

Bridgeport Elementary and Orondo Elementary Schools Douglas County



Interim Remedial Action and SEPA Determination of Non-Significance

The Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) is providing an opportunity for the public to comment on the Interim Remedial Action Plan and the issuance of a Determination of Non-Significance (DNS) for the soil cleanups at two schools in Douglas County, Washington. Orondo School is located at 100 School Road and the Bridgeport School is located at 1400 Tacoma Avenue.

Site Background

Soil beneath the grass on the playgrounds at the two schools is contaminated with lead and arsenic. The contamination likely comes from the use of these chemicals as orchard pest sprays in the early and mid 20th century.

Sampling

Sampling and analysis indicate that contamination exceeds state cleanup levels for lead and arsenic. Ecology has considered several alternatives for cleanup.

Cleanup Action

The alternative preferred by Ecology at both schools consists primarily of placing clean soil on top of the existing soil, and establishing new grass on this clean soil. Ecology has determined that this alternative will provide the necessary barrier to prevent human exposure to the

contaminants. At each school, the plan includes modification of the existing irrigation system to maintain the turf grass cover.

Determination of Non-Significance

After reviewing the State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) environmental checklist, Ecology has determined that the cleanup action will not have a probable significant adverse impact on the environment and an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is not required and is issuing a Determination of Non-Significance (DNS). The checklist and DNS may be reviewed at the locations listed in the information box on the right.

Ecology Seeks Your Comments

Ecology is accepting comments on the Interim Action Plan and SEPA DNS March 28, 2007 through April 30, 2007. The box on the right provides information on where to review documents and submit comments. A public meeting is not planned for this comment period. A meeting will be held if ten or more people make a request.

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March 2007

Ecology is Accepting Comments
March 28, 2007 through April 30, 2007

Review Documents at
WA Department of Ecology
Central Regional Office
15 W Yakima Avenue, Ste 200
Yakima WA 98902
Roger Johnson, Public Disclosure
509/454-7658

Bridgeport School
1400 Tacoma Avenue
Bridgeport WA 98813

Orondo Elementary School
100 School Road
Orondo WA 98843

Ecology's Toxics Cleanup Web Site
http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/tcp/sites/bridgeport/bridgeport_hp.htm

Submit Comments or Technical Questions to

Jeff Newschwander
WA Department of Ecology
Toxics Cleanup Program
15 W Yakima Avenue, Ste 200
Yakima WA 98902
509/454-7842
jene461@ecy.wa.gov

Direct All Other Questions to

Frosti Smith
Public Involvement Coordinator
WA Department of Ecology
15 W Yakima Avenue, Ste 200
Yakima WA 98902
509/454-7841
fsmi461@ecy.wa.gov

What Happens Next

Ecology reviews the comments received and modifies the documents, if appropriate.

Responses are sent to all commenters in a document called a Responsiveness Summary. If significant changes are made to the documents, there will be an additional public comment period. If no significant changes are made, the document(s) are considered final and the project will proceed as scheduled.

For information about other opportunities for public involvement such as meetings, hearings, open houses and workshops, please visit Ecology's Public Involvement Calendar at <http://apps.ecy.wa.gov/publiccalendar/calendar.asp>

While you are at the calendar page, you may click on the link *Frequently Asked Questions about Effective Public Commenting* and learn more about the public comment process.