

Downtown Safeway

609 4th Avenue, Olympia



Agreed Order for Remedial Investigation and Interim Cleanup Action, and SEPA Determination Available for Public Comment

Investigation and Cleanup

The Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) is working with the City of Olympia to investigate and clean up the Downtown Safeway site. This is the planned site for the new Olympia City Hall building.

The City has agreed to do the following work:

- **Interim action** (partial cleanup action) to investigate and clean up possible pollution from underground storage tanks. These tanks will be addressed first to prevent further contamination.
- **Remedial investigation** of the extent and nature of pollution at the site.
- **Feasibility study** to compare possible cleanup actions.
- **Draft cleanup action plan.** This plan will guide the final cleanup process.

Ecology wants your comments!

You are invited to review and comment on these cleanup documents:

- Agreed Order (legal agreement) for an interim action and investigation and cleanup of the site.
- State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) Checklist and Determination (see page 2).
- Public Participation Plan

The box on the right side of this page has information about where you can find the agreed order and how to submit your comments. **Please submit your comments April 10 to May 9, 2008.**

What is Ecology's role?

Ecology will oversee the entire cleanup process for the Downtown Safeway site, and will develop the final cleanup action plan (CAP). The goal is to protect human health and the environment

April 2008 Fact Sheet

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

April 10 through May 9, 2008
SEPA comments welcome through April 24, 2008

Direct Your Questions & Written Comments to:

Guy Barrett, Site Manager
WA Department of Ecology
SWRO Toxics Cleanup Program
PO Box 47775
Olympia, WA 98504-7775
(360) 407-7115
gbar461@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 and SEPA documents:

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

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

Web Site:

http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/tcp/sites/dntwnSafeway/dntwnSafeway_hp.htm

Facility Site Identification
#6105358



For information about the City Hall building process, please visit:

<http://www.ci.olympia.wa.us/newsfaqs/CityHall/>

(Downtown Safeway site photo)

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by cleaning up toxic pollution to meet state cleanup standards. Ecology's role is also to coordinate public involvement related to the cleanup process.

Questions and comments about the City Hall building process should be directed to Rick Dougherty at (360) 753-8485 or by e-mail at rdougher@ci.olympia.wa.us.

Background

The Downtown Safeway site is located at 609 4th Avenue East in Olympia. The 1.23 acre parcel is home to a former Safeway store, a two story building, and a 27,000 square foot parking lot.

A 2007 study found that as many as five abandoned underground storage tanks might be located on the site. Soil and groundwater samples showed concentrations of several pollutants above state cleanup levels (see box to the right for more information).

In January of 2008, Ecology notified the City of Olympia that they were a "potentially liable person" (PLP). The City is currently working with Ecology to plan the interim cleanup action and remedial investigation.

State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) Determination of Non-Significance



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.

The proposed interim cleanup actions at the Downtown Safeway site are not expected to negatively impact the environment or surrounding community.

The SEPA checklist and determination are available at the locations listed on the front of this fact sheet.

Site Pollutants



Total petroleum hydrocarbons (TPH)
These chemicals are found in gasoline and include many toxic compounds.

Humans can be exposed to petroleum hydrocarbons by breathing them in air, ingestion, and through skin contact.



Trichloroethylene (TCE)
This toxic substance is used as a solvent to remove grease from metal parts, and as an ingredient in paint removers and glues.

Humans can be exposed by breathing in TCE, skin contact with TCE-contaminated soils, or drinking TCE-contaminated water.



Benzene
A widely used industrial chemical, benzene is found in gasoline and other petroleum fuels, as well as in smoke and exhaust.

Humans are typically exposed by breathing benzene in a vapor form. Long term exposure can cause blood and bone marrow problems.

What Happens Next?

The City of Olympia plans to begin interim cleanup actions at the end of the SEPA comment period (April 25). Although this partial cleanup may happen during the end of the comment period, public comments will still be addressed.

Ecology will consider and respond to all comments in the **responsiveness summary**. This document will be available at the locations listed on page one, and those submitting comments will receive a copy.

