

Proposed cleanup at J.H. Baxter Wood Treatment Facility in Eugene



State of Oregon
Department of
Environmental
Quality

Western Region Emergency Response and Cleanup

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www.oregon.gov/DEQ

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the quality of Oregon's air,
land and water.*

What's being proposed

The Oregon Department of Environmental Quality is reviewing a proposed cleanup plan at the J.H. Baxter Wood Treatment Facility in Eugene.

The cleanup, which follows a series of cleanup actions taken at the site in the 1990s, would involve:

- An engineered cap over the contaminated soil and onsite pond sediments
- Regular inspections and maintenance on the engineered cap
- Continuous operation of a groundwater extraction and treatment system to prevent contamination from moving off site and to remove contamination
- Restricting groundwater use on site to industrial purposes and monitoring the use offsite to ensure protection of all neighboring properties



The J.H. Baxter facility in Eugene.

Background

The 31-acre site at 85 Baxter Street has been an active wood treatment facility since the early 1940s. Historical spills and material handling practices have resulted in soil and groundwater contamination by various chemicals including dioxins, furans, pentachlorophenol and arsenic.

From 1993 through 1999, Baxter took interim measures such as improving operating procedures, installing a groundwater extraction system, removing contaminated soil, and creating an inventory of all pumping wells in the area to ensure no drinking water use. This proposed cleanup will build on those measures making them

permanent as well as more completely addressing remaining soil contamination.

How can I participate?

DEQ is accepting written comments through 5 p.m. Friday May 31, 2019.

Send written comments to:

DEQ Project Manager Ann Farris at 165 E. 7th Avenue, Eugene, Oregon 97401 or farris.ann@deq.state.or.us.

You can also attend an informational meeting:

When: 6 to 8 p.m., Monday, May 13, 2019

Where: Room 104 Lane Community College's Downtown Campus, 101 West 10th Avenue, Eugene

Where can I get more information?

A staff report describing the proposed cleanup plan in detail is available on DEQ's Environmental Cleanup Site Information database at <https://go.usa.gov/xmZdN> (search Site ID 55).

If you do not have web access, please call Ann Farris at 541-687-7361 to review the project file in person.

What are the next steps?

DEQ will review and consider all comments received during the comment period. After considering public comments, DEQ will accept, modify, or reject the proposed remedy for the site. If DEQ accepts the remedy, the next step will be to issue a final Record of Decision for the site.

Alternative formats

DEQ can provide documents in an alternate format or in a language other than English upon request. Call DEQ at 800-452-4011 or email deqinfo@deq.state.or.us.