

Proposed Consent Decree and Cleanup Action Plan Ready for Public Review

The Washington Department of Ecology (Ecology) is proposing to enter into a Consent Decree with the current owners, the City of Yakima and the County of Yakima, to continue cleanup efforts at Richardson Airways ("Site"). A Consent Decree a formal legal agreement filed in court. At this site, the consent decree outlines the cleanup necessary to remove contamination, and establishes a timeline for that work to be completed. It also ensures the cleanup meets the standards of Washington State's cleanup law, the Model Toxics Control Act.

Site Background

Richardson Airways is located at the Yakima Airport, 2400 West Washington Avenue, in Yakima County, Washington. From 1953 to 1992, Mr. Ralph Richardson operated an aerial crop-spraying business from leased Yakima Airport property. After spraying operations, planes were parked in a certain area and washed down. Soil sampling has shown this area to have pesticide and herbicide contamination above state cleanup levels. From 1992 to 1993, an investigation to determine the extent of contamination was conducted. Soil and groundwater was sampled. Soil contamination was confirmed, but no contamination was found in the groundwater.

In 1997, Ecology entered into a Consent Decree with the potentially liable parties to continue monitoring the groundwater and place a restrictive covenant on the property. The restrictive covenant would limit exposure to soil contamination by restricting access to the site. Restrictive covenants are recorded with the deed of the property. They run with the land, and are binding on future property owners.

Recently, City of Yakima and the County of Yakima has expressed an interest in developing the site. Therefore, the soil

Comments Accepted

October 31, 2008 through
December 5, 2008

Submit Comments and Technical Questions to:

Dick Bassett- Site Manager
WA Department of Ecology
Toxics Cleanup Program
Central Regional Office
15 W Yakima Avenue, Suite 200
Yakima WA 98902
Phone: (509) 454-7839
E-mail: rbas461@ecy.wa.gov

DOCUMENT REVIEW LOCATIONS

Yakima Valley Regional Library

102 N 3rd Street
Yakima WA 98901
Phone: (509) 452-8541
Hours: Monday-Wednesday 9-9
Thursday-Friday 9-6
Saturday 10-6
Sunday 12-4

WA Department of Ecology Central Regional Office

15 W Yakima Avenue, Ste 200
Yakima WA 98902
By appointment only:
Contact Roger Johnson,
rjoh461@ecy.wa.gov or
(509) 454-7658

Ecology's Toxics Cleanup Website

http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/tcp/sites/richardson/richardson_hp.html

Facility Site ID #: 442

contamination must be removed. Ecology is currently negotiating a second consent decree. This decree would outline the specific steps necessary to clean up the site. These steps are detailed in a document prepared by Ecology called the Cleanup Action Plan (CAP).

Determination of Non-Significance

After reviewing a State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) environmental checklist, Ecology has made a decision that the cleanup will not have a significant negative impact on the environment. The checklist and determination of non-significance are part of the documents available for public comment.

Public Comment Invited

Ecology is asking for your comments on the proposed Consent Decree and Cleanup Action Plan.

You are invited to:

- **Review** the draft Consent Decree, draft Cleanup Action Plan, and SEPA documents.
- **Send** your comments to Ecology for consideration. Comments will be accepted *October 31, 2008 through December 5, 2008.*

See the on the front page for details.

What can you do?

1. Read about the cleanup in this handout.
2. To get more detailed information, review the supporting documents at the locations listed on the front page.
3. Write down your comments and questions. Send them to the Department of Ecology at the address shown on the back page.

We appreciate your comments and concerns. *Thank you.*

Help with other languages and formats?

If you need this publication in an alternative format, call Frosti Smith at (509) 454-7841. Persons with hearing loss, call 711 for Washington Relay Service. Persons with speech disability call 877-833-6341.