

Yamhill Station Cleanup Begins

American Recovery and Reinvestment Act provides funding for site

Background

For over 70 years, Senz Automotive Service provided fuel and auto repair to the Yamhill community, local farmers, and visitors. The property, now called the Yamhill Station, is located on Highway 47 connecting Forest Grove and McMinnville.

DEQ permitted the Senz Automotive Service underground storage tank facility from 1988 until the underground storage tanks were removed in 1995. The owner, Ed Senz, then installed a compartmentalized above-ground storage tank. The tank dispenses gasoline and diesel using some of the former underground product lines.



View of the Yamhill Station before cleanup

Soil and groundwater at the site have been contaminated by past leaks and spills which took place before the current owner's acquisition in late 1995. The gasoline leaked from the former underground storage tanks, leaking underground product pipes and the current above-ground storage tank system. The contamination has also moved onto adjacent properties and into the city's stormwater system.

Previous Cleanup and Investigations

In 1988, when gasoline was observed in the city storm drain system, Senz notified DEQ that gasoline had leaked at the property. The leak was stopped and gasoline collected from the drainage system. Further investigation and cleanup stalled due to limited funding until the underground storage systems were removed in 1995 with financial assistance from DEQ. Following the tanks removal, petroleum-contaminated soil around the systems was also removed. This work did not clean up all of the contamination from the leaking underground

system. Groundwater samples collected at the western property boundary in 1996 showed high concentrations of gasoline contamination.



DEQ coordinates removal of gasoline and water from the collection trench down-gradient of the above-ground storage system.

In 2006 the station operator reported a petroleum loss from the above-ground system. Immediate steps were taken to:

- Collect the gasoline on the property,
- Prevent gasoline from entering the storm drain system, and,
- Investigate the extent of contamination on and off the property.

Future Site Cleanup Plans

The federal American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 provides funding to clean up leaking underground storage tank contamination. The Environmental Protection Agency provided funding to DEQ from the recovery act.

The funding will be used for DEQ's work at high priority leaking UST cleanup sites where the responsible parties are unwilling, unable or unknown. DEQ will perform assessments and cleanup work at sites that are part of this historic backlog and will serve to retain or create jobs to stimulate economic growth, while achieving more environmental cleanup at contaminated properties.

To begin addressing the potential human health threats from petroleum contamination at this site, DEQ has prioritized removal of on-site contaminated soils by excavation and landfill disposal as the initial phase of cleanup. This work will likely require temporary removal of the above-ground fueling system and may include demolition of the existing buildings.



State of Oregon
Department of
Environmental
Quality

Land Quality Division Tank Program

750 Front Street NE,
Suite 120
Salem, OR 97301
Phone: (503) 378-8240
(800) 452-4011
Fax: (503) 373-7944
Contact: Jim Glass
www.deq.state.or.us

This first phase of work will not address the contaminated soil and groundwater that has moved beyond the property boundary. After completion of cleanup at the station, a second proposed phase of work will evaluate the contaminated soil, petroleum vapor exposures, and groundwater contamination beyond the immediate property.

DEQ has contracted GeoEngineers Inc. for environmental investigation and cleanup of this site. The engineering firm will assist DEQ in developing work plans and reports that will be made available for public review and comment before being finalized and implemented.

Alternative Formats

Alternative formats of this document can be made available. Contact DEQ's Office of Communications and Outreach, Portland, for more information at (503) 229-5317.

Additional Information

For additional information on ARRA Projects, visit

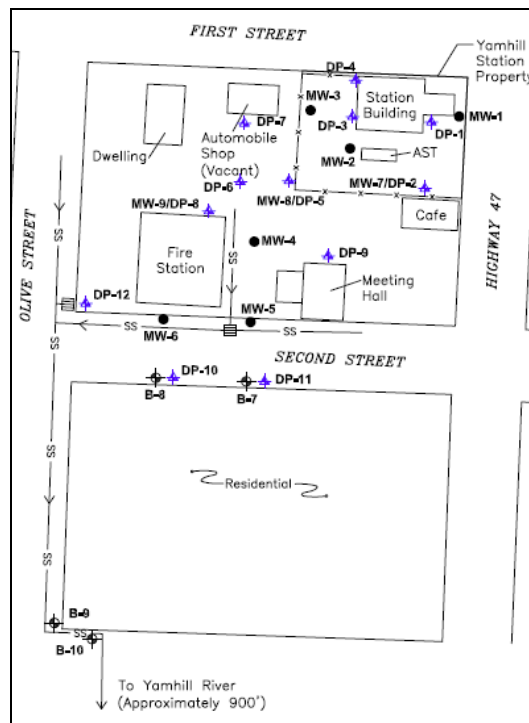
<http://www.deq.state.or.us/recovery/stimulusFunding.htm>

For additional information on the DEQ oversight of this project, visit

<http://www.deq.state.or.us/Webdocs/Forms/Output/FPController.aspx?SourceId=36-88-4062&SourceIdType=12>

or contact DEQ's Project Manager, Jim Glass at (503) 378-5044 or send an e-mail to

glass.jim@deq.state.or.us



The project site, vicinity, and extent of investigation and monitoring to date.