

# WA DOT Union Gap District Site



WA DOT Union Gap – Photo courtesy of Google Street View

## Comments accepted

April 18<sup>th</sup> – May 18<sup>th</sup>, 2024

## Submit comments

### Online at:

<https://tcp.ecology.commentinput.com/?id=5KtJduUWT>

### Or by mail to:

John Mefford, Site Manager  
 1250 West Alder Street  
 Union Gap, WA 98903-0009  
 509-731-9613  
 John.Mefford@ecy.wa.gov

## Document review

<https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/cleanupsearch/site/4942>

Yakima Central Library  
 102 N 3rd Street  
 Yakima, WA 98901

## Site info

Facility Site ID: 541  
 Site Cleanup ID: 4942

## Proposed Removal from the Hazardous Sites List Available for Review and Comment

The Department of Ecology is proposing WA DOT Union Gap District Site, located at 2809 Rudkin Road in Union Gap be removed from its Hazardous Sites List. The Hazardous Sites List is a list of sites Ecology reviewed for their potential threat to human health and the environment. This review is based on how much contamination is present, how toxic it is, and how easily it can come in contact with people and the environment. Sites must go through cleanup and meet state standards before Ecology can remove them from the list.

You are invited to:

- Review our letter saying the cleanup is complete, dated December 19, 2023.

## Site Background

The Site is located at the Washington State Department of Transportation’s (WSDOT) South Regional District Office which houses transportation-related administrative and maintenance buildings and includes utility and fleet vehicles. A release occurred from the underground storage tank (UST) system at the former fueling station situated on the facility property. The release was discovered in 1989 when the USTs were closed from service (decommissioned). Petroleum hydrocarbons were found in soil at concentrations that exceeded the cleanup levels (CULs) listed in the Model Toxics Control Act (MTCA).

## Why This Matters

Petroleum contains many chemicals that are harmful to human health and the environment, including the benzene. Benzene is a known carcinogen which is a chemical that can cause cancer in humans after long-term exposure. Cleanup actions are taken to reduce the amount of contamination and restore conditions that are protective of human health and the environment.

## What Was Done?

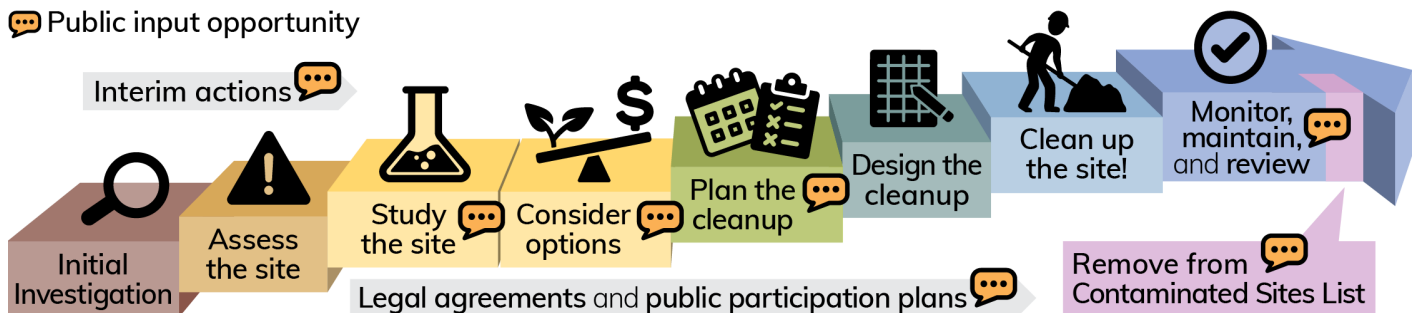
During the UST decommissioning, an interim cleanup action was performed by excavating petroleum-contaminated soils (PCS). Some PCS was left in place due to proximity to an adjacent building and to avoid affecting the structural integrity of that building. Typically, natural processes will occur if enough contaminated soil is removed and, in some cases, the soil and/or groundwater concentrations may decrease to levels below the MTCA CULs.

Recent sampling of the soil did not show any petroleum hydrocarbons or its constituents such as benzene above their respective MTCA CULs. Groundwater was assessed earlier and for the equivalent period of one year. None of these chemicals were found to exceed their respective groundwater CULs.

## What Happens Next?

Ecology will respond to all the comments we receive by May 18<sup>th</sup>, 2024, and publish responses. We will hold an online public meeting if 10 or more people request it. After we consider public comments and no changes are necessary, Ecology will remove the site from the Hazardous Sites List.

## The Cleanup Process



Public involvement opportunities, such as meetings, hearings, open houses, and workshops, can be found on Ecology’s Public Involvement Calendar at <https://ecology.wa.gov/Events/Search/Listing>.



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To request an ADA accommodation, contact Ecology by phone at 509-406-6931 or email at [Rhonda.Luke@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:Rhonda.Luke@ecy.wa.gov), or visit <https://ecology.wa.gov/accessibility>. For Relay Service or TTY call 711 or 877-833-6341.