

Duwamish River Superfund Site Malarkey Asphalt (Terminal-117) Cleanup Plan Community Fact Sheet

Prepared by the Duwamish River Cleanup Coalition (DRCC-TAG)

WHAT IS Terminal 117?

Terminal 117 (T-117), is a former asphalt manufacturing plant which operated until the early 1990s and is now owned by the Port of Seattle. The site sits on the west bank of the Duwamish River in South Park and is highly contaminated with PCBs (a group of carcinogenic chemicals banned in the U.S.), TPH (oils) and other toxic chemicals. The Port of Seattle and the City of Seattle have previously conducted cleanups of toxic soils at the property and from the streets as part of early cleanup actions. The Environmental Engineering/Cost Analysis (EE/CA) – a “non-time critical removal action” report - is being released in June 2010, and is the next step in the cleanup that will remove contaminated soil and sediments in the river and uplands and cleanup groundwater and surface water in this area too.



Let your Voice be Heard!

EPA Public Meeting

Thursday, June 17th

**5:30 – 8:30 PM at South Park Community Center,
8319 8th Avenue South**

Food, child care and Spanish and Vietnamese interpretation will be available.

5:30-6:00pm: Open House

6:00-7:00pm: Presentations by DRCC and EPA

7:00-8:30pm: Public Testimony

CITIZEN SUCCESSES!

The residents of South Park have made the cleanup of T-117 better! Because of you, the size and scope of the cleanup was increased, and the uplands area will be cleaned up to standards that are more protective of human and wildlife health. The Port of Seattle has indicated plans for developing public access and habitat restoration after the cleanup. It should be noted, though, that the future site development is not part of this stage of the planning process.

Find Out More!

Community Meetings

South Park Neighborhood Center

8201 10th Ave. S

Food, child care and simultaneous Spanish interpretation will be provided.

June 15, 6:00-8:00 PM

HOW TO COMMENT

EPA releases the draft cleanup plan to the public on June 7th, and will accept formal Public Comments on their cleanup plans for T-117 until July 7. This is the only opportunity the public will have to weigh in on EPA's plans for the cleanup of the T117 site.

Letters and comments can be sent to EPA at r10terminal117@epa.gov, until July 7, 2010. Please cc: DRCC-TAG on your letters at contact@duwamishcleanup.org.

Questions?

Contact Thea Levkovitz at DRCC-TAG: thea@duwamishcleanup.org or (206) 954-0218, or visit our web page for more information: www.duwamishcleanup.org

June 11, 2010

HOW WILL THE SITE BE CLEANED UP?

There are three areas that are being cleaned up:

- T-117 Sediment Study Area – the aquatic portion of the site
- T-117 Upland Study Area (15.2-acres) – an upland area that was the site of historical industrial activities
- Adjacent Streets and Residential Yards Study Area – the streets and residential yards adjacent to the T-117 Upland Study Area that were investigated for contamination resulting from historical industrial activities at T-117. This area is east of 14th Ave. S and bounded by Dallas Avenue S and S Donovan St.



The proposed cleanup plan includes:

- Removal by excavation and/or capping of PCB-contaminated sediment above 12 parts per million (ppm) and upland soil above 1 ppm and backfill of excavated areas to restore the river bed, followed later by habitat restoration/public access development. Proposed Alternatives #1 and #2 are essentially the same except that Alternative #2 removes all of the contaminated sediment in the river.
- Removal of PCB- and dioxins/furans-contaminated soil in neighborhood areas where these two chemicals have been found to be co-located.

WHAT IS CURRENTLY MISSING FROM THE CLEANUP PLAN?

Some yards are not being cleaned up: In 2008, toxic dioxin/furans were found in some of the streets adjacent to T-117. The levels of dioxin/furans are higher

than typical 'urban' values. The EPA asked the City of Seattle to do additional testing in streets and residential yards which was paid for by the Department of Ecology. PCBs and dioxin/furans were found in some yards. Unfortunately, not all of the yards were tested and only those yards with PCBs or PCBs and dioxins/furans will be cleaned up. Yards containing only dioxins/furans will not be cleaned up, according to the proposed plan.

DRCC-TAG's Science Advisor's Recommendations:

1. **Implement Alternative #2.** DRCC-TAG agrees that Alternative #2 – which is the "preferred alternative" in the EE/CA - is the most protective of human health and the environment for the in-water sediment and immediate shoreline cleanup
2. **Sampling in residential areas is incomplete.** EPA, the City and citizens do not know how widespread elevated dioxin/furans in soils are in the neighborhood. Dioxins/furans in soil pose serious health risks and should be removed from all locations where they are elevated, not just those found with PCBs.
3. **Testing for dioxins to the west, across 14th Avenue.** DRCC-TAG is concerned that elevated dioxin/furans may possibly occur in the area of South Park west of 14th Avenue. This area should be sampled to determine if dioxins/furans are present in elevated concentrations.

SUMMARY COMMENTS

- Support Alternative 2
- Analyze archived existing soil samples from the T-117 neighborhood for dioxin/furans
- Test soils from the neighborhood west of 14th Avenue for dioxin/furans
- Support seamless habitat restoration and public access at T-117 to be constructed immediately following toxic sediment removal.

THE EPA AND ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

EPA national Administrator, Lisa Jackson, has made Environmental Justice one of her top seven priorities. As defined by EPA, Environmental Justice is "the fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people regardless of race, color, national origin, or income with respect to the development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies." (www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice)

Duwamish River Cleanup Coalition/TAG

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