

## **Proposed Excavation and Disposal Plan Ready for Public Review**

The Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) entered into a Consent Decree with the current owners of the Yakima Airport, the City of Yakima and the County of Yakima. The Consent Decree is for the excavation and disposal of pesticide contaminated soils at the Richardson Airways Facility (Site). The excavation is scheduled to occur in December of 2009. Approximately 2,200 cubic yards of contaminated soils will be excavated and disposed of at the Terrace Heights Landfill.

### **Public Comment Invited**

Ecology is asking for your comments on the Engineering Design Report. You are invited to:

- **Review** the Engineering Design Report.
- **Send** your comments to Ecology for consideration. Comments will be accepted *October 14, 2009 through November 16, 2009*.

See the box at the right for details.

### **Site Background**

Richardson Airways was located at the Yakima Airport, 2400 West Washington Avenue, in Yakima County, Washington. From 1953 to 1994, 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 their tanks were rinsed out, allowing pesticides to contaminate the soil. An investigation in 1992 and 1993 revealed soil contamination above state cleanup levels for pesticides. No groundwater contamination was found to be above state cleanup levels.

In 1997, Ecology entered into a Consent Decree with the City and County of Yakima to continue monitoring the groundwater and

### **Comments Accepted**

October 14, 2009 through  
November 16, 2009

#### **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](http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/tcp/sites/richardson/richardson_hp.html)

Facility Site ID #: 442

## Toxics Cleanup Program

limit exposure to soil contamination through the use of a restrictive covenant. Restrictive covenants are restrictions on land use or activities and are recorded with the deed of the property. They run with the land, and are binding on future property owners. Recently, the City of Yakima and the County of Yakima have expressed an interest in developing the Site. Therefore, the soil contamination would have to be addressed.

On December 26, 2008, Ecology negotiated a second consent decree with the City and County. This decree outlined the specific steps necessary to clean up and address the soil contamination. These steps were detailed in a document prepared by Ecology called a Cleanup Action Plan (CAP). The CAP called for excavation and disposal of contaminated soils.

During April and June of 2009, additional soil sampling at the site was completed. This sampling helped to define the extent of the contamination in the soil.

The City and County's consultant has prepared an Engineering Design Report that addresses the extent of excavation of the contaminated soils. This document is available for public review and comment.

### 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.

