ALCOA (VANCOUVER SMELTER)

WASHINGTON

EPA ID# WAD009045279

Last Update: April, 2002

EPA Region 10

Clark County
Vancouver

3rd Congressional District
Other Names: Aluminum Company of America- Vancouver, Vanalco, Inc.

Site Description

The Aluminum Company of America (ALCOA) operated an aluminum smelter in 1940 on a 300-acre site next to the Columbia River in Vancouver, Washington. Approximately 66,000 tons of potliners (special linning material used to protect steel pots where molten aluminum is processed) containing cyanide and fluoride were piled on the ground from 1973-1981. Groundwater and soil were contaminated with cyanide and fluoride. About 50,000 people draw drinking water from wells within three miles and upgradient of the site.

Site Responsibility: This site has been addressed through State and potentially responsible parties.

NPL Listing History	Dates
Proposed Date:	**06/24/88**
Final Date:	**02/21/90**
Deleted Date:	**09/30/96**

Threats and Contaminants

Media Affected: **Soil & Sludges, Groundwater**
The groundwater and soil are contaminated with cyanide and fluoride. The soil also contains alumina. Contaminated ground water and soil could pose a health risk to individuals through direct contact or accidental ingestion. The

Columbia River could potentialy be polluted by contaminants present at the site.

Cleanup Progress

The potentially responsible parties (PRPs) conducted cleanup work in 1992 under a Consent Decree agreement with the State of Washington. Actions included: excavating and transporting the source contaminants (50,000 tons of spent potliners and reclaimed alumina) to a permited landfill; covering contaminated soils under the former potliner piles; regrading the soil, fencing the facility, monitoring groundwater and the waters of the Columbia River; implementing institutional controls. All the actions mentioned above have been completed.

The site was deleted from the NPL on September 30, 1996.

Regional Contacts

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COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT COORDINATOR:	Washington Department of Ecology
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PHONE NUMBER:	

Information pertaining to this site is housed at the following location(s):

Washington Department of Ecology
Industrial Section
300 Desmond Drive

Lacey, WA 985033