

Comments Due by December 17, 2009 on Proposed Consent Decree for St. Maries Creosote Site Cleanup

FACT SHEET



St. Maries Creosote Site - St. Maries, Idaho

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 10

November 2009

A public comment period is available on a proposed consent decree regarding the cleanup of the St. Maries Creosote site. The site is located along the St. Joe River in St. Maries, Idaho, within the boundaries of the Coeur d'Alene Indian Reservation. You are encouraged to review the proposed consent decree and submit your comments within the comment period. This fact sheet provides general information about this process.

The proposed consent decree is a settlement agreement that has been signed by the plaintiffs: the United States Department of Justice (USDOJ), the United States Environmental Protection Agency, the Coeur d'Alene Tribe; the defendants: the City of St. Maries, Carney Products Company, Ltd, the U. S. Bank National Association representing various trusts; and the defendants' work contractor, Arcadis USA. The proposed consent decree has been lodged in federal district court in Idaho. After considering public comments, USDOJ will decide whether to ask the court to enter the consent decree.

E-mail comments on the proposed St. Maries Creosote Site consent decree by December 17, 2009 to pubcomment-ees.enrd@usdoj.gov or send your written comments to:

Acting Assistant Attorney General
Environment and Natural Resources Division
U.S. Department of Justice
P.O. Box 7611, Ben Franklin Station
Washington, D.C. 20044-7611

Comments must refer to the name and number of the proposed decree: United States v. City of St. Maries, et al., DOJ Ref No. 90-11-3-06673.

What would the proposed Consent Decree do?

Under the consent decree, the settling defendants and their contractor (together referred to as Participating Parties) agree to implement EPA's selected remedy. This remedy was set forth in the July 2007 final cleanup plan ("Record of Decision") for the site. The **statement of work**, a key attachment to the consent decree, describes technical and other documents to be submitted by the Participating Parties, and their due dates. Additionally, the Participating Parties agree to reimburse the United States and the Tribe for their past and future response costs incurred with respect to the site.

Find the Consent Decree and Statement of Work

The consent decree is titled United States v. City of St. Maries, et al. It can be reviewed online at

<http://www.justice.gov/enrd/2557.htm>

or, in person, at these locations:

*St. Maries Public Library
822 W. College Avenue
St. Maries, ID 83861
208-245-3732*

*U.S. EPA Region 10
Superfund Records Center
St. Maries Creosote Site File
1200 Sixth Avenue
Seattle, WA 98101*

Please call 206-553-4494 for an appointment.

*Office of the United States Attorney for the District of Idaho
800 Park Blvd.,
Suite 600, Boise, Idaho 83712.*

In print

You may download a copy of the decree at the above web site. Or, to obtain a printed copy of the proposed Agreement, the cost is \$13.50 (without attachments); \$106.25 (with attachments). Send a check, payable to the U.S. Treasury, to:

*Consent Decree Library
P.O. Box 7611, U.S. Dept. of Justice,
Washington, D.C. 20044-7611.*

Or, you may fax or e-mail a request for the proposed Agreement to Tonia Fleetwood, fax 202-514-0097, tonia.fleetwood@usdoj.gov. Phone confirmation: 202-514-1547.

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Cleanup remedy to be carried out under consent decree

Under the consent decree, the Participating Parties agree to construct the remedy as described in the Record of Decision. Under this cleanup plan, most contaminated riverbank and upland soils will be excavated down to 20 feet, thermally treated to remove contaminants, and put back in place. While this work is under way, contaminated soils between 20 and 60 feet deep will be stabilized in place by mixing them with cement-like materials. This will bind up the contamination with the soil to prevent it from migrating into the groundwater and adjacent St. Joe River sediments. Controls, such as deed restrictions or prohibitions on excavation and drilling, will be put in place to protect the subsurface soil stabilization.

Contaminated sediments within the river will be excavated (dredged). The sediments will also be thermally treated with the contaminated riverbank and upland soils, then placed back on site with the treated soils. The river excavations will be backfilled with clean sediments to their original depth. Monitoring will be done after construction to confirm the effectiveness of the remedy.

Background

A creosote pole-treating plant operated at the St. Maries Creosote Site for many years. The site was later used for peeling, sorting, and storing untreated wooden poles until it shut down in 2003.

In 2000, EPA proposed the site for its National Priorities List of long-term cleanups. EPA has not finalized listing of the site, although cleanup has moved forward consistent with Superfund. After carefully evaluating several possible cleanup options and considering all public comments, EPA issued its final cleanup plan ("Record of Decision") in summer 2007.

For More Information:

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Debra Sherbina, EPA Community Involvement
800-424-4372, x0247 • sherbina.debra@epa.gov

EPA's St. Maries webpage:

Visit <http://yosemite.epa.gov/r10/cleanup.nsf/webpage/Idaho+Cleanup+Sites>. Click on **St. Maries Creosote** to find the Record of Decision and other documents.

If you need materials in an alternative format, please contact Debra Sherbina
TTY users please call the Federal Relay Service: 800-877-8339



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*St. Maries, Idaho
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