

Ecology Plans to Gather More Information about Old Warden Water Supply Wells 4 and 5

The Washington State Department of Ecology proposes to enter into an Agreed Order with the J.R. Simplot Company. The Order requires Simplot to conduct a Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study on property called the Warden City Supply Wells 4 and 5 Site. The site is located at 1800 First Street in the city of Warden, Grant County, Washington (see Figure 1).

The Agreed Order is necessary because previous investigations at the site found ethylene dibromide (EDB) contamination in drinking water supply wells 4 and 5. At that time, the contamination was too high to meet Washington state drinking water standards. More investigations found EDB in soil on the Simplot property. The EDB in soil exceeded state standards. As a result of these findings, steps were taken to protect the public and begin solving the problem.

The City stopped using well 4 and established a new drinking water well. Well 5 will only be used as a back up in an emergency situation. The community's current drinking water supply is coming from wells 6 and 7. Both wells have been tested and do not contain EDB. Other steps taken are outlined on page two.

The Remedial Investigation will provide more information about any contaminants at the site, identify where they may be located, and look for additional sources of EDB. The Feasibility Study will identify and evaluate cleanup alternatives.



Site Photo

You are invited to

- **Review** the Agreed Order, Scope of Work, and Public Participation Plan. The Scope of Work outlines details of work to be done. The Public Participation Plan explains how Ecology and Simplot will involve and inform the public about investigations at the site.
- **Send** your comments to Ecology. **Comments will be accepted April 26 through May 25, 2011.** The shaded box at the right has details about where to review documents and submit comments.

Comments Accepted

April 26 through May 25, 2011

Para asistencia en Español

Richelle Perez 360/407-7528

Если вам нужно помощь по русский, звоните

Tatyana Bistrevsky 509/928-7617

Comments and Technical Questions

Sandra Treccani

WA Department of Ecology

Toxics Cleanup Program

4601 N. Monroe

Spokane WA 99205-1295

509/329-3412 Sandra.treccani@ecy.wa.gov

Public Involvement Questions

Carol Bergin

(see Ecology address above)

509/329-3546 cabe461@ecy.wa.gov

Document Review Locations

Warden Public Library

305 South Main

Warden, WA 98857-0813

Contact: Mrs. Dean 509/349-2226

WA Department of Ecology

Kari Johnson, Public Disclosure

4601 N. Monroe

Spokane, WA 99205-1295

Call for an appointment 509/329-3415

Ecology's Toxics Cleanup Website

<http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/tcp/sites/WardenWells/WardenWells-hp.html>

WA Department of Health Contact:

Lenford O'Garro,

WA Department of Health

Environmental Health Assessments

P.O. Box 47846

Olympia WA 98504-7846

360/236-3376 lenford.o'garro@doh.wa.gov

Facility Site ID No. 2802409

Cleanup Site ID No. 1618

Site Overview

Ethylene dibromide (EDB) was used in the past as a pesticide for potato crops and as an additive for leaded gas. Potato crops are grown in the Warden area, and there is potato processing in the industrial section of the city. Although the chemical was banned for use as a soil fumigant in 1984, elevated levels of EDB were found in wells 4 & 5.

Protecting the Public

The City of Warden, WA State Department of Health, WA State Department of Ecology, and the J.R. Simplot Company reduced EDB exposure in the following ways:

- Provided written information about the contamination to the public in English and Spanish.
- Held a public meeting to explain what was found and how the problem would be corrected.
- Installed five monitoring wells in West Warden to determine the extent of contamination in groundwater. (One of the five monitoring wells had EDB. This well was on Simplot's property at 1800 First Street.)
- Sampled soil and found levels of EDB that exceeded state standards on Simplot's property.
- Established a new drinking water well.
- Stopped use of well 4 and sealed it closed.
- Decided well 5 would be used only as a back up in an emergency situation. If emergency use happened it would most likely be during a summer season. The City would notify people as soon as possible if it was used.
- The City continues to monitor well 5 and looks for ways to improve it.
- Ecology and Simplot began negotiations for an Agreed Order in September 2010 to further identify where contaminants are coming from and develop solutions.

Health Questions

The community's current drinking water supply is coming from wells 6 and 7. Both wells have been tested and do not contain EDB.

If you have health questions about EDB exposure, please contact Lenford O'Garro at the Department of Health. His contact information is in the box on page one of this fact sheet.

The Cleanup Process

This fact sheet is about the Agreed Order, Remedial Investigation, and Feasibility Study, and is part of the first 30-day comment period. After the investigations and study are done, reports of the findings will be made available to the public for another 30-day comment period.

Property owners identified as potentially liable persons (PLPs) are responsible for contributing toward the cost of cleanup at a site. Simplot has been identified as a PLP but additional PLPs may be identified during the investigations. Generally, after the initial investigations and findings are completed, the next step is to prepare a draft Cleanup Action Plan. This plan gives details about how additional work may be put into action. During this step Ecology also considers possible environmental impacts of the project. The draft Cleanup Action Plan and documents associated with environmental impacts are made available for public comment.

