

ENVIRONMENTAL Fact Sheet



Quendall Terminals, Renton, Washington

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 10

September 2005

Quendall Terminals Site Proposed for National Priorities List

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is proposing to add the Quendall Terminals site to the National Priorities List (NPL). Quendall Terminals is located at 4503 Lake Washington Boulevard in Renton, Washington. It is the site of a former creosote manufacturing operation where past releases of coal tars and creosote have contaminated soil, groundwater, surface water, and lake sediments.

Listing a site on the NPL notifies the public and other parties that EPA believes the site requires further investigation and possible cleanup actions under Superfund.

Sixty-day public comment periods begins September 14

EPA will accept public comments regarding the proposed NPL listing during a 60-day comment period beginning **September 14, 2005**. See page 3 to find out where you can get more information and how to submit comments.

Why is this site being proposed for the NPL?

There is extensive contamination of the soil, groundwater, and lake sediments. Primary contaminants include cancer-causing polyaromatic hydrocarbons and benzene. These compounds are found at concentrations well above cleanup levels for industrial and residential sites.

Releases of pollution into Lake Washington are of particular concern. The lake is used for a variety of recreational purposes. There are two swimming beaches located within one-half mile of the site. In addition, the southern end of the lake is considered prime habitat for rearing of juvenile Chinook (a federally threatened species) and other salmon stocks. The Cedar River, which enters Lake Washington about 2 miles from the site, supports the largest sockeye run in the contiguous United States.

What happens if the site is listed on the NPL?

Once a site is listed on the NPL, it becomes eligible for remedial cleanup actions under Superfund. EPA's first step would be to evaluate all of the previous studies conducted at the site, and then determine if there is sufficient information to select a cleanup alternative.

Certain community involvement activities are also required for Superfund sites. This includes conducting **community interviews**, preparing a **community involvement plan**, establishing a local **information repository** near the site, and notifying the public about the availability of **technical assistance grants** that can be used to hire a technical advisor to help local citizens better understand and participate in the cleanup.

Site background

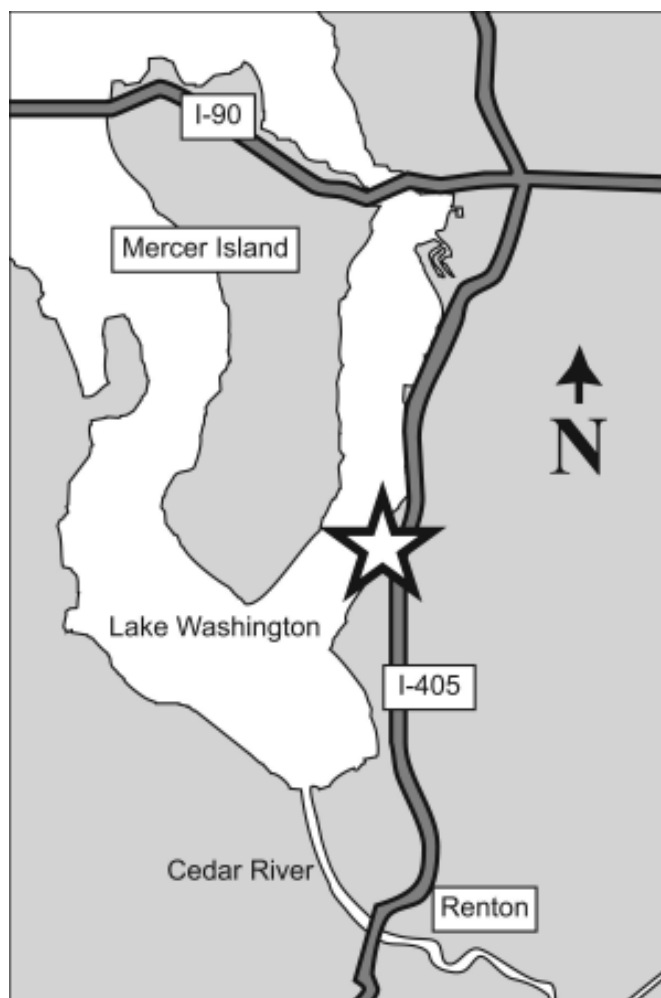
The Republic Creosoting Company, which later became Reilly Tar and Chemical Corporation, manufactured creosote at the 23-acre site from 1917 to 1969. The facility refined and processed coal tar and oil-gas tar residues into creosote and other chemical products. Releases of tars and creosote products to the environment occurred in parts of the site where the transport, production and storage of the products were performed. In 1971, the site was sold to Quendall Terminals, a joint venture of J.H. Baxter and Company and Altino Properties, Inc. Between 1969 and 1978, the site was used intermittently to store diesel, crude and waste oils. Since 1977, the site has been used as a log sorting and storage yard.

