

Lewis County Central Shop – Chehalis



Investigation agreement and work plan available for public review and comment

The Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) has prepared this fact sheet pursuant to the Model Toxics Control Act (MTCA) Chapter 70.105D to provide you with information about a proposed contaminated site investigation at the Lewis County Central Shop.

You are welcome and encouraged to comment on the Agreed Order (the legal agreement between Ecology and Lewis County to conduct a Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study RI/FS) and the Remedial Investigation Work Plan through August 7, 2000.

Definitions

An **“Agreed Order”** is a legal document issued by Ecology under which the Potentially Liable Person (in this case, Lewis County) receiving the order agrees to comply. It may be used to require or approve an RI/FS, a cleanup, or other action.

A **“Potentially Liable Person”** is any person whom Ecology finds, based on credible evidence, to be liable.

A **“Remedial Investigation”** is a study to define the nature, extent, magnitude, and source of the problems at a site.

A **“Feasibility Study”** uses information obtained in the Remedial Investigation to determine alternative methods to clean up the site.

Site background

The Lewis County Central Shop is located in a rural setting at 109 Forest Napavine Road in Chehalis, Washington. It is seven acres in size, with one-half of the site being paved and covered with five buildings, and the other half unpaved. The nearest resident is located within one-quarter mile.

Since the mid-1950s, Lewis County has used the property for a variety of activities that include vehicle and construction equipment maintenance (general automotive repair and servicing), vehicle and construction equipment washing and fueling, and construction material storage. Currently, it's used as Lewis County's vehicle repair and maintenance shop, and it houses the Traffic Control Division of the Public Works Department.

The Lewis County Central Shop was first inspected by Ecology in 1985 in relation to the facility's waste management practices. The contamination present on the site may be a result of the past waste management practices. In 1998, during routine testing of water, Lewis County Environmental Services found elevated levels of solvents in the site's well water. And then in April 2000, a sample of well water detected elevated levels of solvents in an off-site domestic well, located approximately 1,000 feet north-northwest of the site.

JULY 2000

Public Comment Period:

July 7 – August 7, 2000

Comments and requests for updates should be directed to:

Panjini Balaraju, Site Manager
Department of Ecology
Toxics Cleanup Program
Southwest Regional Office
PO Box 47775
Olympia WA 98504-7775
(360) 407-6243
pbal461@ecy.wa.gov

Information Repositories

The Agreed Order and Remedial Investigation Work Plan may be reviewed at the following locations:

Centralia Timberland Library
110 S. Silver Street
Centralia, WA
(360) 736-0183

Department of Ecology
Southwest Regional Office
300 Desmond Drive
Lacey, WA
(360) 407-6243

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Lewis County is supplying bottled drinking water to two families.

In the past six months, preliminary site investigations have been conducted to assist in planning the scope of the Remedial Investigation.

The Remedial Investigation

The source and the extent of the soil and ground water contamination are still unknown. The goals of the Remedial Investigation are to identify the contaminant source and evaluate the amount of contaminants in soil, ground water, and surface water (if warranted). This will be done, as proposed, through the following tasks:

- A ground water survey of nearby residents will be conducted to provide an accurate account of public water and well-water users in the area, as well as to provide a complete listing of wells located within the survey boundaries.
- The discharge point for the drain system of the shop floor, which was not apparent during the preliminary investigations, will be located. The floor drain and associated discharge area are considered suspect sources of the contaminants associated with past management practices at the site.
- Soil borings will be installed in suspect source areas. Soil and water samples will be collected from each boring in order to assess the distribution of chemicals in soil and ground water beneath the site. The results of the samples will assist in optimizing the placement of

proposed on-site monitoring wells.

- On-site ground water wells will be installed and monitored.
- Ground water sampling of on-site monitoring wells, the site's water supply well, and selected off-site domestic supply wells will be conducted several times to characterize the nature and extent of impacts to ground water.

A Remedial Investigation report will be produced to document the results of the investigation. It will provide a detailed characterization of site conditions and describe identified contaminant source areas.

The Site Statistics

Drinking water: Confirmed halogenated organics and non-halogenated solvents contamination

Ground water: Confirmed halogenated organics and non-halogenated solvents contamination

Soil: Suspected halogenated organics and non-halogenated solvents contamination

Soil & Ground water: Suspected petroleum contamination

Potentially Liable Person: Lewis County

Proposed Activity: Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study

The Feasibility Study

Based on the data collected during the Remedial Investigation, a Feasibility Study will be conducted to evaluate a range of cleanup methods for the site. A report will be produced that will discuss each method in detail – including the pros and cons.

Public Comment Period

The Agreed Order and Remedial Investigation Work Plan are now available for your review and comment. Should you have comments after reading either document, please submit them in writing to Panjini Balaraju, Site Manager, at the Ecology address listed in the box on page one.

After the public comment period, Ecology will review the comments received and will make recommendations for any suggested changes to the Agreed Order or Remedial Investigation Work Plan. If no significant changes are made, the documents are considered final and the site investigation will begin.

Please note: A public meeting may be held if 10 or more people request one during the public comment period.