

STATE OF OREGON

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

DATE: June 21, 1991

TO: Members of the Environmental Quality Commission (EQC)

FROM: Fred Hansen, Director



SUBJECT: Agenda Item: L; July 24, 1991 EQC Meeting

Information Report: Initiation of the Orphan Site Account

BACKGROUND

The Environmental Cleanup Division is working on seven cleanup projects where persons responsible for the contamination are either unknown, unable, or unwilling to conduct the investigations and cleanup. Six of the sites are eligible for Orphan Site Account funding and one is not. The one site (Alkali Lake site), is a state owned site. The 1989 legislature established three fees to support cleanup-related work at orphan sites, or to support bond sales to provide revenue for the orphan site work. The three fees are: (1) solid waste tipping fee, (2) bulk petroleum load fee, and (3) hazardous substance possession fee.

DEQ PLANNED ACTION

DEQ will make a request to the Legislative Emergency Board for funding of the Orphan Site investigation and cleanup work. This will be a request to authorize the budget for orphan site investigation and cleanup work. Authorization of the budget initiates collection of fees to support a bond sale planned for November 1991.

The Orphan Site request package is to provide staff and funds for management of investigations and cleanup of the following orphan sites:

McCormick and Baxter Creosoting -

A wood treater located on the Willamette River in Portland. Heavy contamination has occurred in soils, groundwater, and the Willamette River with creosote compounds, pentachlorophenol, heavy metals, dioxins and furans. DEQ has, with the support of the Department of Fish and Wildlife and the Health Division, placed cautionary signs near the site

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warning the public about site hazards and placed a moratorium on fishing near the site.

#### Milwaukie Area Groundwater -

This is an area-wide groundwater contamination problem, affecting the City of Milwaukie's drinking water supply. DEQ has identified 200 potential sources of groundwater contamination in the Milwaukie area. The principal contaminants are chlorinated organic compounds; trichloroethene and others. DEQ is trying to identify the sources of contamination which are affecting the water supply wells. The state must proceed with the cleanup to protect the groundwater. Identified contamination sources will be required to participate in the investigation and cleanup as soon as data is available to support that requirement.

#### East Multnomah County Groundwater -

This is an area-wide groundwater contamination problem, affecting the City of Portland's backup drinking water supply, private well users, a small water district, a water supply system for a mobile home park, water supply wells for irrigation, industrial supply wells, and development in the area. The principal contaminants are chlorinated organic compounds; trichloroethene and others. The state must proceed with the cleanup to protect area groundwater. Identified contamination sources will be required to participate as soon as data supports that requirement. DEQ has identified three sources of contamination in the area and is requiring the companies to cleanup. It takes a considerable amount of effort and resources to identify the sources of contamination, to develop the technical and legal facts needed to require responsible parties to cleanup and to apportion responsibility.

#### Nuway Oil Company -

A waste oil recycler located on the Columbia Slough in Portland. The site is heavily contaminated with petroleum waste, oil sludges, PCBs, heavy metals, and volatile organic compounds. Site soils, groundwater, and the slough are contaminated from past site practices. DEQ is conducting investigations to determine the most practicable way to clean up the site. The responsible party is unable to finance cleanup of the site.

Lakewood Estates -

This is a rural community, located near Aurora, whose sole drinking water supply has been contaminated with chlorinated organic compounds, dichloroethylene and trichloroethane. The source of the contamination is unknown and the community is without a safe and permanent drinking water supply. DEQ is conducting investigations to locate the source of the contamination and evaluating the short and long term options for a community water supply. DEQ will be required to either: install a new well; reconstruct or provide treatment at the existing well; or install a new well with a treatment system.

N.W. Pipe and Casing -

*NOTE: This site not declared orphan until 2001. See site-specific memo.*

A pipe manufacturing and coating company which went out of business in about 1985 leaving the site heavily contaminated with pipe coating wastes, organic solvents, heavy metals, and PCBs. The site is located in Clackamas County near Milwaukie. There are buried wastes on site and suspicions of buried drums of waste solvents and coal tar residues. DEQ has implemented security measures for the site. The property owner is retired and has very limited funds. DEQ is investigating the nature and extent of the contamination which is tying up development in the neighboring industrial park and the threat the site maybe impacting local groundwater which feeds into the Milwaukie City water supply.

DEQ has estimated these orphan sites will require about \$7,023,500 in investigation and cleanup work over the next biennium (July 1991 to June 1993) and that 5 FTE or 6 positions for 20 months (starting November 1991) will be required to manage the complex cleanup activities. The following table summarizes the estimated resources need for Orphan site investigations and cleanup over the next biennium.

Attachment 1 provides detailed work descriptions and budget details.

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INVESTIGATION AND CLEANUP COSTS (91-93)

<u>Orphan Site</u>	<u>Estimated Cost (91-93)</u>
McCormick and Baxter	\$3,425,000
Milwaukie Area Groundwater	\$653,000
East Multnomah County Groundwater	\$535,500
NuWay Oil Company	\$1,095,000
Lakewood Estates	\$840,000
N.W. Pipe and Casing	\$475,000
<b>TOTAL ESTIMATE</b>	<b>\$7,023,500</b>

ADDITIONAL STAFF REQUIRED

Six Positions and 5 FTE (positions would be for 20 months starting November 1991). Attachment 2 provides budget details.

Estimated Staff Costs: \$588,122

TOTAL REQUEST

\$7,611,622