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**AGENDA**  
**St. Johns Landfill RI-FS**  
**Public Involvement Group**  
**(11-20-03)**

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1. Who are the key stakeholders?
2. What are the concerns and perceptions of the key stakeholders?
3. Which of these concerns or perceptions will require the most attention?
4. What are Metro's public involvement objectives for this project?
  - Trust
  - Understanding
  - Acceptance
5. What strategy and associated activities will best serve these objectives?
6. How will Metro's efforts be coordinated with, or differentiated from, those of DEQ?
7. What are the respective roles of the PI group members in implementing the strategy?
8. Which activities should be implemented or scheduled at this time?
  - Presentations
9. What budget is available for public involvement efforts?
10. What milestones can be used to track progress?

# St. Johns Landfill Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study

## Initial List of Stakeholders

(11-20-03)

- City of Portland - *BES, Parks*
- Port of Portland
- Smith and Bybee Lakes Management Committee
- ~~Smith and Bybee Lakes Technical Advisory Committee~~
- Columbia Slough Watershed Council
- Columbia Corridor Association
- Friends of Smith and Bybee Lakes
- St. Johns Neighborhood Association
- North Portland Neighborhoods
- 40-Mile Loop Land Trust
- Citizen Recreational Users of the Smith and Bybee Lakes Wildlife Area
- Owners of Nearby Private Businesses and Properties
  
- *Rivergate tenants?*
- *Metro Council*
- *Metro Attorney*
- *St. Johns Boosters*
- *N. Pkld. Bus. Assn.*
- *Schools*
- *Oregon Center for Env. Health*

o Key Stakeholders and Concerns:

St. Johns NA – lack of trust, belief that the landfill is polluting the surrounding area, belief that Metro & DEQ lie to them, feeling that they area always dumped on, may also raise access issues (trail issue)

Smith-Bybee Mgt Cmte – broad interest in landfill and effects on wildlife and surrounding environment as well as humans, interest in long-term planning for landfill site, nexus with trail issue (reasonably likely beneficial uses)

Columbia Slough Watershed Council – ownership of all issues within watershed and desire to be a player in them, nexus with a broad array of interests (e.g., business, neighborhoods, environmental community)

Friends of Smith and Bybee Lakes – ownership of all issues relating to the wildlife area and desire to a player in them, concern about environmental effects of landfill-related pollution, trail issue nexus

o Metro Public Involvement Goals

This is an opportunity to lift the veil surrounding the landfill and let people know how good or bad the situation is, in a straightforward manner

Opportunity to cement Metro's credibility with good handling of this issue/project

Need to achieve a reasonable level of public understanding of the landfill, the RI/FS process, RA results and remedial measures

Need to achieve a reasonable level of public buy-in to the results of the investigations and remedial measures that are chosen

**Comment: this is all about Metro, and our chance to really own this one.**

**DEQ is not going to be interested in whether Metro's credibility is strengthened or not. We will be on the site for years to come, and we need to have a transparent, understandable process that people can trust. We need to have the public believe that we are good stewards doing the right thing.**

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metro -

o Present<sup>n</sup>s @ mtgs

o Web pg:

o Fact sheets/brochures/newsletters?

o Advisory grp? (= SBMC?)

**REMEDIAL INVESTIGATION / FEASIBILITY STUDY  
ST. JOHNS LANDFILL**

		<b>Est. Total Time to Achieve DEQ-Approved Work Product</b>	
		<u>months</u>	<u>years</u>
1	<u>Issuance of Permit / Order</u> (October 31, 2003)	0	0.0
2	<u>Remedial Investigation Proposal</u>	7	0.6
3	<u>Remedial Investigation (RI)</u>		
	a) RI Work Plan	11	0.9
	b) RI Report	25	2.1
4	<u>Risk Assessment (RA)</u>		
	a) RA Work Plan	27	2.3
	b) RA Report	33	2.8
5	<u>Feasibility Study (FS)</u>		
	a) FS Work Plan	42	3.5
	b) FS Report	48	4.0
6	<u>Record of Decision</u>		
	Summary of RI-FS Recommended Remediation Monitoring Requirements		

**Public Involvement Plan**  
**St. Johns Landfill Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study**  
August 2003

**Site Profile and Project Overview**

The St. Johns Landfill is located at the 9363 N Columbia Boulevard in Portland. The landfill is part of the Smith and Bybee Lakes Management Area on the North Portland Peninsula, near the confluence of the Columbia River and the Willamette River. Bybee Lake and Smith Lake border the 236 acre site on the north and the east and the Columbia Slough borders the landfill on the south and west.

The landfill began operation in 1932 and was closed to disposal in 1991. The site is now owned and operated by the Metropolitan Service District (Metro). The landfill accepted municipal and industrial waste and ash from an adjacent incinerator (on a site now owned by the City of Portland-see ECSI# 2101) which operated until the early 1970s.

Groundwater quality next to the landfill has been monitored since the 1970s and a network of 30 monitoring wells is now sampled semi-annually. Additional wells within the landfill monitor the leachate and landfill gas. Water samples from groundwater monitoring wells surrounding the site and within the landfill area are analyzed for general chemical properties and for hazardous contaminants such as lead, mercury, volatile organic compounds, PCBs, and pesticides. Surface water and sediment quality have been measured since 1988.

