

Whitney's Chevrolet

123 W. Pioneer Avenue, Montesano



Agreed Order for a Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study Available for Public Comment, SEPA Early Scoping Notice

You Are Being Asked To Comment

Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) and three potentially liable parties (PLPs) have entered into an agreed order (agreement) to perform a **Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study (RI/FS)** at the site known as Whitney's Chevrolet.

The PLPs include:

- Whitney's Chevrolet, Inc.
- Caldwell Family Holdings, LLC.
- Wyochee Lodge #42 F&AM.

Whitney's Chevrolet is located at 123 W. Pioneer Avenue in Montesano (map on page 3). The site is polluted with **volatile organic compounds (VOCs)** and **gasoline range petroleum hydrocarbons**.

These pollutants are a potential hazard to human health and the environment (see page 2 for more information).



Under the agreed order, the PLPs agree to:

- Determine if underground storage tanks are still on the site.
- Investigate the nature and extent of pollution in soil and groundwater.
- Study the feasibility of cleanup alternatives.
- Work with Ecology on cleanup of the site.

The agreed order is now available for you to review and comment on.

The box at the right has information on where to view this document and how to submit your comments. **Please submit your comments May 30 to June 29, 2007.**

Site Background

The business run by Whitney's Chevrolet, Inc. used to store and sell gasoline at 123 W. Pioneer Avenue. In 1995, they had three underground storage tanks removed. Soil samples taken from the pit where the tanks sat showed high levels of benzene, toluene, ethylbenzene, and xylene (BTEX).

June 2007 Fact Sheet

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

May 30 through June 29, 2007

Direct Your Questions & Written Comments to:

Dom Reale, Site Manager
WA Department of Ecology
SWRO Toxics Cleanup Program
PO Box 47775
Olympia, WA 98504-7775
(360) 407-6266
drea461@ecy.wa.gov

Public Involvement Questions:

Hannah Aoyagi
(360) 407-6790
haoy461@ecy.wa.gov

Locations where you may view a copy of the agreed order:

W.H. Abel Library
125 Main Street South
Montesano, WA 98563
(360) 249-4211

Montesano City Hall
112 North Main Street
Montesano, WA 98563
(360) 249-3021

WA Department of Ecology
SWRO Toxics Cleanup Program
300 Desmond Drive
PO Box 47775
Olympia, WA 98504-7775
(360) 407-6365
dene461@ecy.wa.gov

Web Site:

http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/tcp/sites/whitneys/whitneys_hp.htm

Facility Site Identification Number
36813164

What is an agreed order?



An Agreed Order is a legal agreement between Ecology and potentially liable persons (PLPs) responsible for cleaning up polluted sites under the state's Model Toxics Control Act, Chapter 70.105D.

The purpose of the agreement is to protect human health and the environment.

Pollutants on the Whitney's Chevrolet Site



Gasoline range petroleum hydrocarbons

These chemicals are found in gasoline and include BTEX and other toxic compounds. Humans can be exposed to petroleum hydrocarbons by breathing them in air, swallowing them in water, food, or soil, and through skin contact with fuels.

Volatile organic compounds (VOCs)

VOCs are gases emitted from certain solids or liquids. They can also be dissolved into groundwater, as at the Whitney's Chevrolet site.

VOCs can come from **fuel, automotive products, paints,** and other industrial and household products.

More information about these pollutants and their health effects is available at <http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov> and <http://www.epa.gov>.

In 2003, Ecology found that waste solvents and waste oil were being put into fuel storage tanks. The tanks were then decommissioned and cleaned. However, solvents were found in groundwater on the Sterling Savings Bank property next door.

During the spring and summer of 2005, Ecology found gasoline range hydrocarbons and VOCs in both soil and groundwater samples. These samples were taken on and around the Whitney's Chevrolet property and were part of a larger investigation in downtown Montesano.

A fall 2005 Site Hazard Assessment (SHA) reviewed past land use, sampling results, and other site information. Based on this SHA, the site was ranked 3 (see box below) and Ecology decided that the PLPs should begin a formal

Site Hazard Ranking

All sites that have a Site Hazard Assessment (SHA) are given a ranking based on their potential risk to human health and the environment.

Sites are ranked on a scale of 1-5, with 1 being the highest risk. Sites must then be cleaned up to meet state standards under MTCA.

cleanup under the **Model Toxics Control Act** (Chapter 70.105D RCW).

What Happens Next?

Public comments help Ecology recognize local concerns and plan cleanups that benefit the community and the environment. Your input during this comment period will help to guide work on the RI/FS.

Comments will also be used in the SEPA environmental review process (see box below). Before the site cleanup begins, Ecology must review any potential negative impacts of the work. You will have another chance to comment on the environmental review after the RI/FS, at the Cleanup Action Plan (CAP) stage.

State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) Early Scoping Notice



Environmental cleanup projects must be reviewed to see if they will have negative impacts such as:

- Harm to human health or the environment.
- Harm to endangered species and their habitats.
- Increased traffic or noise.

A SEPA determination has not been made for this site. Ecology will be working on the SEPA review during the RI/FS. This is an opportunity for the public to be involved early in the process.

Please use this comment period to help Ecology identify environmental issues that need to be evaluated.

Ecology will provide more chances for public comment as the cleanup of Whitney's Chevrolet moves forward. Your next opportunity to comment will be when the RI/FS and draft cleanup action plan are published.

Ecology Wants Your Comments

You are invited to review and comment on the agreed order and provide input for the SEPA environmental review process.

Ecology will respond to your comments at end of the public comment period (**May 30 through June 29, 2007**). Please see the box on the front page of this fact sheet for details on how to review the agreed order and provide comments.



What else is Ecology doing in Montezano?

Montezano Soil & Groundwater Investigation

Ecology is currently investigating and monitoring soil and groundwater polluted with petroleum. This work is being done throughout the downtown area.

http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/tcp/sites/montezano/montezano_hp.htm

Other cleanup sites include:

Pedersen Property—419 and 420 1st Street

http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/tcp/sites/pedersen/pedersen_hp.htm

Brumfield Twidwell—301 East Pioneer Avenue

http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/tcp/sites/brumfield/brumfield_hp.htm

Tony's Short Stop—326 South Main Street

<http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/tcp/sites/>

**Whitney's Chevrolet
123 W. Pioneer Ave., Montezano**



**Department of Ecology
Southwest Regional Office
PO Box 47775
Olympia, WA 98504-7775**

**Whitney's Chevrolet — Agreed
Order for a Remedial
Investigation and Feasibility
Study (RI/FS)**

**Public Comment
May 30 - June 29, 2007**