

Natural Resource Damage Compensation Plan



for the

Portland-Bangor Waste Oil Site

Casco, Maine

July 16, 2013

Site History

- The PBWO company operated a waste oil collection facility on Tenney Hill Road from 1969 to 1980. It was one of 5 facilities operated in Maine by the now defunct company.
- Some of the oil handled at Tenney Hill was spilled or released and has polluted the groundwater.
- The contaminant plume extends up to 2000 feet from the site.
- It is not feasible to clean up the groundwater.

Natural Resources Damages Explained

- Under Maine law, PBWO and its customers (the Responsible Parties) are liable for cleanup costs and for damages for injury to natural resources.
- A fund has been established to pay these costs on behalf of the Responsible Parties. The money comes from a tax on the sale of motor oil.
- \$500,000 in revenue from the motor oil tax is earmarked as compensation for damages to natural resources (i.e., groundwater pollution) as a result of the oil releases on Tenney Hill.

Purpose of the Compensation Plan

- To provide a framework for distribution of \$500,000 in compensation for damage to the local groundwater.
- To ensure that there is a connection between the damage suffered and the use of the money that has been awarded in compensation for the damage.

How will the money be distributed?

- The DEP will transfer the money to Casco in increments of \$100,000 (or more if requested).
- Casco will distribute the funds via subgrants to worthy water quality protection and improvement projects
- The process by which Casco awards subgrants is up to the town. Our only requirement is that it must be fair and open.

Examples of projects that could be funded under the plan

- Land conservation
- Upgrade of oil storage tanks
- Upgrade of septic systems
- Technical assistance to hazardous waste generators

Purpose of this meeting

- To gather facts and ideas while the plan is still fluid and can be easily changed.
- To provide a convenient opportunity for local input:

What do you think
of the proposed plan?

Next steps

- Written comments accepted through July 26th
- Modify the plan as appropriate in response to comments
- Sign an agreement with Casco for plan implementation
- Implement the plan

Contact information

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To download the draft *Natural Resources Damage Compensation Plan*, go to:
maine.gov/dep/comment/comment.html?id=548519

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