The public will have an opportunity to provide comments on the remedial investigation/feasibility study report and draft cleanup plan.



WA Department of Ecology Cleanup Sites in Olympia

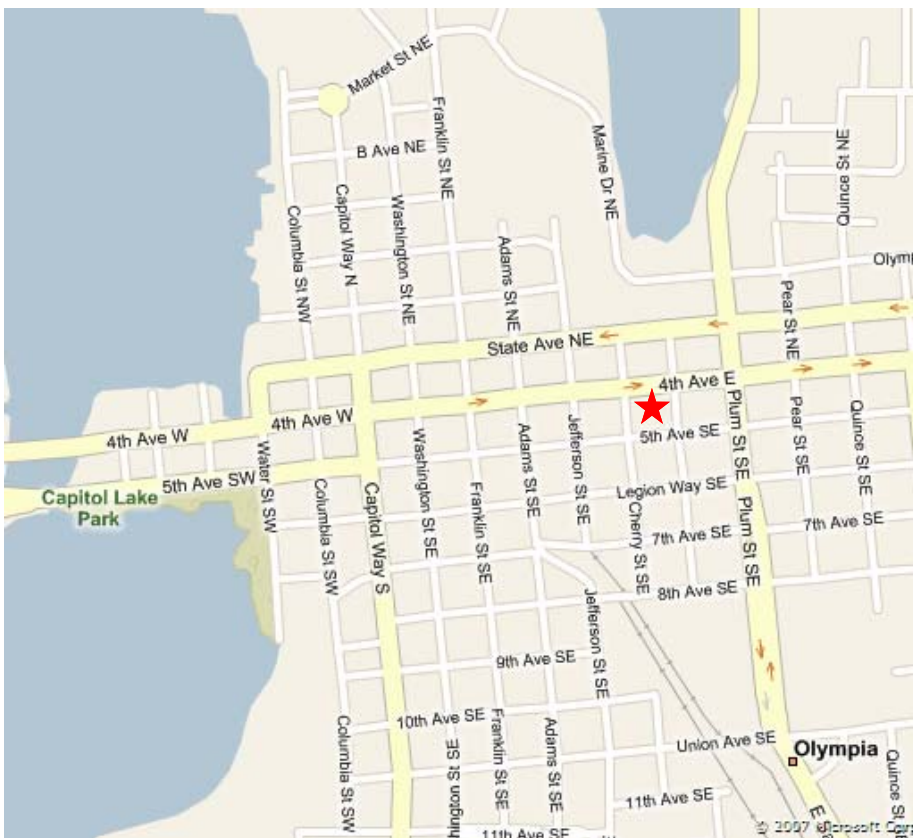
1. West Bay Marina
2100 West Bay Drive*
2. Budd Inlet Sediments
Investigation*
3. Hardel Mutual Plywood
1210 West Bay Drive*
4. Reliable Steel Inc.
1218 West Bay Drive*
5. Industrial Petroleum Inc.
1117 West Bay Drive
6. Solid Wood Inc.
700 West Bay Drive
7. Cascade Pole
1100 Washington Street NE*
8. Port of Olympia Voluntary Cleanup
724 State Street NE
9. Downtown Safeway
609 4th Avenue

*More information about these cleanup sites can be found on the Ecology Web site at http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/tcp/sites/sites_information.html.



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

Toxics Cleanup Program



Downtown Safeway Cleanup Site Cleanup Agreement and SEPA Determination

Public Comment April 10 - May 9, 2008
SEPA Comment Through April 24, 2008

Why did I receive this mailing?

The State Department of Ecology and City of Olympia are working together to investigate and clean up the Downtown Safeway site at 609 4th Avenue. This fact sheet is being sent to residents, business owners, and other local stakeholders.

What can I do?

Please share any concerns or questions about this cleanup, or information you might have about the history of this site.

To be removed from this mailing list:
 Please call Hannah Aoyagi at (360) 407-6790 or e-mail haoy461@ecy.wa.gov.

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