

kim Clarkin

Thank you for the April 2 great display about TreOil and conversation about the process and the RI and its conclusions. I really appreciated being able to talk personally with people who investigated the site, and who have been working on this frustrating issue for many years. My comments:

1. The clean up is being designed under the assumption that the concrete foundations are adequate caps and will protect the soil/throughflow from contamination permanently. Concrete isn't permanent, and I'm not at all sure this is enough protection unless the concrete surfaces are more or less clean. Are they?

2. I question whether off-site areas are protected well enough from remnant pollution that could move horizontally through the top soil toward the ditch that leads to the unnamed tributary of the Georgia Strait. It seems to me that occasional monitoring of throughflow would be a reasonable response to uncertainty about this. A standpipe at the downstream edge of the site collecting soil water flowing on top of the clay layer would be cheap, and samples could be collected at the start of each year's rainy season. If we do not do something simple like this, detecting toxics movement toward or into the marsh at Gulf Road will be a bigger project.

3. How long does the cap material last? What will the soil chemistry be like when the cap degrades? Will residual toxic chemicals have been degraded by then? Or will the site still be dangerously toxic to wildlife or people? This may not happen for a long time, but it will undoubtedly happen sometime, and we should be thinking very long term. Seven generations, say.

Thanks for the opportunity to comment.

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