



Media advisory: BPA industrial site clears major environmental hurdle

Bonneville Power Administration

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A public celebration will mark the removal of the Ross Complex in Vancouver, Wash., from the federal Superfund's National Priorities List (NPL)

Who: Representatives from The Bonneville Power Administration, Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and Washington State Department of Ecology. These agencies worked together in the innovative Superfund investigation and clean-up process.

What: The BPA is hosting a public celebration that will include tours of the Ross Complex site and demonstrations of leading-edge clean-up technologies. The project is considered a success because the sites hazards were remedied quickly, and at an unusually low cost, but in a thorough manner. Total cost of the project was just \$10 million in BPA ratepayer funds, and took only four years. Typically, Superfund projects can take several decades and hundreds of millions of taxpayer dollars before they can be de-listed.

When: Thursday, October 10, 1996, at 10 a.m.

Where: From Seattle, take I-5 south to exit 4. Turn left onto 78th Street and get in the right hand lane. Turn right onto Highway 99 and head south. Continue on Highway 99 through several traffic lights (about two miles). The Ross Complex is on the left.

From Vancouver, take Highway 99 north. Just south of Minnehaha Street, turn right into the Ross Complex.

From Portland, take I-5 north to exit 3 (Hazel Dell exit). Proceed on Highway 99 north for a quarter mile.

As you enter the Ross Complex, stay to the right of the fork and proceed toward the designated parking area.

Significance: This is the fourth federal site ever to be removed from the Superfund NPL.

A variety of innovative and cost-effective investigation and clean-up strategies were used for this project.

The BPA, EPA and State Department of Ecology worked in close cooperation with participating agencies on this project, avoiding the costly and time consuming litigation that often plagues Superfund projects.

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Contact: Tony Morrell, BPA Project Manager, 360-418-2884; (360-904-2052 cellular), armorrell@bpa.gov or, in BPA Media Relations, Perry Gruber, 503-230-5359, plgruber@bpa.gov or Lynn Baker, 503-230-5901 , lwbaker@bpa.gov .
