



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

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DAW
AB-1023 1X

April 30, 2009

Ms. Diana Wood
Surface Transportation Board
Case Control Unit
Washington, DC 20423

Dear Ms. Wood:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the national environmental policy act/environmental assessment for the Puget Sound & Pacific Railroad Company-Abandonment Exemption project (Docket No. AB-1023 (SUB-No. 1X) located in Grays Harbor. The Department of Ecology (Ecology) reviewed the information provided and has the following comment(s):

SOLID WASTE & FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE: Anya Caudill (360) 407-6084

The applicant proposes to remove a structure(s) that may contain treated wood. Please refer to Ecology's publication "Focus on Treated Wood Exclusion," available at <http://www.ecy.wa.gov/pubs/0304038.pdf>, for suggested best management practices and disposal requirements for treated wood. For additional information or clarification, please contact Dee Williams with Ecology's Hazardous Waste and Toxics Reduction program, at (360) 407-6348.

Property owners, developers, and contractors are encouraged to recycle all possible leftover construction, demolition, and land clearing (CDL) materials and reduce waste generated. Recycling construction debris is often less expensive than landfill disposal. Please call Ecology's 1-800-RECYCLE hotline for facilities in the area that will accept your CDL materials for reuse or recycling.

WATER QUALITY: Roberta Woods (360) 407-6269

The proposed track abandonment involves about 1.5 miles of track and several water crossings. Erosion control measures must be in place before any disturbances occur over and in the buffers of these water crossings. These control measures must be effective to prevent stormwater runoff from carrying soil, debris and other pollutants into the surface waters or stormdrains that lead to surface waters. Sand, silt, clay particles and soil will damage aquatic habitat and are considered to be pollutants. Any discharge of sediment-laden runoff or other pollutants to waters of the state can be a violation of Chapter 90.48 RCW, Water Pollution Control Act, and WAC 173-201A, Water Quality Standards for Surface Waters of the State of Washington, and may be subject to enforcement action.

During the project, all releases of oils, hydraulic fluids, fuels, other petroleum products, paints, solvents and other deleterious materials must be contained and removed in a manner that will prevent their discharge to waters of the state and soils of the state. Cleanup of spills will take precedence over other work on the project.

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Proper disposal of construction debris must be on land in such a manner that debris cannot enter streams and their buffers or cause water quality degradation of state waters.

A permanent vegetative cover should be established on denuded areas at final grade if they are not otherwise permanently stabilized.

All temporary erosion control systems should be designed to contain the runoff from the developed two year, 24-hour design storm without eroding.

Provision should be made to minimize the tracking of sediment by construction vehicles onto paved public roads. If sediment is deposited, it should be cleaned every day by shoveling or sweeping. Water cleaning should only be done after the area has been shoveled out or swept.

Ecology's comments are based upon information provided by the lead agency. As such, they may not constitute an exhaustive list of the various authorizations that must be obtained or legal requirements that must be fulfilled in order to carry out the proposed action.

If you have any questions or would like to respond to these comments, please contact the appropriate reviewing staff listed above.

Department of Ecology
Southwest Regional Office

(SM: 09-1900)

cc: Anya Caudill, SW&FAP
Roberta Woods, WQ
