

### **Toxics Cleanup Program**

August 2012

# **Agreed Order and Draft Cleanup Plan Available for Review and Comment**

The Department of Ecology (Ecology) would like your comments on the proposed Cleanup Action Plan for the Downtown Safeway site. The site is located at 601 4th Avenue East in Olympia.

Three documents are available for review and comment at locations listed to the right:

- Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study (RI/FS Report)— Describes the nature and extent of contamination and evaluates possible final cleanup actions.
- **Draft Cleanup Action Plan (draft CAP)**—Describes how the City of Olympia (city) will clean up remaining contamination.
- **Agreed Order**—Updates the original legal agreement between Ecology and the City of Olympia (city). Requires the city to carry out the Cleanup Action Plan.

### **Ecology Wants Your Comments!**

Ecology is accepting comments on these documents from **Septem**ber 6 - October 5, 2012. The box to the right shows where to review documents and how to submit comments.

## **Cleanup Actions Proposed**

Under the draft cleanup plan, the city will:

- Replace a groundwater monitoring well.
- Monitor groundwater to make sure benzene levels continue to decrease. If benzene remains above cleanup levels after one year, the city will develop a contingency plan.
- Place an environmental (restrictive) covenant on the property. It will restrict groundwater use until benzene is below cleanup levels. It also prohibits activities that would disturb a liner at the south end of the site and contaminated soil in the Chestnut Street right-of-way (see page 2 and map on page 3).

## **Interim Action Cleans Up Site**

From 2008 - 2009, while building the new city hall, the city cleaned up much of the site. As part of the interim cleanup action, the city:

Removed three small underground storage tanks, the remains of other small tanks, and piping.

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Removed gas station debris, rubble, and auto body parts.

## **Comments Accepted** September 6 thru October 5, 2012

#### Send Comments and Questions to:

Guy Barrett, Site Manager Department of Ecology SWRO Toxics Cleanup Program P.O. Box 47775

Olympia, WA 98504-7775 Phone: (360) 407-7115

E-mail: Guy.Barrett@ecy.wa.gov

#### **Public Involvement Questions:**

Diana Smith

Public Involvement Coordinator

Phone: (360) 407-6255

E-mail: Diana.Smith@ecy.wa.gov

#### **DOCUMENT REVIEW LOCATIONS**

**Olympia Timberland Library** 313 8th Avenue SE Olympia, WA 98501 (360) 352-0595

WA Department of Ecology Southwest Regional Office 300 Desmond Drive SE Lacey, WA 98503 By appointment only: Contact Debbie Nelson, Debbie.Nelson@ecy.wa.gov or (360) 407-6365

#### **Ecology's Toxics Cleanup Website**

https://fortress.wa.gov/ecy/gsp/ Sitepage.aspx?csid=4130

**Facility Site ID #: 6105358** 

### **Downtown Safeway**

- Removed 39,742 tons of contaminated soil and backfilled the areas with clean soil.
- Removed free-floating contaminants.
- Placed a liner to keep contamination from an off-site source from entering the site.
- Sampled soil and groundwater to make sure all sources of contamination were removed.

You can read more about the interim action in the draft CAP and RI/FS Report. The map on page 3 shows where the city did the interim actions.

### **What Happens Next?**

- 1. Ecology will review all comments received during the comment period.
- 2. At the end of the comment period, Ecology will respond to comments in a responsiveness summary. We will send it to commenters and post it on our website.
- Ecology will finalize the CAP and sign the agreed order. If needed, Ecology can make changes based on public comments.
- 4. The city will begin the final cleanup actions. Groundwater will be monitored for at least one year. Once Ecology determines the cleanup is complete, we will remove the site from the Hazardous Sites List.

## Site Background

Beginning in the early 1900s, the site housed stores, a restaurant, an automobile manufacturing and painting business, automobile repair shops, and a gas station.

When the city bought the site in 2007, it housed the former Safeway store, a former retail building, a restaurant, and a parking lot. The city tore the buildings down in 2009 while they were doing interim cleanup actions and redeveloping the site.

