Terminal 4 Early Action Cleanup June 2005

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) invites you to comment on four alternatives for cleaning up contaminated river sediments at the Port of Portland's marine Terminal 4 on the Willamette River.

Sediment Cleanup Alternatives Available For Public Review

The Port of Portland has developed four alternatives for cleaning up contaminated sediments at marine Terminal 4. The four alternatives are described in an Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis (EE/CA) prepared for EPA by the Port of Portland.

Each cleanup alternative had to meet the basic test of protecting human health and the environment to be included in the analysis. Also, each alternative includes a combination of the proven methods for cleaning up contaminated sediments: monitored natural recovery, capping and dredging.

Alternative A emphasizes monitored natural recovery – using naturally occurring processes such as chemical breakdown, chemical bonding and covering of sediments.

Alternative B emphasizes capping – covering contaminated sediments with specially designed layers of material.

Alternative C emphasizes dredging – physically removing contaminated sediments from the river – with disposal in a confined disposal facility (CDF). A CDF is a carefully designed, permanent holding area with a berm that isolates dredged sediments from the river and surrounding environment. CDFs are used routinely at Superfund sites for disposal of dredged contaminated sediments.

Alternative D emphasizes dredging with disposal in a landfill. The method of disposal of contaminated sediments is what distinguishes Alternative C and D.

The EE/CA can be reviewed and downloaded on the EPA website at http://yosemite.epa.gov/R10/CLEANUP.NSF/sites/T4. Hard copies of the EE/CA are also available at the Multnomah County Central Library in downtown Portland, and St. Johns and Northwest branch libraries. You also can obtain a copy from **Judy Smith**, EPA Community Involvement Coordinator at (503) 326-6994 or smith.judy@epa.gov.

How Can I Comment?

EPA invites your comments on the four cleanup alternatives. Comments must be received or postmarked **by July 8, 2005.** Please submit written comments about the EE/CA to **Sean Sheldrake,** EPA Project Manager, at 1200 Sixth Ave., ECL-117, Seattle, WA 98101 or e-mail: sheldrake.sean@epa.gov. You can offer verbal comments at a public hearing at:

St. Johns Community Center
8427 N. Central
Thursday, June 23, 2005
at 6:00 p.m.

Comment Period extended to August 8th 2005

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Terminal 4 project area of Portland Harbor.

How Will My Comments Be Used?

EPA will consider any public comments received and then select one of the four alternatives in the fall of 2005. After EPA selects the cleanup alternative, the Port will begin engineering designs for it. The Port's implementation of the cleanup alternative, under EPA oversight, is scheduled to begin in 2007.

Site Background

The Port of Portland's Marine Terminal 4 is located on the east side of the Willamette River, just north of the St. Johns Bridge. Terminal 4 is located within the Portland Harbor Superfund site.

Contamination at the site is the result of years of historical use, such as loading and unloading petroleum products, pencil pitch, liquid fertilizer, soda-ash, metals and agricultural products. The area being cleaned up is along the northern half of the site, including Slip 1, Slip 3 and Wheeler Bay.

The Port of Portland entered a voluntary agreement with EPA in October 2003 to remove contaminated sediment at Terminal 4 as an early action removal for the Portland Harbor Superfund site.

For More Information, Contact:

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503-326-6994
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Sean Sheldrake, EPA Project Mgr. (Early Actions)
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Sue Safford, Port of Portland Envrironmental Outreach Manager
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Information Repositories at Multnomah County Libraries:

Central Library
Government Documents
801 SW 10th Avenue

St. Johns Branch
Reference Desk
7510 N. Charleston Avenue

Northwest Branch Library
Reference Desk
2300 NW Thurman Street

On the Web:

EPA Terminal 4 website: http://yosemite.epa.gov/R10CLEANUP.NSF/sites/T4
Port of Portland Terminal 4 Early Action Sediments Cleanup: http://www.portofportland.com/T4_EA_Home.aspx

Alternative formats are available. To request reasonable accommodation for people with disabilities, please call Judy Smith. TTY users, please call 1-800-977-8339.

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Region 10 (ETPA-081)
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YOUR COMMENTS ARE INVITED ON
TERMINAL 4 EARLY ACTION CLEANUP
PORTLAND HARBOR SUPERFUND SITE
PORTLAND, OREGON
JUNE 2005

<>Working with you for a better environment <>