare the draft Cleanup Action Plan.
- **[Public Participation Plan \(revised July 2020\)](https://fortress.wa.gov/ecy/gsp/docviewer.ashx?did=93516)** (https://fortress.wa.gov/ecy/gsp/docviewer.ashx?did=93516). The plan describes how Ecology informs the community about the cleanup process.

The comment period is from **August 27 to September 27, 2020**.

The blue box on the left shows where to comment and find more information on Ecology's Site webpage.

Ecology will consider your comments before finalizing the Agreed Order. Ecology will respond to comments in a responsiveness summary after the comment period is over. The summary will be available on the Site webpage.

There will be another public comment period after the tasks in the Agreed Order are completed. The draft feasibility study, draft Cleanup Action Plan, and a new legal agreement to put the plan into effect will be available for public comment before Ecology finalizes them.

Cadet/Swan part of the Site

In 1956, the Swan Manufacturing Co. (Swan) started making electrical heaters in a leased building located at the corner of W 4th Plain Blvd and St Frances Lane. In 1964, they moved to 2500 W 4th Plain Blvd. In 1972, the Cadet Manufacturing Co. (Cadet) purchased Swan. Cadet continued to make heaters. The port purchased the former Swan site in 1982. In 2006, the port acquired the Cadet property.

Trichloroethylene (TCE) and other chlorinated solvents were released to soil and groundwater at the Cadet and Swan facilities. Cadet and Swan used the solvents as degreasers to clean sheet metal parts. The areas of solvent contamination in groundwater are called plumes.

Port of Vancouver Cadet/Swan, NuStar, and Kinder Morgan Site

NuStar Terminals Services, Inc. (NuStar) and Kinder Morgan Bulk Terminals, LLC (KMBT) are located on the Columbia River. NuStar and KMBT are located next to each other and not far from the Swan/Cadet locations. NuStar and KMBT are tenants of the port. NuStar handles bulk fertilizer and other bulk products. KMBT moves copper ore and other bulk products from rail cars to ships for export.

At the location of the former operator of the NuStar terminal, chlorinated solvents, such as the perchloroethylene (PCE) and TCE, polluted soil and groundwater. The solvents were bulk materials handled for distribution. A groundwater plume of chlorinated solvents is located under the NuStar and KMBT operational areas.

Other contaminants are also present at the NuStar and KMBT part of the Site. These include nitrate, ammonia, copper, and other metals. NuStar, KMBT, and the port are conducting a supplemental remedial investigation to assess that contamination.

Contamination at the Site has not adversely affected city or port public drinking water supply wells. Even so, cleanup of the groundwater plume and the other contaminants is important because exposure to these substances can be harmful to human health and the environment.



Historical view showing one area-wide plume

In 2009, the maximum extent of the solvent plume at the Site became known. The maximum extent of the plume is outlined by a black dashed line in Figure 1. Until recently, Ecology considered the solvent plume from the Swan/Cadet and NuStar source areas to be one area-wide plume.

Area considered for partial cleanup of the Site

The former Swan location is the two black outlined areas on Figure 1. These areas are labelled the Former Building 2220 and the Former SMC Building. The Cadet location is the red outlined area. The NuStar location is the blue outline and the KMBT location is the orange outlined area.

The yellow shaded area within the Site outline is the area considered in the draft AO DE 18152 for cleanup by the port. The NuStar and KMBT area is not shaded yellow. The area not shaded yellow is not included in the draft AO DE 18152.

Figure 1. The black dashed line outlines the maximum extent of the solvent plume. The yellow shaded area is the area considered in draft AO DE 18152.

Interim cleanups reduced the area-wide plume to separate plumes

The port has been cleaning up the Cadet/Swan area since 1998. Interim cleanups have reduced solvent concentrations in soil and groundwater. Since 2009, the port has used a pump and treat system at the Swan source area to remove solvent from the groundwater.

Figure 2 shows interim actions have greatly reduced the amount of TCE in groundwater over time. These concentration measurements are from the intermediate depth zone, about 40 to 140 feet below the surface of the ground. TCE concentration is measured in parts per billion (ppb). One ppb is a small number, try imagining about 1 second in 32 years.



Figure 2. Reduction in the size and concentration of the TCE plume in groundwater in the intermediate depth zone over time from 2009 (left) to 2019 (right).

Partial Site cleanup

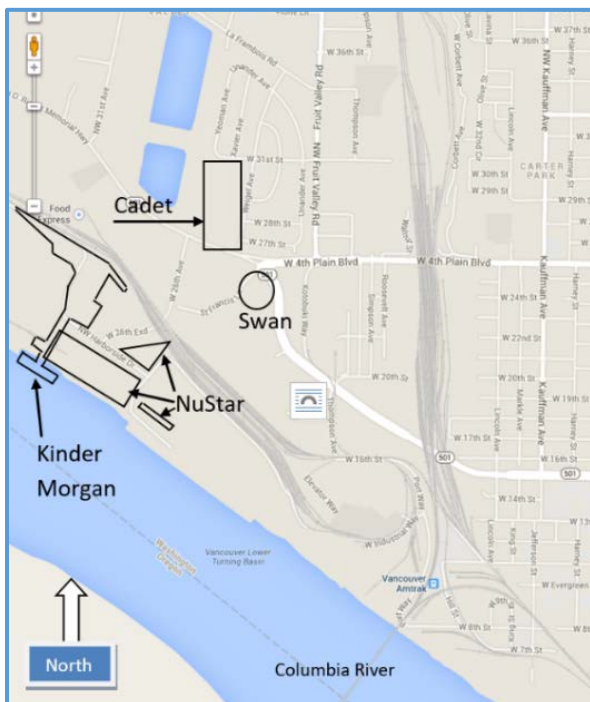
Washington’s cleanup law, the Model Toxics Control Act (MTCA), allows the port to draft a feasibility study and preliminary draft cleanup action plan for a partial Site cleanup within the whole Site.

The draft AO DE 18152 requires the port to develop cleanup alternatives specifically for cleanup of the solvents that remain in soil and groundwater in the yellow area shown in Figure 1.

After Ecology finalizes AO DE 18152, the port will complete evaluation of the partial Site cleanup. The investigation and cleanup evaluation of the Port/NuStar/KMBT part of the Site will continue at the same time. Ecology’s goal is a complete and timely cleanup of the whole Site, while protecting the health of people and the environment.

Toxics Cleanup Program
PO Box 47775
Olympia, WA 98504-7775

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Accommodation & Alternative Format

To request ADA accommodation including materials in a format for the visually impaired, call Ecology at 360-407-6831 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.

For more information about cleanup sites in the neighborhood

Go to Ecology's website:

<https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/neighborhood/>

¿Habla Español?

Si necesita esta información en español—
contáctenos a preguntas@ecy.wa.gov