

ENVIRONMENTAL Fact Sheet



Frontier Hard Chrome, Vancouver, Washington

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

September 2004

Ecology To Take Over Monitoring at Frontier Hard Chrome

In the summer of 2003, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) completed active cleanup work related to hexavalent chromium at the Frontier Hard Chrome site in Vancouver, Washington. This fall, the Washington State Department of Ecology will take over the site as the lead monitoring agency.

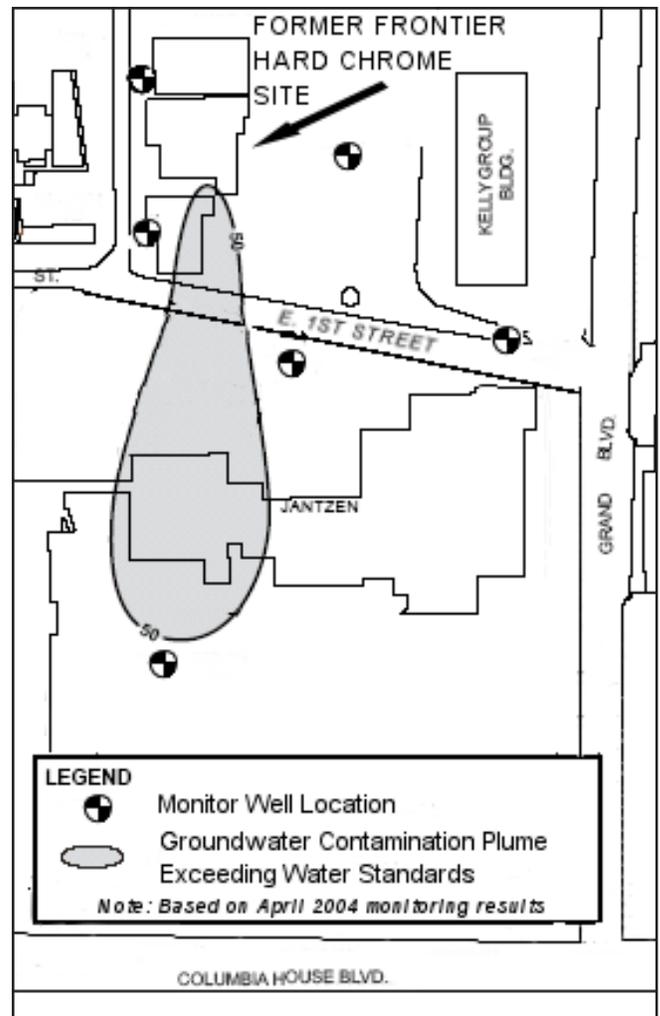
“Future work involves monitoring the site to make sure that contamination levels continue to decrease,” said Chuck Hinds, Ecology Project Manager. “Treatment of soil and groundwater, in conjunction with a down-gradient treatment barrier, has decreased hexavalent chromium levels in 18 out of 33 monitoring wells in six months.” Ecology plans to test the groundwater every six months over the next few years. Monitoring will continue until cleanup goals are met.

Chromium Plume Update

Even though chromium contamination within the treatment zone has been minimized, its impact extends beyond that zone. If not monitored and contained, the plume could reach the Columbia River. Because of this concern, people are not allowed to drill wells within the site or down gradient of the site. Pumping of wells may interfere with the natural breakdown of contaminants or expose people to contaminants.

Site Background

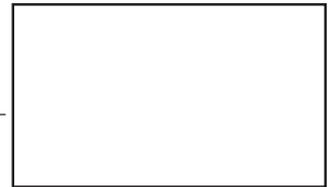
The Frontier Hard Chrome site is about a half mile north of the Columbia River in Vancouver. Chrome-plating took place there between 1958 and 1982. In the 1970s and early 1980s, site operators discharged wastewater containing hexavalent chromium to an on-site dry well. Based on EPA and Ecology studies, EPA added the site to the Superfund National Priorities List (NPL) in 1983. Using new technologies for treating chrome, EPA began the site cleanup late in 2002. EPA removed some 250 truckloads of contaminated soil, and injected a chemical substance into the most contaminated soils and groundwater sources. This kept chromium contamination from spreading. With EPA’s cleanup done, the site is now ready for redevelopment.





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*Frontier Hard Chrome
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September 2004*

For More Information

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Visit the Site Information Repository

Vancouver Community Library
1007 East Mill Plain Boulevard
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Websites

Washington State Department of Ecology
<http://www.ecy.wa.gov/>

www.epa.gov/r10earth, click on *Index A-Z*,
then *F* for Frontier Hard Chrome or enter:
[http://yosemite.epa.gov/r10/cleanup.nsf/sites/
FHC](http://yosemite.epa.gov/r10/cleanup.nsf/sites/FHC)



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