

# ENVIRONMENTAL Fact Sheet



**Taylor Lumber and Treating, Sheridan, Oregon**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 10

July 2005

## Comments Requested on Taylor Lumber and Treating Cleanup Plan

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) invites your comments on alternatives for cleaning up remaining contamination at the Taylor Lumber and Treating Superfund site in Sheridan, Oregon. This fact sheet briefly describes the cleanup alternatives and presents EPA's preferred alternative. Details on the preferred and other alternatives for the site are contained in the Proposed Plan.

EPA will consider all comments received during the public comment period, from **July 28, 2005 to August 26, 2005**, before choosing the final cleanup plan for the site. Please send written comments to:

### **Karen Keeley**

U.S. EPA Project Manager  
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Seattle, WA 98101-1128  
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### **PROPOSED PLAN**

EPA wants to prevent human contact with contaminated soil and groundwater, and to stop contaminated groundwater from reaching the South Yamhill River. We have developed a proposed plan that describes the site cleanup alternatives.

EPA will select the combination of alternatives that provides the best long-term cleanup for the money spent, is practical, and can be completed in a reasonable amount of time. Each of the proposed alternatives allows the current property owner, Pacific Wood Preserving of Oregon, to continue operating.

#### **EPA's goals** for the site are to:

- 1) maintain the underground barrier wall that contains contaminated soil and groundwater
- 2) reduce or eliminate human contact with highly contaminated soil
- 3) reduce or eliminate risks to the environment from contaminated soil
- 4) prevent human exposure to highly contaminated groundwater
- 5) prevent contaminated groundwater from reaching Rock Creek and South Yamhill River

The preferred alternative is to place an asphalt cap over contaminated soils; continue operation of a subsurface barrier wall that contains contaminated media; extract and treat contaminated groundwater; and perform long-term monitoring to ensure protection of human health and the environment. It would reduce risks more quickly than some of the other options (*see page 2*). The technology is reliable and will result in long-term protection at a reasonable cost.

The final plan, called the Record of Decision, may include a different combination of alternatives, based on comments we receive on this proposed plan. Depending upon technical reviews of groundwater options, EPA may change the preferred groundwater alternative from GW3 to GW2 (*see page 2*).

Each of the alternatives includes institutional controls and monitoring. The types of controls will be different for each alternative. Institutional controls are legal requirements that apply to anyone operating on the site. An example would

*(continued on page 3)*

## SUMMARY OF CLEANUP ALTERNATIVES\*

### SOIL OUTSIDE BARRIER WALL

<p>SO-2: \$1.7 million; 1 year to construct. <b>PREFERRED</b></p> <p>Excavation and consolidation on-site, asphalt cap. If cost-effective, excess soil may be sent off site. Institutional controls and monitoring.</p>	<p>SO-3: \$5.7 million; 2 years to construct.</p> <p>Same as SO-2 with additional capping of unpaved soil with liner system and gravel. Institutional controls and monitoring.</p>	<p>SO-4: \$25 million; 2 years to construct.</p> <p>Excavation and off-site disposal, capping of unpaved soil with liner system and gravel. Some institutional controls and monitoring.</p>
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### GROUNDWATER OUTSIDE BARRIER WALL

<p>GW-2: \$12,000; 1 year to construct.</p> <p>Institutional controls to restrict anyone from pumping groundwater for drinking purposes. Monitoring to make sure that chemical plume does not reach creek or river. <b>Note:</b> This may become EPA's preferred alternative if technical reviews show it is more effective.</p>	<p>GW-3: \$327,000, 2 years to construct. <b>PREFERRED</b></p> <p>Same as GW-2 with pumping and treating of groundwater with high chemical concentrations. Pumping also would reduce the possibility of contaminated groundwater reaching the creek or river. Institutional controls and monitoring.</p>	<p>GW-4: \$302,000; 2 years to construct.</p> <p>Same as GW-2 with addition of activated carbon barrier which would remove chemicals from water using unproven technology. Institutional controls and monitoring.</p>
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### SOIL & GROUNDWATER INSIDE BARRIER WALL

<p>BW-2: \$1.8 million, 2 years to construct.</p> <p>Replace existing asphalt cap with an estimated 12-inch asphalt/concrete cap. Final grade would match the current grade. Institutional controls and monitoring.</p>	<p>BW-3: \$1.8 million, 2 years to construct.</p> <p>Repair existing asphalt cap with asphalt. Add an estimated 8-inch asphalt/concrete cap on top. The final grade would be 8 inches above the current grade. Institutional controls and monitoring.</p>	<p>BW-4: \$1.8 million, 2 years to construct. <b>PREFERRED</b></p> <p>Same as BW-2 except that final grade would be an estimated 4 inches above current grade. Institutional controls and monitoring.</p>
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\* One alternative not being considered is to take no further cleanup action at the site.

**PROPOSED PLAN** *(continued from page 1)*

be a requirement that the site must always be used for industrial purposes and cannot be used for homes. Monitoring would include groundwater sampling. All of the alternatives include removing contaminated soil from ditches next to the property.

**SITE BACKGROUND**

For over thirty years, Taylor Lumber and Treating (TLT) operated a wood-treating plant near Sheridan, Oregon. Toxic and cancer causing chemicals, such as creosote and pentachlorophenol, were used to preserve wood. Many wood-treating chemical spills contaminated soil and groundwater at the site. EPA has carried out three emergency actions to protect on-site employees, local residents, and the South Yamhill River from the spilled chemicals. EPA

cleaned up a residential yard on Rock Creek Road and will clean ditches next to that yard this summer.

To protect workers from contact with contaminated soil, an asphalt cap covers the former treated-pole area. An underground barrier wall was built to surround the most contaminated portion of the site (where logs were dipped into chemical baths). The wall stops polluted groundwater from moving off the property and reaching the South Yamhill River. An asphalt cap covers the area enclosed by the wall to prevent contact with the soil. Now EPA wants to make a number of these “fixes” permanent.

When Taylor Lumber declared bankruptcy in 2001, Pacific Wood Preserving of Oregon (PWPO) bought this property. PWPO is now producing treated wood products using chemicals that are safer for their employees and for the environment.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION****General Information****Renée Dagseth**

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**The proposed plan and administrative record can be reviewed at**

Sheridan Public Library  
142 NW Yamhill Street  
Sheridan, Oregon

**EPA Region 10**

Superfund Records Center  
1200 Sixth Avenue  
Seattle, WA 98101-1128  
206-553-4494 *(Please call for an appointment.)*

**Visit our website:** <http://www.epa.gov/r10earth/>.

Click on *Index A - Z*, then on *T*, and on *Taylor Lumber & Treating site*.

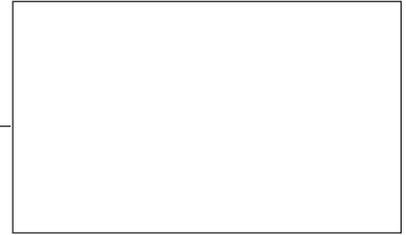


*Alternative formats are available. For reasonable accommodation, please call Renée Dagseth. TTY users, please call the Federal Relay Service at 800-877-8339 and give the operator Renée Dagseth's phone number.*



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Return Service Requested



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