Investigation and Cleanup Documents Available for Public Review and Comment

A PUGET SOUND INITIATIVE SITE
Reaching the goal of a healthy, sustainable Puget Sound

Ecology Wants Your Input!

The Department of Ecology is asking for your comments on plans to clean up a site in Port Gardner Bay. The Port of Everett’s (port) North Marina West End Site (Site) is one of several sites within Port Gardner Bay that Ecology is cleaning up. The Site is located within the port’s North Marina Area between 11th and 14th Streets, off West Marine View Drive in Everett, Snohomish County, WA (Figures 1 and 2). This is southwest of the Legion Memorial Golf Course in western Everett. Port Gardner Bay is one of several embayments in Puget Sound that Ecology is studying and cleaning up under the state’s Puget Sound Initiative.

You are invited to comment on the following documents:

- Draft Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study Report (RI/FS)
- Draft Cleanup Action Plan (DCAP)
- Draft Consent Decree (Decree)

Ecology will accept comments from July 5 through August 5, 2011. See the box on the right for details about where to review the document and submit comments.

Site Background

From about 1890 until about 1950, timber-product operations dominated waterfront industrial activities at the West End Site (Site). The North Marina Area was filled to its current configuration between about 1947 and 1955. Since that time, the North Marina West End Site has been used for commercial, marine, and general industrial purposes. Uses included trucking and marine construction activities such as welding, pile driving, sandblasting, creosote log storage, and painting. In addition, there
were a number of storage tanks for diesel fuel, gasoline, waste oils, and heating oils. The results of several environmental studies showed contamination from these uses in soil, groundwater, and sediment. This contamination includes semi-volatile organic compounds (SVOCs) including polycyclic aromatic, hydrocarbons (PAHs) and 1-methylnaphthalene, petroleum hydrocarbons, vinyl chloride, and metals such as arsenic and copper.

The port, who is the Site owner, has completed significant investigation and cleanup of this Site. An interim action conducted between 2006 and 2008 included excavation and offsite disposal of over 40,000 tons of soil impacted by arsenic, copper, carcinogenic PAHs, 1-methylnaphthalene, lead, mercury, and petroleum hydrocarbons. The interim action also included cleanup of petroleum-contaminated groundwater. Ecology is working with the port to complete site investigations and cleanup.

**Draft Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study Report**

The Draft RI and FS were combined into one report for the North Marina West End Site. The report was prepared by the port under an Agreed Order (legal agreement) with Ecology. The report describes exposure pathways, or how contaminants move through upland soil, groundwater, and sediment, and how human health and the environment may be affected. Information about the amount and location of contaminants along with exposure pathways was used to identify cleanup alternatives for the Site.

**Overview of the Remedial Investigation**

The RI describes the contamination in upland soil, groundwater, and sediments in and surrounding the Site, and determines whether there is a significant threat to human health or the environment. RI results are discussed below.

**Soil** – Results indicate that interim action – removal of contaminated soil on the Site – was successful, and remaining contaminants of concern (COCs) are compliant with soil cleanup levels identified in the RI/FS.

**Groundwater** – Results indicate that groundwater on the Site has arsenic, copper, and vinyl chloride exceeding cleanup levels. These exceedances appear to be remnants of sources that were removed during the interim action. Since the contaminant sources have been removed, levels of arsenic, copper, and vinyl chloride are expected to decrease over time.

**Sediment** – Chemical tests indicate that marine sediments at the Site have elevated concentrations of fluoranthene (i.e., exceeding Ecology’s Sediment Quality Standard or SQS). However, the SQS cleanup level for fluoranthene was exceeded in only a single location, and the source was most likely a nearby bulkhead that was removed during the interim action. Fluoranthene is a common chemical associated with creosote, and the bulkhead was constructed using creosote-treated pilings and timbers. No other chemicals exceeded SQS cleanup levels.

**Overview of the Feasibility Study**

The purpose of the FS is to evaluate potential cleanup action alternatives and recommend a preferred cleanup action. Information from the RI about the amount and location of contaminants is used to understand potential risks and identify cleanup alternatives. Alternatives may include contaminant removal, capping, and/or institutional controls to reduce exposure, and they may be used in different
combinations.

The results of the RI indicate that the interim action between 2006 and 2008 was very successful and further active remediation is not necessary. After conducting a screening of cleanup action alternatives, a single cleanup action alternative was identified by Ecology and evaluated based on regulatory criteria to address risk on the Site. That cleanup alternative includes the following:

**Groundwater** – To address groundwater contamination, the cleanup alternative would consist of long-term groundwater compliance monitoring and institutional controls. Institutional controls would include restricting the use of groundwater in the northern portion of the Site where contamination was found.