In 1993, the Department of Ecology negotiated an Agreed Order with Quendall Terminals to complete a remedial investigation and risk assessment, among other tasks. The remedial investigation was completed in 1997, but the schedule for completing the remaining tasks was delayed when the City of Renton and Port Quendall Company (a Vulcan, Inc. affiliate) expressed interest in purchasing the property for redevelopment. The City of Renton and Port Quendall Company eventually decided not to buy the property, and the Department of Ecology resumed negotiations with Quendall Terminals in 2004 to complete the risk assessment and other tasks in accordance with the 1993 Agreed Order. These documents were not finalized before Ecology transferred oversight for the cleanup to EPA. All previous work done under the Agreed Order will be considered by EPA in developing steps for future cleanup of the site.

Why did Ecology transfer oversight of the cleanup to EPA?

EPA and Ecology agreed that EPA would have more resources available to address cleanup of this complex site. In addition, there continues to be interest in redeveloping the site for purposes other than industrial. The property is currently zoned to allow for business and residential developments, which would require more stringent cleanup.

EPA's regulations under Superfund allow us to consider future uses of the property in developing a cleanup plan for the site.



Quendall Terminals is located at 4503 Lake Washington Boulevard in Renton, Washington.

Where can I find more information?

Notice of the proposed NPL listing was published in the Federal Register on September 14, 2005. You may review materials supporting the proposed listing during regular business hours at the following locations:

EPA Region 10 Records Center
1200 Sixth Avenue, 7th Floor, Seattle, WA
Hours: M-F, 8:30am – 4:30pm (by appt.)
206-553-4494

Renton Public Library
100 Mill Avenue South, Renton, WA
Call ahead for hours
425-430-6610

You can also view information online at:
www.epa.gov/superfund/sites/npl

How do I submit comments?

Comments on the proposed NPL listing must be submitted to EPA Headquarters at the address listed below. Mail the original and three copies of your comments (no facsimiles or tapes) to:

Docket Coordinator, Headquarters
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
CERCLA Docket Office
(Mail Code 5305T)
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20460
Attention Docket ID # SFUND-2005-0005

[Please note you must use a different address if you send your comments by Express Mail or courier. Refer to the Federal Register notice for more information.]

You may also submit your comments electronically at <http://www.regulations.gov>.

What happens to my comments?

EPA will consider all comments received during the public comment period. Significant comments will be addressed in a support document that EPA will publish in the Federal Register if, and when, the site

Questions?

If you have questions about the NPL listing or comment process, please contact:

Denise Baker
Region 10 NPL Coordinator
206-553-4303
baker.denise@epa.gov

For other questions about the site, please contact:

Charles Bert
Community Involvement Coordinator
360-753-8073
bert.charles@epa.gov

Lynda Priddy
Project Manager
206-553-1987
priddy.lynda@epa.gov

If you did not receive this fact sheet at home, and would like to be added to EPA's mailing list for the Quendall Terminals site, please contact EPA at one of the numbers listed above.



For people with disabilities, please call Charles Bert at 360-753-8073 with requests for reasonable accommodation. TTY users, please call 800-877-8339.



U. S. Environmental Protection Agency

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