

GENERAL ELECTRIC COMPANY SPOKANE SITE FINAL CLEANUP ACTION DOCUMENTS



The Washington Department of Ecology (Ecology) invites the public to comment on the Final Cleanup Action Documents for the former General Electric Company (GE) Service Shop Site, also known as the GE/Spokane Site (Site). The Cleanup Action Report, an Explanation of Significant Differences from the original cleanup plans, and a Consent Decree Amendment to the existing agreement between GE and Ecology are available for the public to review and provide input. The comment period is from **December 28, 1998 through January 27, 1999**.

SITE BACKGROUND

GE operated an apparatus and service shop at E. 4323 Mission Avenue in Spokane, Washington from 1961 to 1980 (See Figure 1). In 1989, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) named the former service shop to the federal National Priority List of hazardous waste sites. This "Superfund List" focuses cleanup work on sites that represent a threat to human health and the environment. Ecology took the lead for the investigation under an agreement with EPA.

The investigation identified areas where polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) had been released to the environment, due to operations at the Site.

PCBs were found in shallow soil at moderate concentrations over large portions of the Site. Several small "hotspots" with high concentrations of PCBs were noted. The West Dry Well had very high concentrations of PCBs and petroleum hydrocarbons extending to the water table.

The Feasibility Study (FS) recommended a technology called in-situ vitrification (ISV) to destroy PCBs found on the Site. Following the FS, GE and Ecology entered into a Consent Decree to perform cleanup on the Site. This agreement required preparation of plans for performing in-situ vitrification of Site soils and long term monitoring of ground water from the Site. The agreement also included institutional controls (such as property deed restrictions) on future land use. The Consent Decree was amended in 1996 to allow excavation and off-site disposal of soils, which had low concentrations of PCBs.

In 1996 and 1997, West Dry Well soils were vitrified, and other Site soil was transported off-site for disposal. Appropriate institutional controls were placed on Site properties. The volume of material planned for excavation was approximately 9,000 cubic yards; however, 22,000 cubic yards were excavated and removed.

**FACT SHEET:
DECEMBER 1998**

REPOSITORIES:

Department of Ecology
Eastern Regional Office
4601 N. Monroe, Suite 202
Spokane, WA 99205-1295

For more information and/or submission of written comments, please contact:

Mr. Guy J. Gregory
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Toxics Cleanup Program
4601 N. Monroe, Suite 202
Spokane, WA 99205-1295
(509) 456-6387 or 1-800-826-7716
e-mail: ggre461@ecy.wa.gov

Please include name and address if you wish your comment to be formally considered.

MAILING LIST:

If you are currently **not** on the GE mailing list and want to be, please call Carol Bergin of Ecology toll free at 1-800-826-7716 or in Spokane at (509) 456-6360.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD FOR THE FINAL CLEANUP ACTION DOCUMENTS:

DECEMBER 28, 1998 through JANUARY 27, 1999.

FINAL CLEAN UP ACTION DOCUMENTS AVAILABLE

❖ Cleanup Action Report

The Cleanup Action Report summarizes all soil cleanup actions performed and proposes a long-term maintenance plan for the Site. It summarizes all Site background information and describes soil cleanup activities. The report also contains results of compliance monitoring efforts, air monitoring programs and the long-term maintenance plan for the Site. As-built figures are provided for all excavated areas, along with maps illustrating final Site grading and the existing monitoring well network. Copies of property deed restrictions are provided in the report.

❖ Explanation of Significant Differences

The original cleanup plan anticipated approximately 9,000 cubic yards of material would be excavated; but nearly 22,000 cubic yards were excavated. The original plan also called for excavation of all materials above cleanup levels set in 1993. Excavation was not able to achieve this goal at all locations on Site. The Explanation of Significant Differences summarizes those locations and alternative actions taken to contain these remaining soils and protect human health and the environment.

❖ Consent Decree Amendment

An Amendment to the existing agreement is also available for review. It is intended to document Ecology's acceptance of the

performed removal actions, acceptance of containment actions as performed on Site, and acceptance of the Site plans for long-term monitoring.

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

The public is invited to review and comment on all documents for the Final Cleanup Action. Ecology will then evaluate any written comments received.

If these documents are acceptable to the public, the Consent Decree Amendment will be filed in Superior Court, and Ecology will forward a notice finding that cleanup construction on all Site properties is complete.

ECOLOGY WANTS YOUR COMMENTS!

The public comment period presents an opportunity to have your ideas and comments heard by Ecology. You may review and comment on the Final Cleanup Action Documents **December 28, 1998 through January 27, 1999**. Comments will be accepted at any time during this period and should be addressed to Mr. Guy J. Gregory, Site Manager, at the address listed in the shaded box on page one. Copies of these documents are available for review at the repository also listed on page one.

To review the entire Site file, or more detailed documents, contact Mary Gaddy of Ecology at (509) 456-2727 to schedule an appointment.

Ecology will review all written comments, and prepare a

Responsiveness Summary. The Summary will be made available at the Repository listed on page one. Updates of Site activities will be provided for those who submit written comments, or request to be placed on the mailing list.

A Regional Citizen's Advisory Committee member may also be contacted for general information or discussion of regional environmental issues. You may contact Phil at (509) 327-3032.

However, **Technical questions and formal comments regarding the General Electric Site should be addressed to Mr. Guy Gregory at the address and number in the shaded box on page one.**