

November 17, 2009

Ecology Announces Advisory Groups

Ecology has formed two advisory groups to provide input on technical, scientific, and policy issues related to revising and updating the MTCA cleanup regulation (Chapter 173-340 WAC) and cleanup portions of the Sediments Management Standards. The groups are:

- MTCA/SMS Advisory Group
- Sediment Workgroup

We selected group members to represent the diverse experiences and views of those impacted by the Washington state cleanup requirements. Meetings are open to the public. Meeting materials and agendas will be posted at: <http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/tcp/regs/2009MTCA/mtcaAmend.html>

A joint kickoff meeting for both groups is scheduled from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Friday, November 20, 2009 at the Fabulich Conference Center, 3600 Port of Tacoma Road, Tacoma. (Room 104).

Ecology announced this rulemaking effort in February 2009. The advisory groups will meet between fall 2009 and spring 2010. We anticipate proposing amendments to the MTCA Cleanup Regulation and SMS rule in the fall of 2010. We expect to adopt the amendments in spring or summer of 2011.

What is the purpose of the Advisory Groups?

The advisory groups' primary objective is to provide feedback and assist Ecology in reviewing and updating the MTCA Cleanup Regulation and cleanup provisions in the SMS Rule.

Our primary focus is to:

- Establish clear policies and methods for setting sediment cleanup requirements for bio-accumulative chemicals.
- Revise and update cleanup requirements to reflect new scientific information and revisions to state and federal regulations.
- Revise cleanup requirements to address implementation concerns identified since the 2001 rule amendments (for example, vapor intrusion).
- Revise the rule to incorporate new statutory requirements (for example, the Uniform Environmental Covenants Act passed by the Washington Legislature in 2007).

Are meetings open to the public?

Time is reserved on each agenda for audience comments. Although space is limited, anyone who wants to attend is welcome. Audience members may want to bring a lunch.

Ecology welcomes suggestions on rulemaking issues throughout the process. Please send input, questions, or concerns to RuleUpdate @ecy.wa.gov .

Thank you for your interest. If you have questions or suggestions related to this announcement, please contact:

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