



Draft Remedial Investigation Report Completed

Kaiser Aluminum & Chemical Corporation, LLC entered into an Agreed Order with the WA Department of Ecology in 2005. The Order required Kaiser to conduct a Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study at the Kaiser Trentwood Site. The site is located at 15000 East Euclid Avenue, Spokane Valley, Spokane County, Washington (see Figure 1).

Kaiser conducted many studies and cleanup actions at the site in the past. This Remedial Investigation (RI) took a more comprehensive look at the site and gathered additional scientific information. This work determined whether there were site-related contaminants in soil and groundwater, identified where they were located, and how much was there.

In 2007 as part of this on-going investigation, Kaiser found PCBs and petroleum contamination in soil at the West Discharge Ravine, a former wastewater discharge point. The contamination in ravine soils exceeded state standards. Kaiser began accelerated cleanup actions to remove the contaminated soil from the ravine. Removal protected surface and groundwater and eliminated a potential exposure pathway of concern to the river.

Investigations continued and now the RI Report is complete. The Report reviews soil in nine locations and groundwater at the site. The Report also includes a Human Health and Ecological Risk Assessment of contaminants in soil.

The Feasibility Study (FS) is still in progress. It will provide an evaluation of cleanup options for contaminants still in soil and groundwater. The evaluation includes review of the RI findings.

Why the Remedial Investigation Matters

- The RI provides important information about contaminants in soil and groundwater at the site.
- Information from the RI will be used to develop cleanup options.
- The report evaluates risks to human health and the environment from potential exposure to contaminants.

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Site Overview

The site covers nearly 512 acres and lies over the Spokane Valley-Rathdrum Prairie Aquifer. The site is north and east of the Spokane River.

The U.S. Government Defense Plant Corporation created the Trentwood facility in 1942 to produce aluminum for World War II aircraft. Kaiser leased the facility in 1946 and later purchased it along with the property.

The Trentwood facility now operates as an aluminum sheet and plate rolling mill. Polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB) oil, petroleum fuels, solvents, and chromium are some of the materials formerly used in connection with mill operations. Some wastes generated during past or present operations include wastewaters, chrome sludge, paint and solvent wastes, and black dross.

The Remedial Investigation Report

The Report provides findings about soil and groundwater at the site. It also includes an evaluation of potential risks to human health and the environment from site related contaminants.

The report covers a large geographic area. Kaiser property includes a northern and southern parcel. These two parcels are separated by a piece of land owned by the Inland Empire Land Company.

The southern parcel houses Kaiser's industrial operations, and the northern parcel is currently undeveloped. The Report focuses on the southern parcel and covers the following nine areas:

1. Oil House
2. Industrial Wastewater Treatment Area
3. Oil Reclamation Building and surrounding area
4. Cold Mill/Finishing Area
5. Remelt/Hot Line Area
6. Oil Reclamation to Wastewater Transfer Lines Area
7. Truck Shop Area
8. Discharge Ravines Area
9. Buffer Area

The documents associated with the RI are contained in five binders:

- 1-2 Draft Final Site-Wide Groundwater Remedial Investigation Volumes I and II (Appendix F).
- 3-4 Draft Final Site-Wide Soil Remedial Investigation Volumes I and II (Appendices).
- 5 Draft Final Human Health and Ecological Risk Assessments focused on soil.

Results of the Investigation

The investigation results cover a wide range of historical data and information, breakdown of geographic locations of the investigation, previous clean up actions taken, detailed analyses and summaries, contaminants of concern, potential exposure issues, and other pertinent details. A brief summary of groundwater and soil results are provided in the following paragraphs.

Groundwater Results

There are some small areas where free phase petroleum product is present on the water table during late summer and fall when the water levels are low. Kaiser recovered over 4,000 gallons of petroleum product as a result of actions taken since 1994.

Two trails of groundwater contamination called plumes are found at the site. The larger plume contains PCBs and originates in the Remelt area. There is no data that indicates the plume has reached the Spokane River.

The other plume encompasses two areas that are being contained with the current cleanup measures. It contains total petroleum hydrocarbons (TPH), which are mostly diesel and heavy oil, along with PCBs. Carcinogenic polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (cPAHs) and metals are also found with the petroleum plume.

Currently, actions are being taken to contain the PCB TPH plume and recover petroleum product.

Soil Results

Several contaminants found in soil still exceed state standards. Some contaminants exceed these standards throughout the site, others only in certain locations. The contaminants include:

- Diesel and heavy oil
- Gasoline
- PCBs
- cPAHs
- Metals (arsenic, chromium, lead, iron and manganese)

Additional cleanup actions that may be necessary to address containments in groundwater and soil will be discussed in the Feasibility Study which will be available for review by the end of 2010.

