

SCHWERIN CONCAVES, INC. SITE



PROPOSED INTERIM ACTION and SEPA DNS

The Washington Department of Ecology is proposing to conduct an Interim Action at the Schwerin Concaves, Inc. Site. The Site is a former hard chromium electroplating facility located about four miles north of Hwy. 12 on Sapolil Road in Walla Walla County, Washington.

The proposed Interim Action will include removal and disposal of chromium-contaminated soil from the Site. The decision to remove soil is based on data obtained during the Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study (RI/FS) activities. Soils at two locations known as the self-propelled area and the plating shop area are believed to be sources for chromium contamination in groundwater. Ecology believes an Interim Action aimed at source control measures is needed to protect human health and the environment in affected areas.

The Site has been identified by Ecology's Toxics Cleanup Program as an orphan site. This means the potentially liable person(s) are either financially unable or unavailable to conduct cleanup in an adequate or timely manner. Therefore, Ecology will use money from the Model Toxics Control Act (MTCA) Chapter 70.105D RCW to complete the Interim Action.

Ecology is also proposing to issue a determination of non-significance (DNS) under the State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA, Chapter 197-11 WAC) Rules. An environmental checklist has been completed and this combined with other site-specific information has led Ecology to determine that the Interim Action will not have a probable significant adverse impact on the environment.

Ecology invites the public to review and comment on the proposed Interim Action and SEPA DNS from **October 31 through November 29, 2002**. The box at the right indicates where comments may be sent and additional information found.

SITE BACKGROUND

Schwerin Concaves, Inc. has owned and operated a hard chromium electroplating facility on this property from the late 1970s to the present. Contamination of soil and groundwater has been documented at two locations at the Site.

FACT SHEET

October 2002

Para asistencia en Español

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COMMENTS ACCEPTED:

October 31 through November 29, 2002

REPOSITORIES (for document review):

Department of Ecology

Ms. Johnnie Harris
Eastern Regional Office
4601 N. Monroe
Spokane, WA 99205-1295
(509) 456-2751

Walla Walla Public Library

238 East Alder Street
Walla Walla, WA 99362
Hours: Mon & Tues 12-8
Wed 10-8
Th, Fri & Sat 10-5

Technical questions/submission of comments:

Mr. William J. Fees, P.E.

Department of Ecology
Toxics Cleanup Program
4601 N. Monroe
Spokane, WA 99205-1295
(509) 625-5190 or
1-800-826-7716
e-mail: wfee461@ecy.wa.gov

Mailing list or to request a public meeting/hearing:

Carol Bergin at Ecology
1-800-826-7716 or (509) 456-6360.

Releases from a tank formerly used to store and treat wastewater resulted in high levels of hexavalent chromium contamination in soil and groundwater. The tank is located just north of the electroplating shop where soil contamination has been documented as deep as 24 feet. Chromium contamination in soil has also occurred in the area previously used to store "self-propelled" equipment. Wastewater and/or wastewater treatment sludge containing chromium was placed in the self-propelled area and allowed to evaporate. Soil contamination at this location has been documented as deep as nine feet.

Chromium contamination has also been detected in monitoring wells on the site. The extent of the soil and groundwater contamination has not been fully characterized.

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

Ecology will review all written comments submitted on the Proposed Interim Action and SEPA DNS and prepare a Responsiveness Summary. The Summary will be available in the repositories listed in the box on page one. If necessary, the documents may be modified.

HOW YOU MAY BE INVOLVED

- ◆ **Review the Proposed Interim Action and SEPA DNS October 31, 2002 through November 29, 2002.**

Copies of the documents are available at the repositories listed in the shaded box on page one of this fact sheet. Files may be reviewed at Ecology in Spokane Monday through Thursday, 8-5 p.m. by appointment only.

- ◆ **Submit written comments by November 29, 2002** to Mr. William J. Fees, Site Manager, at the Ecology address listed in the shaded box on page one.
- ◆ **Share this information** with interested individuals or groups.