In 1995 DEQ placed the site on two formal lists of contaminated sites known as the Confirmed Release List and Inventory List. The lists identify sites that have had a release of hazardous substances and need further investigation and possible cleanup. As of 2002, 32 hazardous substances are known to have been released from the landfill site to groundwater. The list includes 20 volatile organic compounds, 1 semi-volatile compound, 10 trace metals, and 1 pesticide. Various groups of substances in this list exceed DEQ numerical groundwater quality reference levels, EPA drinking water standards, and EPA Region 9 Preliminary Remediation Goals for tap water.

The landfill Solid Waste Permit is up for renewal and Metro has submitted a new permit application to DEQ. To address the issues of environmental contamination at the site Metro will enter into a Consent Order, a binding contractual agreement, with DEQ for the completion of the Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study and possible cleanup actions for the site.

Metro already has completed extensive environmental investigations at the site and has constructed environmental protection improvements including a landfill cover cap and gas collection system. The Remedial Investigation will focus on specific data gaps and areas of concern identified in the consent order and will evaluate the nature and extent of hazardous substances that have been released to the environment. A risk assessment will be part of the Remedial Investigation and will evaluate the potential adverse effects of

contaminants on ecosystems and human health. The Feasibility Study will evaluate current and proposed site remediation measures.

### **Community Concerns**

Groups that have expressed concerns include:

- The Smith and Bybee Lakes Management Committee, a coalition of agency and citizen group representatives
- Friends of Smith and Bybee Lakes, a citizen group
- The Columbia Slough Watershed Council, a citizen group
- The St Johns Neighborhood Association, a citizen group
- Mikey Jones, an interested individual

The site has received some media coverage with newspaper pieces appearing in the Portland Tribune and a talk radio spot on KBOO radio.

### **Public Information/Involvement Objectives**

This plan has been developed by the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) for public involvement in the St. Johns Landfill Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study and the Solid Waste permitting process. The plan serves as a blueprint for distributing public information and encouraging public participation.

#### **Objectives:**

- To maintain open communication between DEQ and interested citizens
- To meet statutory requirements for public notice and opportunities for public comment
- To designate contact persons to answer questions on site activities-Tim Spencer for the DEQ Solid Waste Program and Bob Williams for the DEQ Cleanup Program
- Provide information on the status of the Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study to citizens, stakeholders, interested parties, and the media as investigation progresses.
- To monitor community concerns and information needs by tracking feedback on new releases and public meetings

- To adjust the public involvement plan as needed and to maintain relationships with the community and provide reasonable opportunity for their involvement.

#### **Past Public Involvement Actions:**

- An initial Fact Sheet describing project background and details of the Closure Permit and Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study was prepared in January 2003 and mailed to potentially interested citizens and groups.
- DEQ project staff met with interested groups including Smith and Bybee Lakes Management Committee, the Columbia Slough Watershed Council, the Friends of Smith and Bybee Lakes, and local neighborhood groups to discuss the project and upcoming public meetings.
- A public information meeting for the landfill Closure Permit was held on February 27, 2003. A meeting notice was mailed to citizens and groups in advance of the meeting. The purpose of this meeting was to provide general information on environmental conditions at the landfill and on the process for the landfill permit and Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study. Written comments were accepted on the upcoming Closure Permit and Consent Order at the meeting and during a 35-day public comment period following the meeting.
- After the comment period, DEQ finalized the draft Closure Permit and Consent Order and released the documents on the DEQ website. Interested persons and groups were mailed copies of the documents. Then DEQ opened another 35-day public comment period for interested persons to submit written comments on the draft documents.
- Five days before the end of the comment period, on May 15, 2003, DEQ held a public hearing and requested oral and written comments on the Closure Permit and Consent Order. A hearing notice was mailed to interested citizens and groups in advance of the meeting.

#### **Plan Implementation**

DEQ will be responsible for the following tasks as part of the public involvement plan:

- Update the mailing list and media contacts
- Update the fact sheet at specific milestones throughout the project. Milestones will include the completion of the Remedial Investigation Proposal, the Final Remedial Investigation Work Plan, and completion of Remedial Investigation implementation phases, completion of the Risk Assessment, Feasibility Study, and Record of Decision. In the event of significant new findings between milestones the fact sheet may be updated before a milestone.

- Request news releases from Public Affairs when agreements are signed, a work plan is approved, public comment periods are planned, a remedy is selected, remedial phases are started, and an NFA is issued.
- Maintain information on the DEQ website about activities related to the St. Johns Landfill project.
- Additional public informational meetings may be held at the request of interested groups.
- Respond appropriately to concerns and issues raised by groups or members of the local community.
- Send completed project documents from the investigation to stakeholder groups, the local library, and upon request, to interested community members. To save paper resources, large documents will be distributed in the form of CD's.
- Consider public preferences for information and involvement in the process. The public involvement plan will be refined to account for preferences and the level of interest.