JAN WATSON
EPA
HW-070

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November 5, 1992

Superfund Fact Sheet

Colbert Landfill

Spokane County, Washington

The purpose of this fact sheet is to invite public comment on a proposed state consent decree for cost recovery and provide an update on other activities concerning the Colbert Landfill Superfund site.

Proposed Consent Decree

The Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) has signed a proposed consent decree with Alumax Fabricated Products, Inc. and Alumax Mill Products, Inc. Under the proposed legal agreement Alumax would pay a lump sum of $432,500 to Ecology as reimbursement for Alumax's share of Ecology's costs in connection with cleanup actions at the Colbert Landfill.

The decree is not considered proof of liability or responsibility on the part of Alumax. In addition, the decree does not prevent Ecology from suing Alumax for additional cost recovery if additional problems are identified at Colbert Landfill in the future.

Public comments on the proposed decree will be considered, and the decree may be altered on the basis of such comments. Then the Federal District Court judge signs the decree to make it legally binding on the parties.

Alumax has also reached a conceptual agreement with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to settle outstanding costs of the United States associated with cleanup actions at the Colbert Landfill. After the United States gives final approval of this settlement, it will also be available for public comment.

Spokane County, KeyTronic, and Fairchild Air Force Base have paid EPA and Ecology for past costs of cleanup actions and/or performed cleanup actions at Colbert Landfill.

Public Meeting and Comment Period

Ecology invites you to the November 18 public meeting to discuss the proposed consent decree for Colbert Landfill. Come by any time between 6:30 and 7:30 p.m. if you would like to discuss the proposed decree with Ecology in an informal setting. At 7:30 Ecology will provide a brief presentation on the terms of the consent decree and then open a hearing to accept public comments on the decree. Ecology will also be available for discussion after the hearing.

You may also submit written comments on the proposed decree through December 9. To submit comments or get more information on the proposed decree, contact Ecology:

Chris Hempleman, Ecology Public Involvement
Department of Ecology
P.O. Box 47600
Olympia, Washington 98504-7600
(206) 438-3055

Copies of the proposed consent decree are available for review at the following locations:

Spokane Public Library
W. 811 Main, Suite 105, Spokane

North Spokane Library
E. 44 Hawthorn Road, Spokane

Colbert Elementary School
E. 4526 Green Bluff Road, Colbert

Department of Ecology
N. 4601 Monroe Street, Suite 100, Spokane

EPA Region 10 Library
1200 Sixth Avenue, 10th floor, Seattle

Public Comment Period
November 9 through December 9, 1992

Public Meeting
November 18, 6:30 p.m.
Colbert Elementary School
E. 4526 Green Bluff Road

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Project Update on Extraction and Treatment System

Spokane County has completed the designs for the groundwater extraction and monitoring wells and has selected their final locations. Well construction began in September and should be completed by March 1993. A total of thirteen wells in two systems will be used to extract contaminated groundwater, and twenty-four wells, at twelve locations, will be used to confirm that both of the extraction systems are working properly. The total groundwater extraction system is anticipated to pump about 1,000 gallons per minute.

The extracted water will be piped to a treatment facility, which Spokane County is now designing. During the summer and fall of 1993, the county will construct the facility in the southwest corner of the Colbert Landfill site, near the new solid waste transfer station. The treatment system is expected to be operational by the end of 1993. Water treated by the system will be discharged to the Little Spokane River.

Colbert Landfill Citizens Committee News

The Colbert Landfill Citizens Committee is selecting a technical advisor to represent the community. Funding for this position is provided under a Public Participation Grant from Ecology. The person selected will assist the committee by obtaining information from EPA, Ecology, and Spokane County; helping evaluate the cleanup; and explaining the technical decisions that affect the project and its impacts on the community.

If you have questions about the Colbert Landfill Citizens Committee, please contact [redacted] (b)

For More Information

If you would like more information about the cleanup work at the Colbert Landfill site, please contact one of the project managers:

Dean Fowler, Project Manager
Spokane County Utilities
North 811 Jefferson Street
Spokane, Washington 99260-0180
(509) 456-3604

Mike Kuntz, Project Manager
Department of Ecology
P.O. Box 47600
Olympia, Washington 98504-7600
(206) 438-3079 or **1 (800) 458-0920**

Neil Thompson, Project Manager
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Sixth Avenue, HW-113
Seattle, Washington 98101
(206) 553-7177 or **1 (800) 424-4372**

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