UNOCAL Edmonds Bulk Fuel Terminal

Draft Interim Action Report & SEPA Documents Available for Public Review and Comment



Public comment is currently sought on proposed cleanup actions to be performed this summer at the UNOCAL Edmonds Bulk Fuel Terminal site in Edmonds, Washington. The public is encouraged to review and comment on the draft Interim Action Report and State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) documents between May 1 and 30, 2003.

Proposed Interim Action

An interim action is planned for this summer to clean up an area of the site that can be addressed immediately. The cleanup work will be conducted in the Lower Yard (see figure).

This interim action will excavate contaminated soil/sediments from stormwater Detention Basin 1 in the north part of the site, and from the southwest portion of the site. This action will remove soil known to need cleanup. It is not a final cleanup action for these portions of the site.

The SEPA environmental checklist and Determination of Non-Significance (DNS) also are available for public review at this time. This checklist is an evaluation of the environmental factors that may be impacted if this cleanup work is conducted. The Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) has reviewed the checklist and determined that no significant environmental impacts will be caused by this cleanup work. Impacts due to construction activities such as truck traffic and noise are being addressed as they have been for previous work at the site.

Next Steps

Cleanup of the upper yard started in June 2001. Cleanup was completed in March 2003. A final report is being prepared. When Ecology has reviewed and approved the final report, a public comment period will be held. After addressing any comments received during the public comment period, Ecology will issue a certificate of completion for this portion of the site. This comment period is anticipated to occur in Summer 2003.

Fieldwork was conducted between 1994 and 1996 to determine the extent of contamination at the whole site. Supplemental information has been collected at the site, and a report (called a Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study [RI/FS]) describing this work and evaluating cleanup alternatives for the Lower Yard will be available for public comment in Winter/Spring 2004. Ecology will select cleanup actions for the Lower Yard in Winter 2004-2005, after which a public comment period and public meeting will be held on the draft Cleanup Action Plan and Consent Decree for the Lower Yard. Final cleanup activities at the Lower Yard will commence in Summer/Fall 2005.

May 2003

Comment Period: May 1-30, 2003

Public Meeting:

Edmonds Citizen's Awareness Committee will hold a public meeting:

May 14, 2003 5:30 - 6:30PM

Edmonds City Hall Brackett Meeting Room 121 5th Avenue North – 3rd Floor

Call Frances Murphy for more information at (425) 743-3339

Send Comments to:

David L. South, Site Manager WA Department of Ecology 3190 160th Avenue SE Bellevue, WA 98008 (425) 649-7200 dsou461@ecy.wa.gov

Site documents can be reviewed at the following locations:

Edmonds Public Library 650 Main Street, Edmonds

Mountlake Terrace Public Library 23300 58th Avenue West Mountlake Terrace

Lynnwood Public Library 19200 44th Avenue West, Lynnwood

WA Department of Ecology 3190 160th Avenue SE Bellevue WA 98008 Call for an appointment Phone: (425) 649-7190

Ecology's Web Site: http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/ tcp/sites/sites_information.html

If you have special accommodation needs or require this document in alternative format, please contact Rebekah Padgett at (425) 649-7257 (Voice) or 711 or 1-800-833-6388 (TTY).

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Public Comment on the Draft Interim Action Report & SEPA Documents

Ecology is holding a public comment period from May 1-30, 2003, during which you may comment on the draft Interim Action Report, SEPA environmental checklist, and SEPA DNS. These documents are available at the information repositories listed on the first page of this fact sheet.

The Edmonds Citizen's Awareness Committee (ECAC) will hold a public meeting on the proposed cleanup activities on May 14, 2003, at the Edmonds City Hall (see box on page 1 for details). ECAC receives grant funding from Ecology to hire independent consultants to review technical documents for the UNOCAL Edmonds site. The consultants review cleanup reports and provide comments to Ecology and UNOCAL. They also provide explanations of technical reports so ECAC can provide education to the community and encourage your involvement. For more information about ECAC activities, contact Frances Murphy at (425) 743-3339.

Once the public comment period ends, Ecology will review all comments received and will make recommendations for any suggested changes to the documents. If no significant changes are made, the Interim Action Report will be considered final and cleanup activities in the Lower Yard will begin. You will have future opportunities to review and comment on the draft RI/FS and on the Cleanup Action Plan and Consent Decree for the site.

Ecology would like your input!

You have an opportunity to review the draft Interim Action Report and SEPA documents and to comment on them. Please send your comments before May 30, 2003, to Ecology's Site Manager, David L. South, at the address in the box on the first page of this fact sheet. Comments may be sent by mail or e-mail.

Site Background

The UNOCAL Edmonds Bulk Fuel Terminal operated from 1923 to 1991. The facility was primarily used for storing, blending and distributing various petroleum products, including gasoline, diesel, and bunker fuel. An asphalt plant also was operated on UNOCAL's property between 1953 and the late 1970s. Fuel has not been received by the facility since 1991.

The current UNOCAL facility consists of an Upper and Lower Yard (see figure). Truck-loading racks,

office buildings, a laboratory, and an asphalt plant were located in the Lower Yard. The Upper Yard is on the eastern hillside and included 23 aboveground storage tanks. During the course of more than 60 years of operation, petroleum releases occurred at the UNOCAL facility. Petroleum contamination now exists in the soil on the UNOCAL property and has been detected floating on the groundwater beneath the property.

The primary environmental issues at the site are:

- (1) Upper Yard shallow soil was contaminated with petroleum and sand blast grit. The sand blast grit was used to clean the exterior of tanks and piping prior to repainting and contained heavy metals such as arsenic, lead and zinc. As noted above, removal of this contamination was completed in March 2003. The projected future land use for the Upper Yard is residential.
- (2) Lower Yard migration of petroleum from contaminated soil to groundwater and potentially then to surface water, as well as transport of petroleum from areas where floating product occurs on groundwater. The Lower Yard also has areas of sand blast grit in surface soil. The projected future land use for the Lower Yard is commercial/light industrial.

The site is being cleaned up by UNOCAL with oversight by Ecology. In addition, the Edmonds Citizens Awareness Committee (ECAC), the City of Edmonds, and the Port of Edmonds are participating in review of the work. UNOCAL, ECAC, the City, the Port, and Ecology meet regularly to discuss progress and upcoming cleanup steps.

The cleanup is being conducted under a legal agreement between UNOCAL and Ecology known as an Agreed Order. The Agreed Order requires that the nature and extent of contamination be delineated and feasible alternatives for addressing the contamination developed and evaluated. This work is known collectively as a remedial investigation and feasibility study (RI/FS).

In 2001, the aboveground storage tanks in the upper yard were removed. Petroleum product floating on underground water beneath the lower yard was removed.

In 2002 and early 2003, petroleum and sand blast grit contamination in the upper yard was removed. The proposed work that we are asking you to comment on is a continuation of cleanup work at the site.



UNOCAL Edmonds Bulk Fuel Terminal Site:

Ecology Seeks Public Comment on Draft Interim Action Report

Public Comment Period May 1-30, 2003

For more information:

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To be added to the mailing list:

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