

# **FORMER CORPS OF ENGINEERS MOTOR POOL – WALLA WALLA**



## **PROPOSED DELISTING FROM HAZARDOUS SITES LIST**

The Washington Department of Ecology is proposing to remove the former Corps of Engineers Motor Pool – Walla Walla (USARMY COE Walla Walla Motor Pool) (Site) from the Model Toxics Control Act (MTCA) Hazardous Sites List. Independent Cleanup Reports were submitted to Ecology in August 1997, August 1998 and March 1999. The recommendation for removal from the Hazardous Sites List is based upon review of the Final cleanup reports and supporting documents under Ecology's Voluntary Cleanup Program (VCP). Based upon the VCP review, Ecology has concluded:

- The Site no longer represents a threat to human health and/or the environment;
- Remedial actions conducted at the Site satisfy the intent of MTCA and;
- NO FURTHER ACTION is needed.

Ecology invites the public to review the Final Independent Cleanup Reports and supporting documents and to comment on the proposed removal of the Site from the Hazardous Sites List. The shaded box at the right provides information on where to review the documents and submit comments.

**Written comments will be accepted December 15, 2000 through January 18, 2001.**

### **SITE BACKGROUND**

The former Corps of Engineers Motor Pool – Walla Walla Site is located at the Regional Airport, Building 630 in Walla Walla County, Washington (Figure 1). Three underground storage tanks (USTs) were located at the motor pool facility (tank No. 58, T-4, and T-5). As part of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Defense Environmental Restoration Program (DERP) for Formerly Used Defense Sites (FUDS), removal of underground storage tank No. 58 at the facility commenced in March 1992. The tank previously contained diesel fuel and was located east of an existing pump island for diesel and unleaded gasoline in the Motor Fuel refueling area. During excavation for tank removal, petroleum contaminated soil was discovered in soils above the tank. The source was identified as a leaking fitting on the pump island adjacent to the tank.

### **SITE INVESTIGATIONS**

A limited amount of petroleum contaminated soil was removed from the tank No. 58 location to a depth of nine feet. Soil samples collected from the bottom of the excavation indicated gasoline concentrations exceeding the cleanup level still remained at nine feet; however, the gasoline concentration from a soil sample

**FACT SHEET:  
DECEMBER 2000**

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

**Questions and submission of  
written comments contact:**

**Patti Carter**  
Department of Ecology  
Toxics Cleanup Program  
4601 N. Monroe  
Spokane, WA 99205-1295  
E-mail [paca461@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:paca461@ecy.wa.gov)  
(509) 456-6167 or  
1-800-826-7716

**Mailing List Contact:**  
Carol Bergin at 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)

**PUBLIC COMMENT  
PERIOD: December 15,  
2000 through January 18,  
2001.**

collected at 12 feet was below the cleanup level. These cleanup levels are the concentrations considered to be protective of human health and the environment.

No additional work was done until November 1992 when two 3,000-gallon unleaded gasoline USTs (tanks T-4 and T-5) were removed from service and decommissioned. During tank removal, contamination was detected in the soils on both sides of tank T-4. A test pit was dug on the northeast end of the excavation to determine the extent of contamination. Excavation continued to 28 feet and a soil sample collected from this depth indicated soil contamination at concentrations above cleanup levels for gasoline, benzene, toluene, ethylbenzene, xylene (BTEX), and lead still remained. Soil borings were installed at the Site in November to determine the extent of contamination at the Site. Boring BH-1 encountered groundwater at 54 feet with a layer of free product. Four monitoring wells were installed and groundwater samples indicated the presence of gasoline in the samples, but no free product was encountered. Groundwater samples were collected again in December and results indicated trace amounts of gasoline and lead.

Additional drilling and sampling was conducted during August and September 1993. Four borings were drilled and a monitoring well was installed in one of the borings. Results from soil samples collected from the borings did not indicate the presence of contamination. Results from groundwater samples detected gasoline, benzene, and lead at concentrations exceeding the cleanup levels. The groundwater samples were collected from the

upper perched water zone; drinking water is obtained from a deeper aquifer, at approximately 120 feet below ground surface.

Since contaminated soil remained at a depth of 28 feet, additional soil was excavated to a depth of 40 feet in May 1996. Approximately 2,000 cubic yards of contaminated soil was excavated. Three additional monitoring wells were also installed in May 1996 to determine if the release from the Site had impacted the deeper aquifer. Groundwater samples were collected quarterly through August 1998. Sample results indicated the presence of gasoline, benzene, and lead in the upper perched water zone only. The upper perched water zone is not a drinking water source, or a potential source and is not hydraulically connected to the deeper aquifer. Based on sample results from the deeper aquifer, it is unlikely that contaminants would be transported to the deeper aquifer. A No Further Action determination was made for the Site, however, a restrictive covenant for the upper perched groundwater was required and was recorded in March 1999.

### **ECOLOGYS RECOMMENDATION**

Based upon the review of the VCP documents, including the results of confirmation sampling and analysis of soil and ground water, Ecology has concluded that the release of petroleum hydrocarbons to the soil and groundwater no longer represents a threat to human health and/or the environment. Ecology, under the VCP review, has determined "No Further Action" is needed and proposes the Site be removed from the Hazardous Sites List.

### **HOW CAN YOU BE INVOLVED?**

- ◆ **Review** the Final Independent Cleanup Reports and supporting documents on the proposed removal of the former Corps of Engineers Motor Pool – Walla Walla (USARMY COE Walla Walla Motor Pool) (Site) from the Hazardous Sites List.

To review documents at Ecology's Spokane office, contact Johnnie Harris of Ecology at (509) 456-2751 to schedule an appointment. Reviews may be scheduled for Monday through Thursday, 8-5 p.m. by appointment.

- ◆ Send in your written comments **December 15, 2000 through January 18, 2001 to:**  
  
Patti Carter (see box on page one for details).
- ◆ **Share this information with any individuals or groups you think should be informed about the Site.**

### **WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?**

Ecology will review all written comments received. A Responsiveness Summary of the comments and answers to questions will be prepared, if appropriate, and made available for public review at the information repository listed in the shaded box on page one. Based on the comments received, Ecology may revise the decision to remove the Site from the Hazardous Sites List.