

Public Notice: Request for Comments

Proposed Consent Judgment for Portion of Cleanup Costs at Alkali Lake Facility

The purpose of this notice is to invite you to provide written comments on this proposed consent judgment.

DEQ's Role:

The Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) is responsible for protecting and enhancing Oregon's water and air quality, for cleaning up spills and releases of hazardous materials, and for managing the proper disposal of hazardous and solid wastes.

Notice issued: July 21, 2009

Written comments due: 5 p.m.
September 3, 2009

Where can I send my comments?

Mail comments to Jeff Christensen, Oregon DEQ, Manager, Emergency Response/Environmental Cleanup, Land Quality Division, 811 S.W. 6th, Portland, OR. 97204; by fax to 503-229-6954; or via email to christensen.jeff@deq.state.or.us.

Where can I get technical information?

To access the proposed Consent Judgment and other project file information in DEQ's Environmental Cleanup Site Information (ECSI) database on the Internet, go to <http://www.deq.state.or.us/lq/ECSI/ecsiquery.asp> then enter 291 in the Site ID box and click "Submit" at the bottom of the page. Hard copies of the proposed Consent Judgment are also available for review at DEQ's Office in The Dalles and DEQ's Headquarters Office.

What is proposed?

DEQ is proposing to enter into a Consent Judgment with Bayer CropScience, Inc. regarding a portion of DEQ's remedial action costs (cleanup costs) at the Alkali Lake facility, located in Lake Co., about 35 miles southeast of Christmas Valley, OR.

Who might have an interest?

People who work, live, and recreate in the area. The Alkali Lake facility became the repository of wastes from an herbicide chemical manufacturing facility, located in Portland. Bayer CropScience is the successor corporation to Rhodia, Inc. Rhodia, through its Chipman Div., owned and operated an herbicide manufacturing facility in Portland. Chipman contracted with Chemical Waste Storage & Disposition for disposal services. Transportation of wastes to the Alkali Lake Chemical Disposal Site began in February 1969.

In October 1976, DEQ took possession of the Alkali Lake Facility, including an estimated 25,000 drums of herbicide distillation residues. In November 1976, DEQ buried the drums and waste on-site. Since that time, DEQ has owned and maintained the facility. Following completion of a remedial investigation and risk assessment, DEQ completed a Record of Decision (ROD) in April 2007 documenting that the final remedy for the site achieves Oregon's acceptable risk levels and is protective of human health and the environment.

What happens next?

DEQ will consider all public comments. A final decision concerning the Consent Judgment will occur after consideration of public comments.

Accessibility information

DEQ is committed to accommodating people with disabilities. Notify DEQ of any special physical/language accommodations, including large print, Braille, or another format. To make these arrangements, call (503) 229-5696 or toll free in Oregon at (800) 452-4011; fax to 503-229-6762; or e-mail to deqinfo@deq.state.or.us.

People with hearing impairments may call the Oregon Telecommunications Relay Service at 800-735-2900.



State of Oregon
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Quality

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Notice Issued: 7/24/09
By: Jeff Christensen