

The Oregon Department of Environmental Quality and Amerities West, LLC invite you to attend an informal meeting on _____. Amerities West is the new owner of the tie treatment plant. The purpose of the meeting is to meet the new owners and discuss odor issues. The meeting will be held at _____ from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m.

In June 2002, the Department of Environmental Quality held a public hearing for the renewal of the Air Quality Permit for the tie treatment plant. Several people attended the meeting and expressed concerns about odors coming from the plant. In response to those concerns, a workgroup was formed to address the issue. The workgroup included representatives from the Department, the plant, and concerned citizens.

The workgroup conducted a series of informal odor surveys to gather information about the frequency and strength of the odors. The surveys were initially mailed or delivered to those that attended the public hearing and those that lived near the plant. The surveys were also announced in the local paper.

Not many people participated in the surveys, but those that did participate recorded several odor events ranging from mild to extremely unpleasant. An attempt was made to correlate the odor events with plant activities, but there was no consistent pattern. Instead, it appeared that the odor events were more likely to occur based on the weather conditions. In general, most of the odor events occurred on warm days when there was a light breeze.

The previous owner formed a Quality Action Team to evaluate odor causing activities and make recommendations for improvements to reduce odors. Several improvements were implemented that may have reduced odors. The Department is working with Amerities West to continue the QAT approach to addressing odors, but we would like additional information regarding the magnitude of the issue for the community.

If you cannot attend the meeting, please take a moment to complete the enclosed questionnaire and mail it back to the Department. If you plan on attending the meeting, you may return the questionnaire at the meeting. We would like all questionnaires mailed by September 1, 2005. If you have any questions, please contact Larry Calkins at (541) 298-7255 x41.

Odor Assessment Questionnaire

Prepaid
postage

Do you notice unpleasant odors in The Dalles area? Yes No
If so, can you identify the source of the odors? _____
(If yes, please describe the source below)

If you notice odors coming from the tie treatment plant, please check one of the following statements that best describes your reaction to the odors:

- Odors do not occur enough to even be concerned about
- Odors are noticeable, but not bothersome, not an issue
- Odors are not very pleasant, but can live with it
- Odors are unpleasant, more frequent than I would like
- Odors are very unpleasant, causes me to do something to avoid the odors

Finally, if you notice odors coming from the tie treatment plant, are the odors
___ More Frequent, ___ Same, ___ Less Frequent than in the past?

Comments:

Oregon Department of Environmental Quality
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