

Public Comment Period for Cosmo Specialty Fibers Interim Action Order



photo courtesy of Ha Tran

Draft Interim Action Order

**Comment Period: 12:01 am, January 08, 2026
through 11:59 pm, February 19, 2026.**

- **Public Meeting and Hearing:** Virtually on February 11, 2026 at 6:00 pm. Registration required:
<https://waecy-wa.gov.zoom.us/meeting/register/bccn3XWkSmWkak6rcUziqg>
- **Cleanup Site ID:** 2375
- **Facility Site ID:** 32
- **Site Location:** 1701 1st Street, Cosmopolis, WA 98537

Comment on the cleanup document

The Dept of Ecology (Ecology) invites you to comment on the Interim Action order for the Cosmo Specialty Fibers site.

Written comments may be submitted:

- **Online:**
<https://swm.ecology.commentinput.com/?id=CSti4GcVk>
- At the public hearing: February 11, 2026 at 6:00 pm on ZOOM. Registration required: <https://waecy-wa.gov.zoom.us/meeting/register/bccn3XWkSmWkak6rcUziqg>
- By mail:

Ha Tran
Department of Ecology
Industrial Section
P.O. Box 47600
Olympia, WA 98504-7600

Virtual Hearing:

We will hold a virtual public meeting with a presentation followed by a formal hearing on the Interim Action Order on February 11, 2026, 6:00 pm, on ZOOM. Register online at <https://waecy-wa.gov.zoom.us/meeting/register/bccn3XWkSmWkak6rcUziqg>. Registration is required. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the hearing.

Project Information:

Ecology has begun formal cleanup under the MTCA Agreed Orders with each of the Potentially Liable Parties (PLPs), Cosmo Specialty Fibers (Cosmo) and Weyerhaeuser. The Agreed Orders require Cosmo and Weyerhaeuser to conduct a remedial investigation/feasibility study and draft a cleanup action plan.

Interim actions may be initiated at any time during the formal cleanup process. These are actions necessary to

Industrial Section

reduce threats or prevent conditions at the site from worsening.

Interim Action Order

Ecology requires the current site owner, Cosmo, to take a series of actions to secure the site and reduce the threat of offsite release and future contamination. This interim action is in addition to the work to be conducted under the Agreed Order.

Read the proposed document at the following locations:

- **Online:**
<https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/cleanupsearch/site/2375>
- Department of Ecology
300 Desmond Drive SE
Lacey, WA
360-407-6916
- Timberland Regional Library
Aberdeen Branch
121 E. Market Street
Aberdeen, WA
Hours: Monday-Saturday 10 am – 6 pm

History of the site

The pulp mill was constructed at the site in 1957. The mill made paper grade products until 1962, when production was converted to dissolving and specialty grade pulp. The mill made pulp by using magnesium sulfite to cook wood chips, then bleached the pulp using chlorine dioxide and other chemicals.

Weyerhaeuser operated the mill until September 2006, when production shut down. In May 2011 the mill resumed operation as Cosmo Specialty Fibers (Cosmo). In December 2022, Cosmo shut down its production and transferred ownership to Charlestown Investment. The mill has remained shut down while the new owner pursues investors to re-start mill operations. Cosmo stores about 800,000 gallons of chemicals at the site in preparation for the re-start.

Why it matters

Industrial practices and historical land use by the mill owners and operators have resulted in contamination at the site. Over the years, there have been documented

releases or spills, a list of which can be found in the Public Participation Plan.

Contamination at the site has not been fully investigated. Liable parties are to conduct a remedial investigation (RI) which will provide additional information on the location and types of contaminants at the site.

Chemicals and waste at the site may also pose risks if released to the environment. Securing these materials will help prevent releases and contamination that will need to be cleaned up in the future.

What happens next

When the comment period ends, we will review all comments received before we make a final decision on the documents.

If you would like to be added to the list of interested parties for the cleanup at Cosmo Specialty Fibers and receive updates on Ecology's Industrial Section actions at the site, contact Tara Roberts at 360-280-4325 or tara.roberts@ecy.wa.gov.

Contact Information

For more information contact:

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Accessibility

To request an ADA accommodation, email tara.roberts@ecy.wa.gov, call (360) 280-4325, or dial 711 to call through the Washington Telecommunications Relay for services like text telephone (TTY). Visit Ecology's website for more accessibility information.