Next, a Consent Decree is developed. It is a legal agreement between Ecology and the PLPs that ensures all applicable laws and regulations will be followed during the cleanup. It also is made available for public comment.

What Happens Now?

You may review the Agreed Order, Scope of Work, and Public Participation Plan and **send comments to Ecology by May 25, 2011.** Ecology will review the comments and change the documents if appropriate.



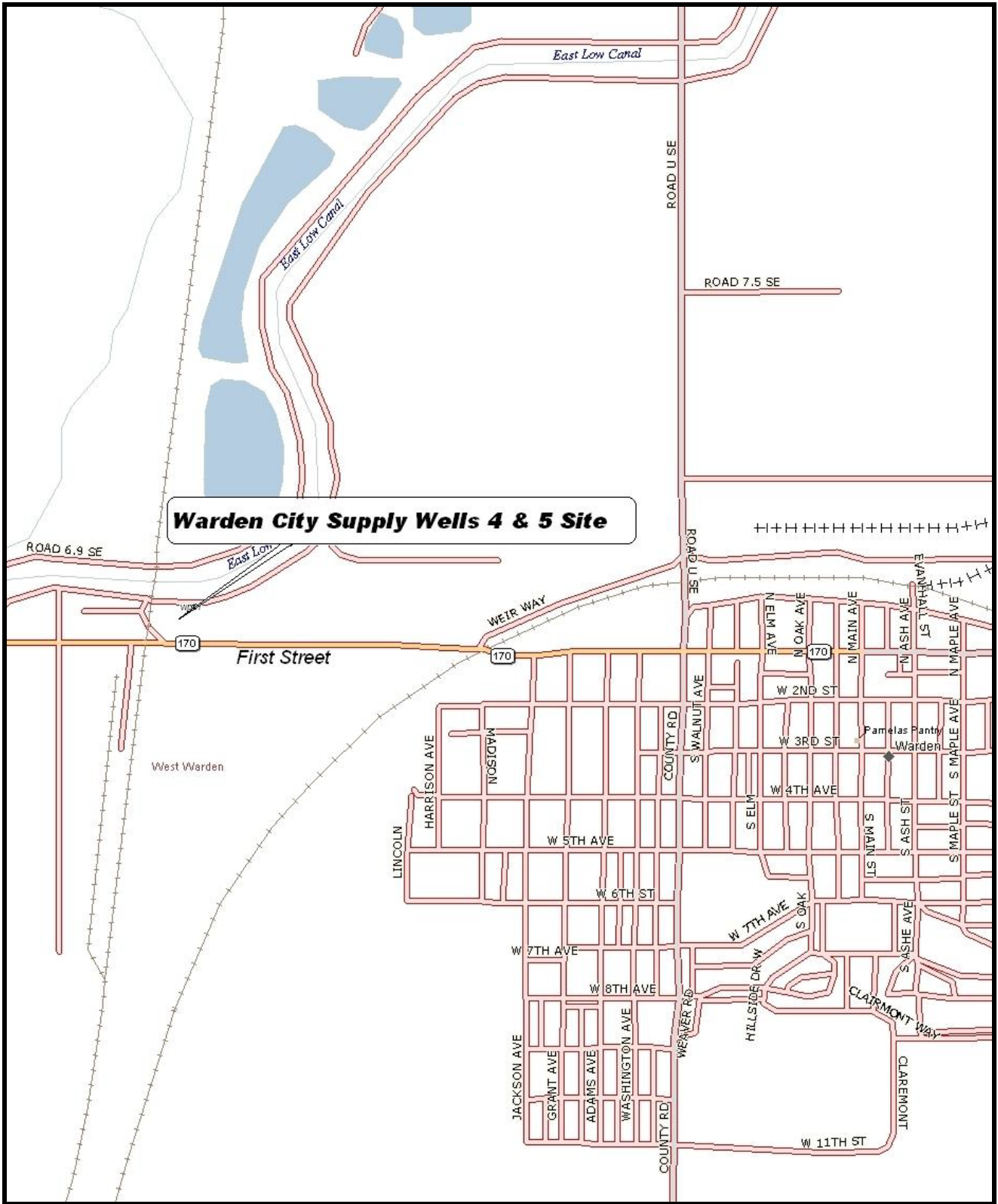


Figure 1



**4601 N. Monroe
Spokane, WA 99205-1295**

**Warden City Supply Wells 4&5 Site
[Ecology Wants Your Feedback](#) on the
Agreed Order, Scope of Work and
Public Participation Plan**

**Sitio de Pozos 4&5 del Abastecimiento
Municipal de Agua Potable de Warden
[Ecología Quiere Sus Comentarios](#) sobre el
Acuerdo de Consentimiento, el Alcance de
Trabajo y el Plan de Participación Pública**