**Sediment** – Monitored natural recovery was selected as the preferred alternative for the sediments, using ongoing, naturally occurring processes to reduce sediment impacts over time.

The cleanup alternative does not address soil because the remaining soil concentrations are compliant with soil cleanup levels identified in the RI/FS.

**Overview of the Draft Cleanup Action Plan**

The port, under Ecology oversight, prepared a Draft Cleanup Action Plan (DCAP) for the North Marina West End Site.

The DCAP:
- Identifies cleanup levels for groundwater and sediment that the cleanup will achieve. Cleanup levels are stringent, so that future land uses will not be restricted.
- Describes the selected cleanup action and summarizes why this action was selected.
- Presents a schedule to carry out the cleanup.
- Identifies applicable state and federal laws.
- Specifies the types, levels, and amounts of hazardous substances remaining onsite, and the measures that will be used to prevent movement and contact with those substances.

The DCAP recommends that the cleanup action consist of long-term groundwater compliance monitoring and institutional controls to address upland contamination, and monitored natural recovery to address sediment contamination.

Long-term compliance monitoring will include monitoring groundwater quality from eight existing monitoring wells along the shoreline, and monitoring sediment at one location in the southeast corner of the Site.

A legal agreement, called a covenant, will be placed on the Site as an institutional control and will include the following elements:
- Prohibit groundwater use for drinking water.
- Manage, treat, and discharge groundwater used for construction or other non-potable purposes in conformance with an Ecology-approved groundwater management plan.
- Require worker contact with contaminated groundwater to be conducted by individuals with appropriate training and certifications for working on hazardous waste sites.

Implementation of the final CAP will begin immediately following entry into the Consent Decree and all CAP requirements are anticipated to be completed within one year.
North Marina West End Site

Overview of the Draft Consent Decree

The DCAP is an attachment to a formal legal document, called the Consent Decree or Decree. In the Decree, Ecology and the port agree upon the cleanup actions needed to protect human health and the environment at the Site. The Decree requires the port to carry out the cleanup actions that are specifically identified in the final CAP and within the schedule identified in the Decree. An updated Public Participation Plan is also an attachment to the Decree.

Why This Cleanup Matters

Protecting and restoring Puget Sound

Governor Chris Gregoire and the Washington State Legislature established the Puget Sound Initiative to protect and restore Puget Sound. Seven embayments in Puget Sound have been identified as high-priority cleanup areas as part of this Initiative, including Port Gamble, Dumas Bay, Padilla and Fidalgo Bays, Port Angeles, Budd Inlet, and Port Gardner Bay. Combined, this work includes cleaning up 50-60 sites within one-half mile of the Sound. One of these is the North Marina West End Site. These cleanup actions will help to reduce pollution and restore habitat and shorelines in Puget Sound.

Other Port Gardner Bay sites include:

- **Bay Wood Products**: A former sawmill and log storage facility, located at 200 West Marine View Drive.
- **Jeld-Wen**: A former wooden door plant, located at 300 West Marine View Drive.
- **TC Systems Inc**: A plant that formerly chemically treated and painted metal parts in support of the aviation and boating industries, located between 10th and 11th Streets off West Marine View Drive.
- **North Marina Ameron/Hulbert**: A former sawmill and current concrete pole manufacturing facility, located between 11th and 13th Streets at West Marine View Drive.
- **Everett Shipyard, Inc.**: A former ship repair facility, located at 1016 14th Street.
- **ExxonMobil ADC**: A former petroleum storage and distribution facility, located at 2717 and 2731 Federal Avenue.


What Happens Next?

Once the public comment period ends on August 5, Ecology will review and consider all comments. Cleanup documents may be modified based on your comments. The Public Participation Plan for this Site is updated and has more information about the cleanup process and how you can get involved. Ecology will notify you about future cleanup work and public comment periods.

For information about other Ecology public comment periods, meetings, and other events, please visit Ecology’s public events calendar at: http://apps.ecy.wa.gov/pubcalendar/calendar.asp.

What can you do?

1. Read about the cleanup in this handout.
2. To get more detailed information, review the supporting documents at the locations listed on page one.
3. Write down your comments and questions. Send them to the Department of Ecology at the address shown on page one.

We appreciate your comments and concerns. Thank you.
Figure 1. The North Marina West End Site is located between 11th and 14th Streets, off West Marine View Drive in Everett, WA. (Figure 1 from the RI/FS)

Figure 2. The North Marina West End Site is part of the Port of Everett’s North Marina Area Redevelopment Project, Port Gardner Wharf. (Modified Figure 2 from the RI/FS)
North Marina West End Site, Everett
Snohomish County, WA

Ecology Seeks Public Comment on Draft Site Investigation Documents

Public Comment Period: July 5 through August 5, 2011

Facility Site ID #: 3306834

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