
Briggs Nursery

Agreed Order for Remedial Investigation /Feasibility Study (RI/FS) Proposed



Agreed Order for Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study (RI/FS) and Risk Assessment

You are being asked to comment on the Briggs Nursery Agreed Order and attend the public hearing scheduled for August 11, 2004. Detailed information follows.

The Washington Department of Ecology, Briggs Nursery, Inc., and Gary E. Briggs have agreed to a Model Toxics Control Act (MTCA, Chapter 70.105D RCW) Order to conduct a Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study and Risk Assessment (RI/FS/RA) of soil, sediment, groundwater, and surface water potentially contaminated with pesticides, metals, PCBs, and dioxins/furans at the Briggs Nursery site. In June 2004, the site was ranked on the Hazardous Sites List as a 2, (1 being high priority relative to other sites statewide, 5 being low). An Agreed Order is a legal document formalizing an agreement between Ecology and potentially liable persons (PLPs), to ensure that proposed site cleanup activities are conducted in a timely fashion, in accordance with MTCA and other applicable laws and regulations.

Your comments on this proposed Agreed Order are welcome through **August 31, 2004**. You are also invited to a meeting on **August 11, 2004** to discuss the proposal, ask questions, and offer comments or concerns. The meeting will be limited to issues covered by this Agreed Order only. The box to the right provides information about where to review the Agreed Order, where to submit comments, and details about the public meeting.

Site Background

The 120-acre Briggs Nursery, 4407 Henderson Boulevard SE, is a semi-active wholesale nursery owned and operated by Briggs Nursery, Inc. Gary E. Briggs owns the property located at the intersection of Yelm Highway and Henderson Boulevard SE. Briggs Nursery borders Ward Lake on the east and includes six *kettles* (natural craters or large holes formed from ice that has separated from a glacier) which collect and hold stormwater from nursery operations, Henderson Boulevard, and undeveloped areas. The site consists of undeveloped land, plant growing operations, greenhouses, a warehouse, shop, chemical storage trailers, an office building, and laboratory. An on-site deep water well is used for irrigation. The land is currently scheduled for development as the Briggs Urban Village and contamination must be identified and removed before development can begin.

Investigations conducted in 1996 and 2000 identified pesticides (DDE, DDT), metals (thallium, arsenic, chromium), PCBs (polychlorinated biphenyls), and dioxin/furans in soil. A 1998 study discovered two underground storage tanks, several septic systems, and chemical mixing areas with evidence of spillage. Run-off from these chemical

July 2004

FACT SHEET

WA State Department of Ecology
Southwest Regional Office
Toxics Cleanup Program
300 Desmond Dr.
PO Box 47775
Olympia, WA 98504-7775
(360)407-6261
lpea461@ecy.wa.gov

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD ON: AGREED ORDER FOR RI/FS:

July 30 to August 31, 2004

Comments and requests for updates should be directed to Lisa Pearson, Site Manager, at the Ecology address listed above, e-mail lpea461@ecy.wa.gov, or call (360)407-6261.

**PUBLIC MEETING AUGUST 11, '04
7:00-8:45 pm**

Briggs YMCA – 2nd floor
1530 Yelm Hwy SE
Olympia, WA 98501
ADA accessible

Documents are available for public review at:

Southwest Regional Office address listed above

Olympia Timberland Library
313 8th Avenue SE
Olympia, WA 98501-9300
360-352-0595

www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/tcp/sites/sites_information.html

www.ecy.wa.gov, then click on "Public Events Calendar"

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mixing areas empties into the kettles. Surface water and wastewater from some plumbing fixtures also flow to the kettles. In 2003, Ecology observed stormwater and sediment flowing from the site to Ward Lake through overflow pipes from the Northeast Kettle.

Starting in August 2002, Briggs Nursery, Inc. and Gary E. Briggs cleaned up a 5-acre piece of the site (called the Briggs Nursery Debris Field) by removing buried solid waste and pesticide-contaminated soil and sediment. This section of the site was removed from the Hazardous Sites List in October 2003 and is not part of this Agreed Order.

What Is Being Done?

The Agreed Order requires Briggs Nursery, Inc. and Gary E. Briggs to conduct a Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study and Risk Assessment (RI/FS/RA) of soil, sediment, groundwater, and surface water contaminated with pesticides, metals, PCBs, and dioxins/furans. The remedial investigation will determine the nature, extent, and magnitude of site contamination. The work will be conducted in three phases (Areas 1, 2 and 3), as the nursery business moves. Some of the investigation will occur after existing buildings have been demolished since potential contamination is underneath. The risk assessment will measure the threats to human health and the environment. The feasibility study will evaluate site cleanup alternatives. Ecology will oversee implementation of the Agreed Order to ensure that all parts of the Order are fulfilled.

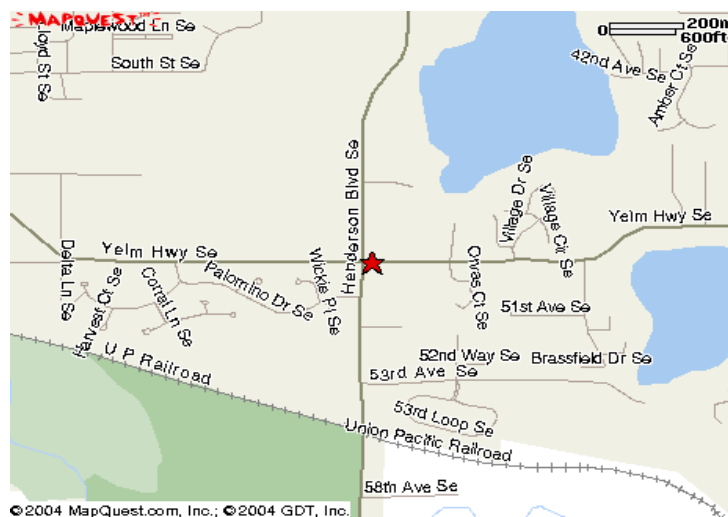
What Happens Next?

Public comments on the proposed Agreed Order will be considered and the order will be modified, if necessary, based on the comments received. The work for the RI/FS/RA should be completed by January 2008. Further formal public comment opportunities will occur after the RI/FS/RA is completed for each of the three Areas.

Ecology Wants Your Comments!

You are invited to review and comment on the proposed Agreed Order through **August 31, 2004**. The public comment period presents an opportunity to have your ideas and comments heard by Ecology. A public meeting is being held on **August 11, 2004**. This will be a chance to learn about the site and proposed Agreed Order, and to offer your comments or concerns. The box on page one provides details about where the documents can be found, where to submit comments, and details about the public meeting. To review more detailed site documents than those in the information repositories, contact Ecology's Southwest Regional Office records center at (360) 407-6365 to schedule an appointment.

Please submit your written comments to Lisa Pearson, Site Manager, at the Ecology address listed in the box on page one. Ecology will review and respond to all comments received, and may revise the Agreed Order. Updates of site activities will be provided to those who submit comments or request to be placed on the site mailing list. (If you received this fact sheet directly from Ecology, you are already on the site mailing list.)



**DIRECTIONS TO
BRIGGS YMCA
FOR AUGUST 11
PUBLIC MEETING**