

**STATE OF WASHINGTON**

DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

**Northwest Region Office**

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*STATE ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT*

## **Determination of Nonsignificance**

September 2, 2022

Lead agency: Ecology

Agency Contact: Li Ma, Li.Ma@ecy.wa.gov*,* 425-466-9872

Agency File Number: not applicable

**Description of proposal:**

The Project includes cleanup actions for the Boeing Auburn Site as described in the draft Cleanup Action Plan (dCAP). Cleanup actions will occur at the four AOCs within the Site that require cleanup. The Site includes the Boeing Auburn Fabrication Division Plant (Boeing Auburn Plant) and adjacent property (the Prologis Property), that are together identified as the Boeing Auburn Facility. In addition to the Boeing Auburn Facility, the Site also includes all contiguous property affected by releases of hazardous substances that are confirmed or suspected to have originated at the Boeing Auburn Facility. The four AOCs and their proposed cleanup actions are as follows:

**AOC A-01**

Description: AOC A-01 was caused by two former 10,000-gallon fuel USTs that were installed in 1967 near Building 17-06. Both tanks, a fuel island, and some contaminated soil were removed in 1990. Additional soils were excavated in 2004. Recent investigations show some soil contamination remains and causes low-level groundwater contamination in a limited area.

Proposed cleanup action: Soils with petroleum contamination above CULs will be excavated. Oxygen-releasing compound (ORC) will be emplaced in the backfill to enhance microbial degradation of petroleum in groundwater. Any residual petroleum contamination in groundwater will be treated with monitored natural attenuation.

**AOC A-09**

Description: AOC A-09 contamination came from a leak in the acid scrubber drain line located on the south side of Building 17-07 (outside of the building). The leak was discovered in 1996 during removal of two waste holding tanks. During excavation, seepage from the acid scrubber drain pipe was noted at about 5 feet below ground surface near a structural pier of Building 17-07. A partial excavation was done in 1996; however, structural concerns required that some contaminated soil remain in place. The remaining soil contamination has caused some localized groundwater contamination.

Proposed cleanup action: Monitored containment until any necessary future excavation can be done without impacting Boeing Auburn Plant operations. The cleanup action includes institutional controls to maintain the asphalt/concrete cap and continued monitoring of the groundwater contamination. When Building 17-07 is removed/demolished or is otherwise accessible without disrupting Boeing operations, excavation will be completed as required.

**AOC A-14**

Description: The groundwater plumes of AOC A-14 are the “Area 1 Plume” (originating from the northern portion of the Boeing Auburn Facility, former Area 1) and the “Western Plume” (originating from the west side of the Boeing Auburn Facility near Building 17-07). These two plumes extend approximately 1 mile northwest of the Boeing Auburn Facility. The plumes are primarily comprised of trichloroethene (TCE) and its breakdown products cis-1,2-dichloroethene (cDCE) and vinyl chloride (VC). Some localized areas of TCE soil contamination are present at the TCE release areas at the Boeing Auburn Facility.

Proposed Cleanup Action: Cleanup will consist of enhanced *in situ* bioremediation (EISB) at the Algona Focus Area and monitored natural attenuation. EISB in the Algona Focus Area will be detailed in the engineering design report (EDR). The EISB conceptual remedy for the Algona neighborhood extends the existing pilot test injection locations to the north to create an approximately 980-ft-long injection row. Injections would occur up to three times about every four years. Existing downgradient monitoring wells will be used to monitor the remedy.

**AOC A-15**

Description: AOC A-15 consists of chlorinated volatile organic compounds (CVOCs) from groundwater entering into three stormwater features at the Site (Chicago Avenue Ditch, Auburn 400 north retention basin, and Auburn 400 south retention basin), causing detections of TCE and VC in the stormwater.

Proposed Cleanup Action: Since concentrations in stormwater are a result of groundwater contamination, conditions at AOC A-15 are directly connected and attributed to conditions in AOC A-14, and are addressed by the remediation for AOC A-14.

**Location of proposal:**

The Boeing Auburn Plant is located at 700 15th Street Southwest in Auburn, Washington. The Boeing Auburn Facility consists of the Boeing Auburn Plant and the adjacent Prologis Property at 2202 Perimeter Road in Auburn, Washington. The Site includes the Boeing Auburn Facility and all contiguous properties affected by releases of hazardous substances confirmed or suspected to have originated at the Boeing Auburn Facility. The Boeing Auburn Site is located within the boundaries of Auburn and Algona, Washington and borders Pacific, Washington. The Site is located in Sections 13, 23, and 24, Township 21N, Range 4E.

Applicant: The Boeing Company

Project Manager: Debbie Taege

Environmental Remediation

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Ecology has determined that this proposal will not have a probable significant adverse impact on the environment. An environmental impact statement (EIS) is not required under RCW 43.21C.030. We have reviewed the attached Environmental Checklist (SEPA Checklist). This information is available at: [Boeing Auburn - (5049) (wa.gov)](https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/cleanupsearch/site/5049#site-documents)

**This determination is based on the following findings and conclusions:**

The actions implementing the Cleanup Action Plan will improve environmental quality.

Overall, groundwater and surface water quality will be improved by the actions taken under this Cleanup Action Plan. All work will be done under plans reviewed and approved by the Department of Ecology. As part of the EISB planned for AOC A-14, LactOil™ or similar non-toxic solutions will be injected into the groundwater at a row of injection wells to stimulate CVOC biodegradation. Three injection events are planned approximately every 4 years. The injection details will be determined as part of the EDR. An application for underground injection wells will be submitted to Ecology before injection activities.

To prevent unacceptable exposure of workers to subsurface contamination during construction and implementation of the proposed action, procedures will be established to ensure that activities are conducted carefully and safely. These procedures will be documented in a Site-specific health and safety plan and specific job safety plans. All Site workers with potential to come in contact with hazardous substances will have 40-hour hazardous waste operations and emergency response training.

Institutional controls will be used to limit or prohibit activities that may result in exposure to hazardous substances at the Site. Soil and groundwater institutional controls will only apply to the Boeing Auburn Facility (both parcels owned by Boeing and Prologis). Institutional controls will include an environmental covenant to restrict the land use to industrial in order to use Method C soil CULs on the Boeing Auburn Facility and prohibit use of groundwater at the Boeing Auburn Facility as a potable water supply.

This DNS is issued under WAC 197-11-340(2). The comment period ends on November 11, 2022.

Raman Iyer, Section Manager

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Signature

(electronic signature or name of signor is sufficient)

Date

Appeal process: This SEPA decision may be appealed in conjunction with an appeal on the underlying agency action. In this case, the permit, rule amendment, plan, order or other may be appealed by the applicable citation and summary of timeline.