

Ecology Seeks Comments on Proposed Work at Pasco Sanitary Landfill Site

The Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) is working with the parties who contributed to the contamination to conduct more cleanup work. These parties will perform the work under Ecology's oversight. The Pasco Sanitary Landfill property covers nearly 250 acres and is located about 1.5 miles northeast of the city of Pasco, Franklin County, Washington. The landfill is on Dietrich Road by the intersections of Kahlotus Road and U.S. Highway 12 (see Figure 1).

The landfill is divided into three areas that historically received various types of wastes. The Industrial Section is one of these three areas. This section is divided into five Zones, A through E (see Figure 2). Each Zone received specific types of wastes.

Several chemicals have been detected in soil and groundwater at the landfill, as a result of past practices. Contaminants include volatile and semi-volatile organic compounds, metals, herbicides, pesticides, and other materials. These chemicals are associated with wastes that were disposed at the landfill.

An important area of focus for cleanup at the landfill is a long, narrow area of contaminated groundwater called a plume. The plume lies beneath certain areas of the landfill. Data from monitoring wells indicate the plume extends from the landfill at least as far south as "A" Street. Zone B lies outside of the groundwater plume.

Cleanup activities at the landfill are conducted in an effort to reduce or eliminate movement of contaminants to soil and groundwater. This includes reducing the groundwater contamination plume. The size of the plume has decreased as a result of these previous actions. These actions also protect human health and the environment while the final cleanup

plan is being developed. These early or partial cleanups are known as interim actions.

Now, additional interim actions are proposed for Zones A and B. Work Plans and State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) checklists will guide the work in both zones. **You are invited to:**

- **Review** the two Work Plans and two SEPA documents associated with the proposed work.
- **Send** your comments to Ecology for consideration from **July 9 through August 10, 2010**.

The shaded box on page 3 provides information on where to review documents and submit comments.

Is My Drinking Water Safe?

The City of Pasco municipal water supply is not affected by the Pasco Sanitary Landfill. Residents who live near the site are served by the City's municipal water supply system.

Use of well water within the groundwater protection area is restricted (see Figure 1). If you have a well in this area and have questions or are concerned about where your drinking water comes from, please contact Rick Dawson of the Benton Franklin Health District at 509/460-4313.

Interim Actions in Zones A and B Benefit the Public

The following are some ways the public benefits from these interim actions:

- Upgrading the SVE system in Zone A will improve protection for soil and groundwater.
- Contaminated soil surrounding Zone B will be removed and contained in a cover system that meets federal and state cleanup requirements.
- The cover or cap in Zone B is designed to prevent future releases of contamination and protect groundwater.
- Completed work protects human health and the environment.

Upgrades Proposed for Zone A Soil Vapor Extraction System (SVE)

Zone A contains about 35,000 drums that may each hold up to 55-gallons of waste. The drums contain solvent and paint sludges, cleaners, and other industrial wastes. A temporary Soil Vapor Extraction System was installed in 1997 at Zone A. The purpose of the system is to capture chemicals being released into soil from the drums before they reach groundwater. Ongoing monitoring and sampling shows improvements are needed in order for the system to work more effectively.

The Zone A Work Plan provides details about proposed upgrades to the SVE system. The documents are divided into two volumes. Volume 1 focuses on upgrades to the SVE system, start up testing, and installation of monitoring wells. Volume 2, when completed, will be an extension of work outlined in Volume 1.

A State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) checklist for the Zone A interim actions also is available for review. SEPA requires government agencies to consider potential environmental impacts of a project before beginning cleanup. Ecology issued a determination of non-significance (DNS). A DNS means the proposed actions will not have a probable significant adverse impact on the environment.

Protective Cover Planned for Zone B

In 2002, nearly 5,500 cubic yards of herbicide wastes in drums were removed from Zone B. (Herbicides are chemicals that control or eliminate specific weeds and plants in agricultural, residential, and aquatic settings.) The herbicide waste and contaminated soils were shipped off-site for proper disposal. Also, a temporary cover was placed over the former Zone B drum area.

The purpose of the current Zone B interim action is to construct an enhanced protective cover or cap over the temporary cover. The new proposed cap is anticipated to be a final cover. It is designed to meet federal requirements for landfill cover systems.



Removal of Zone B Drums



After Zone B Drum Removal



Photo Courtesy of AMEC
Current Temporary Landfill Cover for Zone B

The following actions are necessary to complete the new cover over Zone B:

- Removing surface soils around Zone B that may be contaminated as a result of previous cleanup activities.
- Placing the soils that have been removed on top of the existing temporary Zone B cover.
- Installing a new engineered cover system or cap that meets federal and state requirements over Zone B.

Zone B SEPA documents also are available for review along with the Work Plan. Ecology also is issuing a determination of non-significance (DNS) for this cover system.

What Happens Next?