Human Health and Ecological Risk Assessments

As part of the Remedial Investigation, a human health and ecological risk assessment was

conducted at the site. Twenty-five areas within the site were examined. The purpose of this assessment was to determine potential exposure to contaminants in soil. Potential exposure to groundwater contaminants are considered separately in the Remedial Investigation Report.

Results confirmed that more work needs to be completed to reduce potential human exposure to contaminants in soil and groundwater. Results also indicate there are no exposure risks to wildlife at the 25 areas studied within the site.

What Happens Next?

Kaiser will continue working on the evaluation of cleanup options. The Remedial Investigation Report and Feasibility Study will be made available for a formal public comment period by the end of 2010.

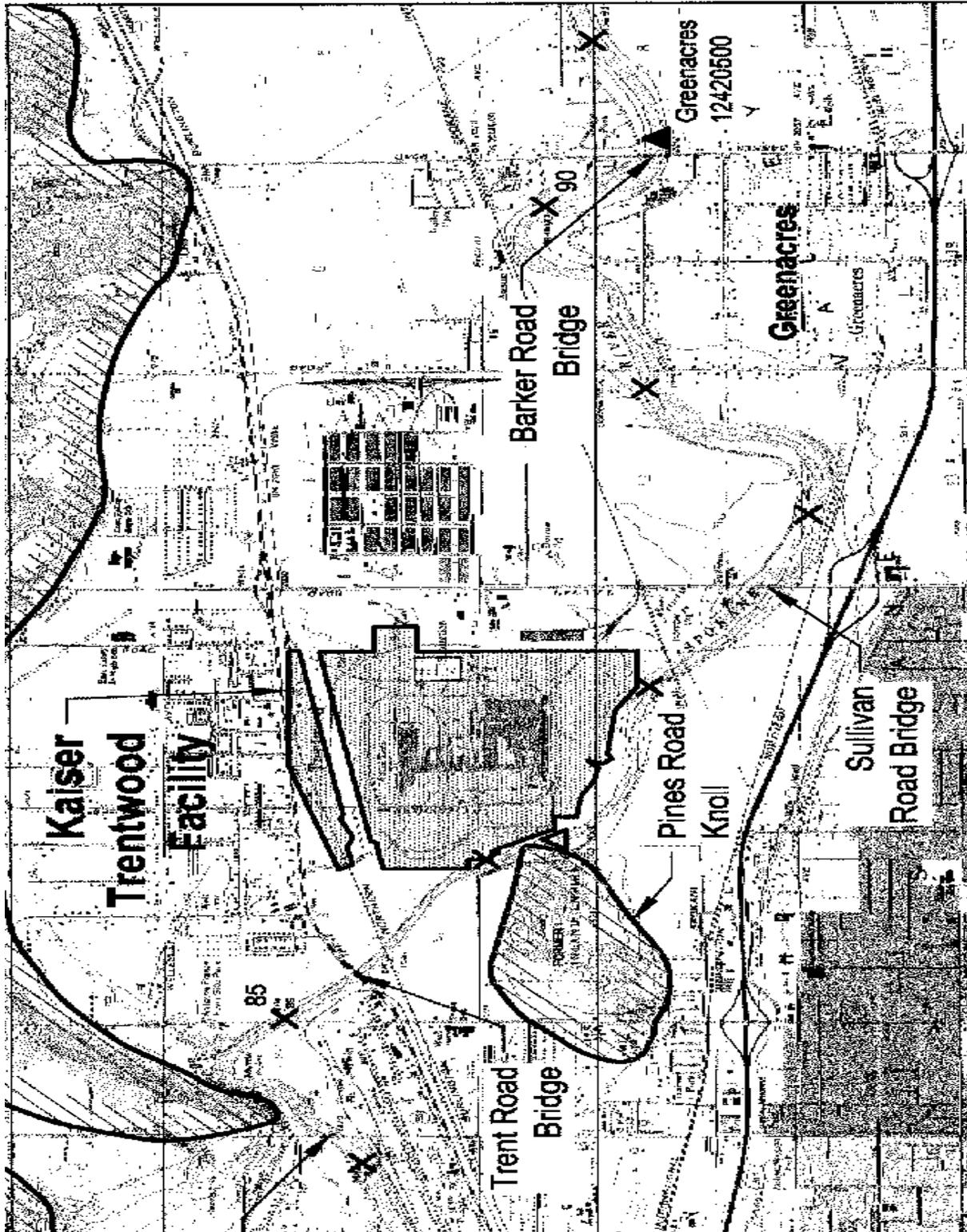


Figure 1 Kaiser Trentwood Facility Map

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