In 2007, a study found several areas of possible contamination, including as many as five abandoned underground storage tanks. The city investigated these areas further. Both soil and groundwa-

ter samples showed concentrations of several pollutants above state cleanup levels (see box below).

### **Why Cleanup Matters**

Soil and groundwater at the Downtown Safeway site are contaminated with petroleum-related chemicals. These chemicals can pose a threat to human health and the environment and must be cleaned up. The draft CAP describes how the city will clean up the remaining contamination.

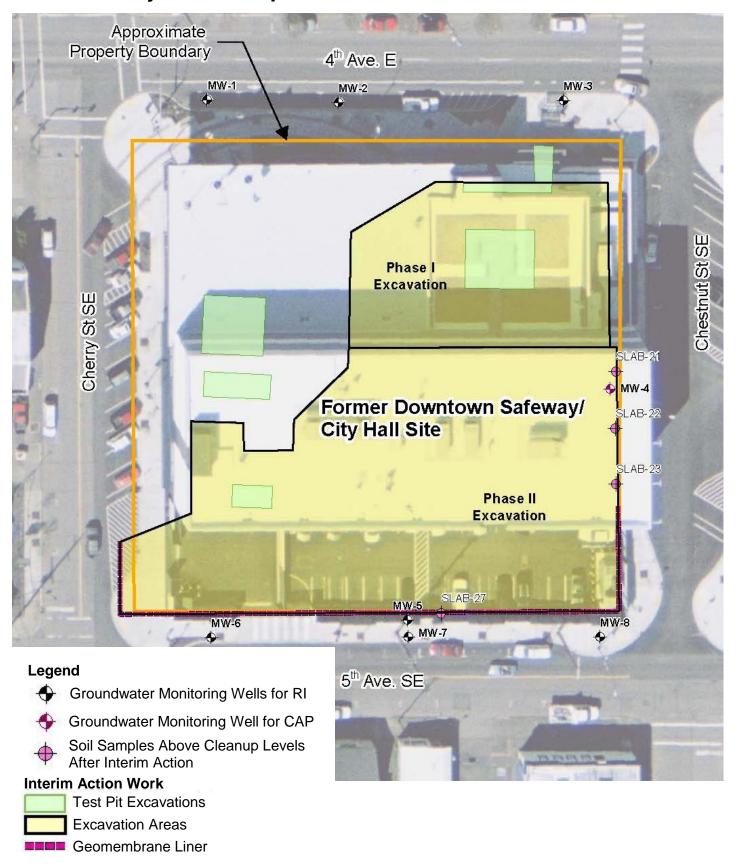
### **Site Pollutants**

Investigations from 2007 - 2009 found soil and groundwater contaminated with a number of pollutants above cleanup levels. The city removed most contamination during the interim action. Contaminants included:

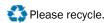
- Total petroleum hydrocarbons (TPH)
   —found in gasoline, TPH includes many
  toxic compounds. The city found gasoline-, heavy oil-, and diesel-range petroleum hydrocarbons.
- Benzene—a liquid found in petroleum fuels and some manufacturing processes.
- Naphthalene—found in fuels such as petroleum and coal. Burning wood products can also produce it.
- Carcinogenic polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (cPAHs)—a group of chemicals formed during incomplete burning of coal, oil, gas, garbage, or other organic substances.
- Trichloroethylene (TCE)—used as a solvent to remove grease from metal parts, and as an ingredient in paint removers and glues.
- 1,2-dibromoethane (EDB)—used as an additive in gasoline, as a pesticide, and to treat logs for termites.
- **Lead**—a toxic metal that was used as an additive in gasoline.

## **Downtown Safeway**

#### **Downtown Safeway Interim Cleanup Action**







# Downtown Safeway Olympia, WA

Ecology seeks public comment on a draft Cleanup Action Plan and legal agreement for cleanup

Public Comment Period: September 6 — October 5, 2012

Facility Site ID #: 6105358

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Persons with hearing loss, call 711 for Washington Relay Service. Persons with a speech disability call 877-833-6341.

