

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – Feb. 17, 2012 / 10:45 p.m.

As mop-up continues at BP Cherry Point refinery, Ecology, EPA responders see no pollution threat to water but air monitoring continues

SEATTLE – Responders from the Washington Department of Ecology (Ecology) and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency have determined that no oil or polluted runoff has reached Washington waters at the BP Cherry Point Refinery near Ferndale.

Ecology and EPA officials remain at the refinery to assess and monitor potential environmental problems after a large fire broke out there earlier today.

Officials found that all water and other materials used to fight the fire – including related runoff – was contained within the refinery, where it will be treated in the facility's on-site wastewater treatment system.

EPA contractors will continue taking air samples around the perimeter and downwind of the facility to help ensure the safety of nearby residents.

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Earlier Ecology news release: www.ecy.wa.gov/news/2012/057.html

Incident website: www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/spills/incidents/CherryPointRefineryFire/CherryPointRefineryFire.html

Ecology Spills Program: www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/spills/spills.html

Ecology homepage: www.ecy.wa.gov/