Burlington Northern and Santa Fe Railway Company – Skykomish Site

Cleanup Update



The Sampling Results Are In

The Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) has received the results from sampling completed this past winter for the Burlington Northern and Santa Fe Railway Company (BNSF) – Skykomish site. These samples supplement previous efforts and will enable Ecology and BNSF to determine the full extent of contamination at the site.

Ecology is currently reviewing the data and will provide comments to BNSF in June. After BNSF reviews and incorporates these comments, a report (called the Remedial Investigation) explaining the data will become available in mid-July. Ecology will then hold a community meeting in Skykomish to discuss the contamination that was found.

How Can You Be Involved?

Ecology encourages you to stay informed and involved in the cleanup. By attending Ecology and SEC community meetings, reading related documents as they become available, and becoming familiar with the cleanup process, you will be able to provide Ecology and BNSF with valuable local input and knowledge that will be helpful in finding solutions for the Skykomish community.

Enclosed is a schedule of projected 2002-2003 cleanup events. Please save this schedule and refer to it as the cleanup progresses. Ecology will be holding meetings in Skykomish this summer and fall to ensure that you have opportunities to learn about the extent of contamination and potential

cleanup options, as well as to provide your ideas and share any concerns that you may have about the cleanup.

The data and maps showing sampling locations are available at the Skykomish Library and through the Skykomish Environmental Coalition. Residents who had soil or groundwater samples taken on their property received corresponding data results directly from BNSF. An analysis of these data will be available later this summer as part of the Remedial Investigation Report.

Public Participation Grant Activities

With grant funding from Ecology, the Skykomish Environmental Coalition (SEC) has hired two independent consultants to review technical documents for the BNSF-Skykomish cleanup. Daryl Petrarca of LSI-AdaPT Engineering, Inc., and Gregory Burgess of URS Corporation review cleanup reports and provide comments to Ecology and BNSF. SEC's consultants are currently reviewing the recent data.

Ecology's grant also supports SEC's efforts to keep the community informed about the cleanup process. The consultants provide explanations of the technical reports so SEC can provide education to the community and encourage your involvement. SEC is planning education and information events and activities for later this summer and fall, including a community questionnaire. For more information about SEC activities, contact Michael Moore at (360) 677-2410.

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For Technical Questions:

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For other questions or to be added to the mailing list:

Rebekah Padgett WA Department of Ecology 3190 160th Avenue SE Bellevue, WA 98008 (425) 649-7257 rpad461@ecy.wa.gov

The data can be reviewed at the following locations:

Skykomish Branch, King County Library 100 5th Avenue North, Skykomish (360) 677-2660 Weekdays only

For weekends: Contact Michael Moore (360) 677-2410

Department of Ecology 3190 160th Avenue SE Bellevue WA 98008 Call Sally Perkins 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).

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