Ecology will review and respond to all comments submitted July 9 through August 10, 2010. If substantial comments are received, Ecology will prepare a document called a Responsiveness Summary. The summary will answer the questions submitted, and it will be sent to everyone who commented. It also will be available at the locations listed in the box on page three.

Ecology may modify the work plans and SEPA documents based on public input. If there are no modifications, the work will move forward as described. Ecology will continue to keep the public informed as work progresses and new information is obtained.

Fact Sheet July 2010

Para asistencia en Español

Richelle Perez 360/407-7528

Если вам нужно помощь по русскому, звоните

Tatyana Bistrevsky 509/928-7617

Comments Accepted

July 9 through August 10, 2010

Submit Comments and Technical Questions to

Chuck Gruenenfelder
WA Department of Ecology
4601 N. Monroe St.
Spokane WA 99205-1295
Phone: 509/329-3439
e-mail: chgr461@ecy.wa.gov

Submit Questions about Public Meetings, Getting Involved, and on the Mailing List to

Carol Bergin
WA Department of Ecology
4601 N. Monroe St.
Spokane, WA 99205-1295
Phone: 509/329-3546
e-mail: cabe461@ecy.wa.gov

Locations to Review Documents

WA Department of Ecology

Kari Johnson, Public Disclosure
WA Department of Ecology
4601 N. Monroe St.
Spokane, WA 99205-1295
Call for an appointment 509/329-3415

Mid Columbia Library

1320 West Hopkins Street
Pasco, WA 99301-5097

Ecology's Toxics Cleanup Website:

http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/tcp/sites/pasco/pasco_lf_home.html

