Engineering Design Report – The Boeing Company plant, Renton

The Department of Ecology (Ecology) proposes an Engineering Design Report (Report) for cleanup action at the Boeing Company plant in Renton, Washington. The proposed Report includes detailed construction plans and specifications, and operation and maintenance plans to carry out the selected cleanup methods proposed in the Cleanup Action Plan.

Comments on the proposed Report will be accepted through September 29, 2014. After reviewing the public comments, Ecology will make a final decision.

Site Location and Background

The Boeing Company plant in Renton, Washington is located at 8th and Logan Avenue North, along the south shore of Lake Washington and across the Cedar River from the Renton Municipal Airport (see Site Map). This facility primarily produces 737 model commercial aircraft. Manufacturing operations include parts preparation, mechanical assembly, coating, testing, and other support operations associated with the final assembly of airplanes. Until Boeing acquired this property in 1962, airplanes were manufactured at this location for the U.S. Air Force.

In August 2001, The Boeing Company completed the site remedial investigation. This investigation showed that soils and groundwater in localized areas beneath the facility were contaminated with various solvents and petroleum products from leaks and spills over the years.

The Cleanup Action Plan was prepared and approved, and an Agreed Order (No. 8191) to implement this Cleanup Action Plan became effective in January 2013. The Report was developed in order to meet the requirements in Chapter 173-340-400 Washington Administrative Code (WAC).

Final Cleanup Action

Boeing will perform cleanup at 12 different locations. Three of them are located at a property leased at Renton Municipal Airport.
During the final cleanup, contaminated soil vapor will be extracted and treated in two locations: one in the middle of Boeing-owned property; and the other in the leased property. Groundwater will be treated by injecting oxygen or hydrogen releasing material into the groundwater to enhance microorganism activity, resulting in degradation and removal of contaminants through biological reaction.

Interim Cleanup Action

Over the past 18 years, several interim cleanup actions were completed to prevent contaminants from reaching Lake Washington and the Cedar River, and to protect industrial workers from potential exposure to contaminated soils. Contaminated groundwater was pumped and treated, and contaminated soils were excavated. Any residues left in soil and groundwater underneath are being treated by enhanced bioremediation.

Rules and Regulations

Cleanup activities at the facility, including contaminated soil and groundwater cleanup action, are regulated under the:

- Federal Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA);
- Washington State Dangerous Waste Regulations (Chapter 173-303 WAC); and
- Washington State Model Toxics Control Act (MTCA) (Chapter 173-340 WAC).

Public Hearing Possible

Ecology will conduct a public hearing if ten or more people request one. Contact Byung Maeng by phone, letter, or email by September 29, 2014 to:

- Request a hearing.
- Request special accommodation for the hearing, if one is held.
- Find out if a hearing will be held.
- Find out the date, time, and location of hearing, if one is held.

Ecology’s Procedures for Reaching a Final Decision

Once the public comment period ends and all comments have been reviewed, Ecology will consider and respond to written comments submitted. Ecology will then recommend suggested changes to the proposed Engineering Design Report. If no significant changes are made, the Report will be considered final. If changes are significant, an additional public comment period will be held.

Regulatory requirements under the Model Toxics Control Act for the public review process are in WAC 173-340-600. For more information, see http://apps.leg.wa.gov/wac/default.aspx?cite=173-340.

Effective Date of Decision

The effective date of Ecology’s decision will be the date on Ecology’s letter approving the proposed Engineering Design Report.
Glossary of Terms Used

**Agreed Order:** A legal agreement between Ecology and a potentially liable person (PLP) to conduct work toward a cleanup. Agreed Order (No: 8191) requires Boeing to clean up the contaminated soil and groundwater at the Boeing Renton facility. This Agreed Order includes Cleanup Action Plan, Public Participation Plan, Environmental Restrictive Covenant, State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) Checklist and Determination of Non-Significance (DNS), and List of Reports documenting releases at the Boeing Renton facility, as attachments.

**Cleanup Action Plan:** A Cleanup Action Plan describes proposed cleanup actions and work to be performed at the site. The proposed cleanup action alternatives for the Boeing Renton site include soil vapor extraction, enhanced bioremediation, monitored attenuation, source area excavation, and institutional control. The Cleanup Action Plan is based on the remedial investigation and feasibility study.

**Dangerous Waste Regulations:** The purpose of these regulations are to manage and regulate wastes, which are dangerous or extremely hazardous to public health and the environment. This is achieved by requiring proper designation, proper treatment, storage and disposal, proper closure and post-closure of dangerous waste management units, and corrective action of contaminated environmental media.

**Engineering Design Report:** The Engineering Design Report includes detailed construction plans and specifications, and operation and maintenance plans to carry out the selected cleanup methods proposed in the Cleanup Action Plan.

**Enhanced Bioremediation:** Bioremediation is a treatment technology using microorganisms in soil and groundwater. Microorganism breaks down contaminants into less toxic or non-toxic materials. Bioremediation can be enhanced by adding substrates, which speed up biological reactions.
**Interim Action:** A remedial action that is technically necessary to reduce a threat to human health and the environment by eliminating or substantially reducing one or more pathways for exposure to a hazardous substance, or to correct a problem that may become substantially worse or cost substantially more to address if remedial action is delayed.

**Model Toxics Control Act (MTCA):** Legislation passed by citizens of the State of Washington through an initiative in 1988. Its purpose is to identify, investigate, and clean up facilities where hazardous substances have been released. It defines the role of Ecology and encourages public involvement in the decision-making process.

**Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study:** The Remedial Investigation characterizes the environmental conditions at the site. The Feasibility Study develops potential cleanup alternatives for the site.


**Accommodation Requests:**
To request ADA accommodation including materials in a format for the visually impaired, call Ecology at 360-407-6700. Persons with impaired hearing may call Washington Relay Service at 711. Persons with speech disability may call TTY at 877-833-6341.