UNOCAL Edmonds Bulk Fuel Terminal Site

Public Comment sought on: Remedial Investigation Reports, Agreed Order for Interim Action

The Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) invites public comment on three documents: Remedial Investigation Report, Supplemental Remedial Investigation Report, and Agreed Order for Interim Action for the Unocal Edmonds Bulk Fuel Terminal Site, located at 11720 Unoco Road, Edmonds, Washington (see map). The Agreed Order includes a work plan, public participation plan, State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) checklist, and SEPA Determination of Nonsignificance.

You are welcome and encouraged to review and comment on these documents between July 5 and August 3, 2007.

Agreed Order to Cleanup Petroleum and Metals Contamination

Ecology and Union Oil Company of California (Unocal) have entered into a legal agreement called an Agreed Order that will require Unocal to continue cleanup of petroleum and metals contamination from the Unocal Edmonds Bulk Fuel Terminal Site.

Contamination at the site consists primarily of petroleum related products. There is also limited metals contamination from sand blast grit used to clean equipment. Several interim actions have already been conducted to clean up portions of the site. The Agreed Order includes a work plan for conducting an interim action that is expected to complete the cleanup of the site. The action is an “interim action” (that is, not a final action), because monitoring must be conducted to assess whether the cleanup actions have been sufficient or whether additional cleanup actions are required.

The Agreed Order includes an interim action work plan, which describes the work to be conducted and is included as Exhibit B of the Agreed Order. The interim action will:

- Excavate all soil with metals contamination exceeding Ecology’s cleanup level. This will be protective of direct contact with the soil (such as ingestion) and protective of groundwater.
- Excavate all soil with petroleum contamination exceeding safe levels for direct contact. Excavation of this soil is anticipated to be protective of groundwater.
- Conduct monitoring to assess whether petroleum concentrations in soil remaining on site are in fact protective of groundwater. If necessary, additional cleanup actions will be taken.
- Excavate contaminated sediment in Willow Creek.

July 2007

Public Comment Period: July 5 – August 3, 2007

Public Meeting: July 11, 2007 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Brackett Room Edmonds City Hall 121 Fifth Avenue North

Documents can be reviewed at the following locations:

- Edmonds Public Library 650 Main Street Edmonds, WA 98020
- WA Department of Ecology Northwest Regional Office 3190 160th Avenue SE Bellevue, WA 98008 (425) 649-7190 (Call for an appointment)

Questions and written comments:

David L. South, Site Manager WA Department of Ecology 3190 160th Avenue SE Bellevue, WA 98008 (425) 649-7200 Email: dsou461@ecy.wa.gov

Facility Site ID #: 2720
The primary excavation work will occur in the summer and fall of 2007. Sediment in Willow Creek will be excavated in 2008. Groundwater monitoring will be conducted for a two-year period to gather and evaluate data to determine whether petroleum concentrations in soil remaining on site after excavation are protective of groundwater. The data collection period is from Fall 2007 until Fall 2009. An evaluation of the data is anticipated to be completed in the first half of 2010.

SEPA Checklist and Determination of Nonsignificance

A SEPA checklist and determination of nonsignificance are included in Appendix N of the Interim Action Work Plan. Ecology has determined that the actions to be taken at the site will not have a significant effect on the environment and preparation of an environmental impact statement will not be required. The work will be conducted in a manner similar to other construction projects.

Public Participation Plan

Ecology has prepared a Public Participation Plan for this site; see Exhibit F of the Agreed Order. The plan is designed to promote meaningful community involvement during the investigation, and cleanup at the site.

The plan outlines and describes tools Ecology will use to inform the public about site activities, and it identifies opportunities for the community to become involved in this process.

Remedial Investigation and Supplemental Remedial Investigation Reports

The nature and extent of contamination at the Unocal Edmonds site has been investigated over a number of years, beginning in 1993. The information gathered is presented in two reports, the Remedial Investigation Report, dated June 2001, and the Supplemental Remedial Investigation Report, dated April 28, 2003. These reports are available for review.

Ecology would like your input

Ecology is holding a public comment period from July 5 through August 3, 2007. You have an opportunity to review and provide comments on the documents for the Unocal Edmonds Bulk Fuel Terminal site. These documents are available for review at the information repositories listed on the first page of this fact sheet and on Ecology’s web site (see box on page 1 for address).

Please send your comments before August 3, 2007, to Ecology’s Site Manager, David L. South, at the address in the box on the first page of this fact sheet. Comments may be sent by mail or e-mail. E-mail should include “Unocal Edmonds” in the subject line.

A public meeting will be held on July 11, 2007. The meeting will be held from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. in the Brackett Room located on the 3rd floor of Edmonds City Hall, 121 Fifth Avenue North.

Ecology has issued this Agreed Order in advance of the public comment period because it is important to have as much of the construction season as possible for excavating the contaminated soil. Ecology and Unocal have worked with the City of Edmonds, Edmonds Citizens Awareness Committee, Port of Edmonds, and Washington State Department of Transportation in developing the planned work. Each of these stakeholders has been involved with the site for some time.

What Happens Next?

Once the public comment period ends, Ecology will review all comments received and will assess whether changes are needed in the manner in which work will be performed or whether work is needed in addition to the interim actions required under this Agreed Order. Once the interim action is complete, needed further work will be identified to complete the cleanup actions to be taken at the site. This will be an opportunity for the public to comment on this work.

Site Background

The Unocal Edmonds Bulk Fuel Terminal operated from 1923 to 1991. The facility was primarily used for storing, blending, and distribution various petroleum products, including gasoline, diesel, and bunker fuel. An asphalt plant also operated on Unocal’s property between 1953 and the late 1970s. Fuel has not been received by the facility since 1991.

The Unocal facility consisted of an Upper and Lower Yard (see figure). Truck-loading racks, office buildings, a laboratory, and an asphalt plant were located in the Lower Yard. During the course of more than 60 years of operation, petroleum releases occurred at the Unocal facility. Petroleum contamination now exists in the soil on the Unocal property and has been detected floating on the groundwater beneath the property.

The primary environmental issues at the site are migration of petroleum from contaminated soil to groundwater and potentially to surface water, as well as transport of petroleum from the areas where floating product occurs on groundwater. The site also has areas of sand blast grit in the surface soil. In 2001, an interim action removed petroleum product floating on groundwater. In 2003, an interim action was conducted to remove contaminated soil and sediment from stormwater
Detention Basin 1 in the north part of the site and from the southwest portion of the site. The work beginning in 2007 is a continuation of this work.

The Washington State Department of Transportation plans to purchase the Lower Yard and construct a multimodal transportation terminal on the site. This will include construction of a new ferry terminal to replace the current Edmonds Ferry Terminal.

**Location of Unocal Edmonds Bulk Fuel Terminal Site**

**Need More Information?**

For information about other Ecology public comment periods, meetings, hearings, workshops, and open houses, please visit Ecology’s public events calendar at: http://apps.ecy.wa.gov/pubcalendar/calendar.asp. Read Frequently Asked Questions about Effective Public Commenting at this link to learn more about the public comment process.
Unocal Edmonds Bulk Fuel Terminal Site

Ecology Seeks Public Comment on Remedial Investigation Reports, Proposed Agreed Order, Work Plan and draft Public Participation Plan

Public Comment Period
July 5 – August 3, 2007