Facility Site ID No. 575

Figure 1 Groundwater Protection Area Boundaries

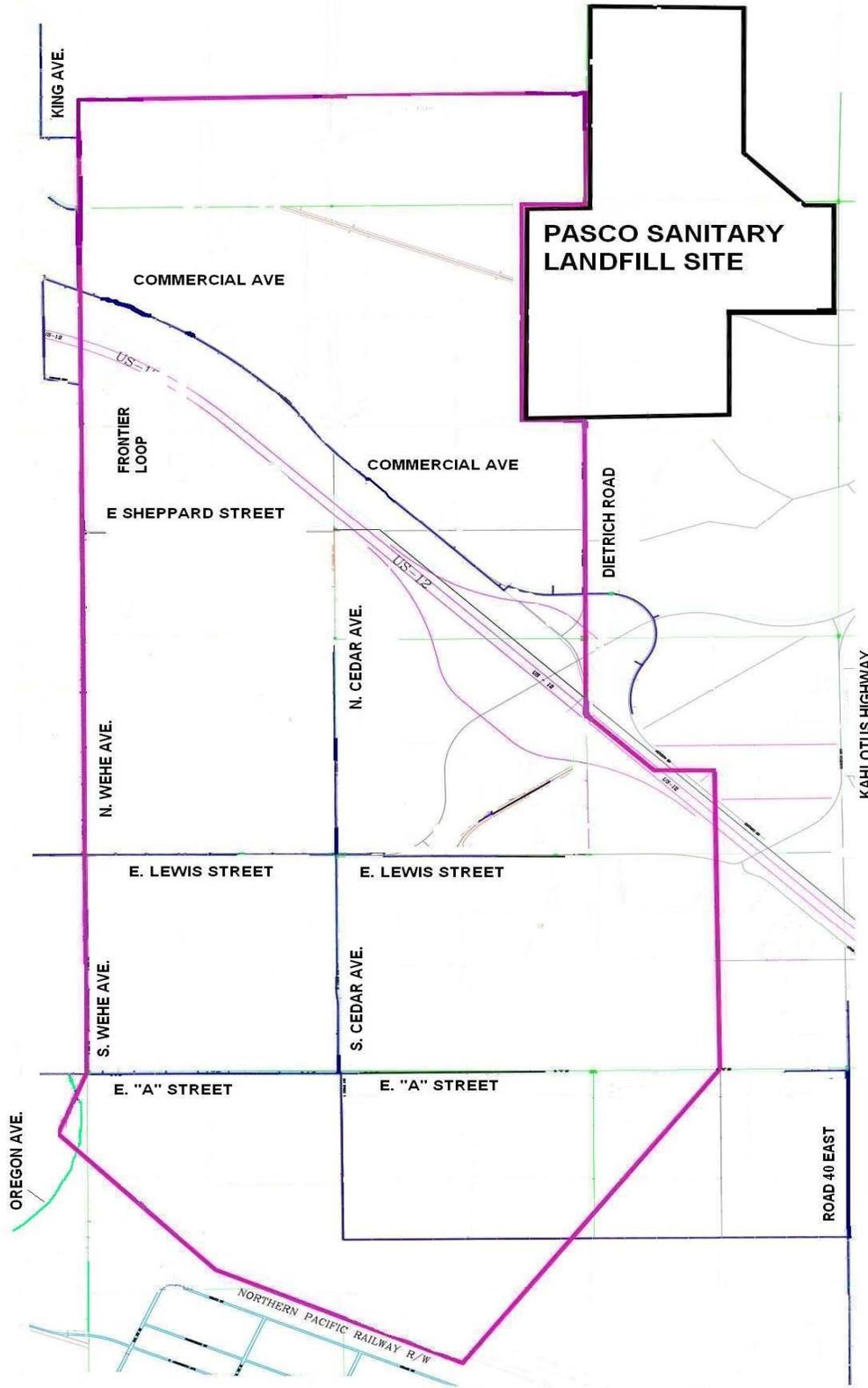
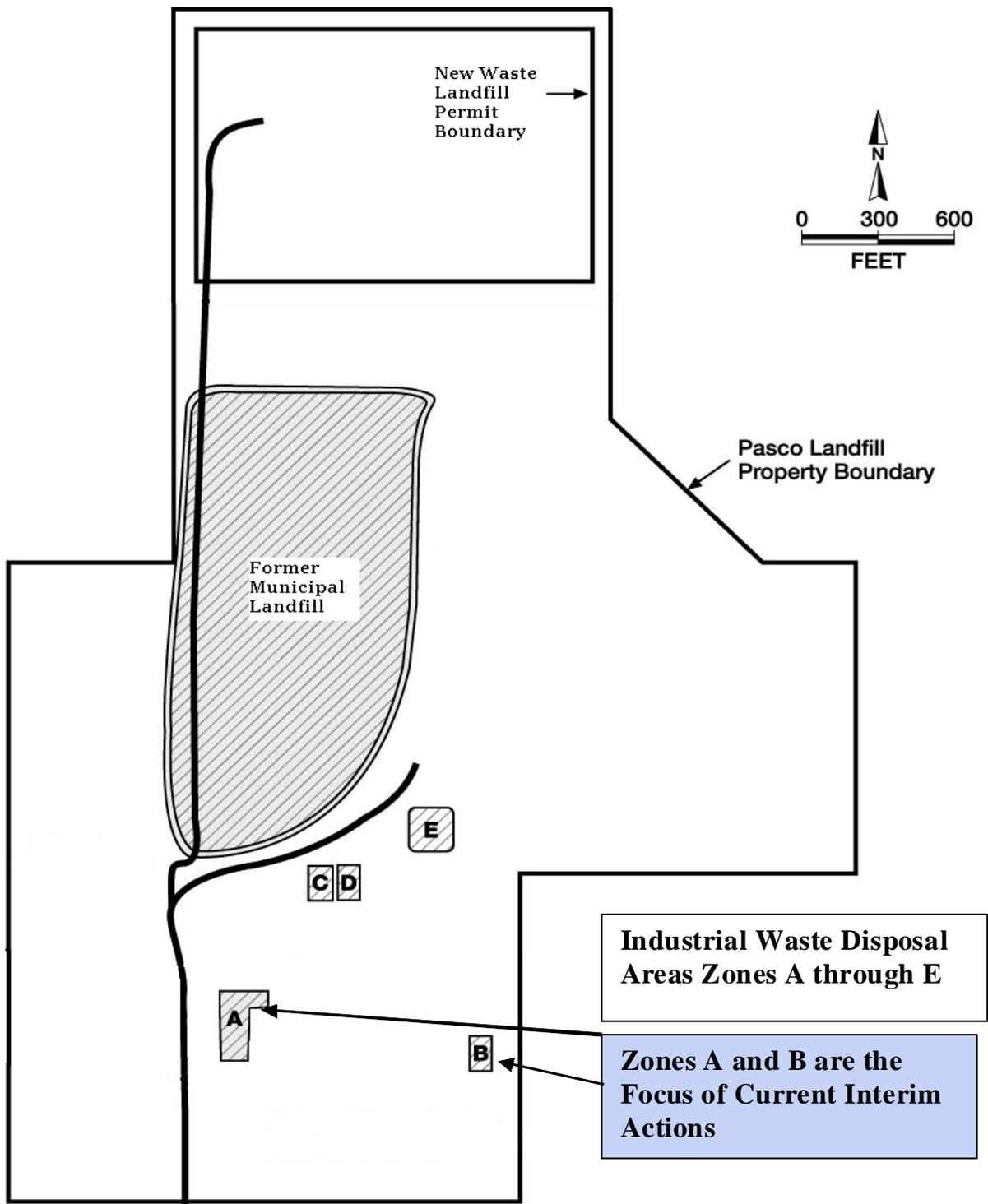


Figure 2 Landfill Waste Sections and Zones A through E



If you need this publication in an alternative format, call Carol Bergin at 509/329-3546. Persons with hearing loss, call 711 for Washington Relay Service. Persons with speech disability call 877/833-6341