



DEPARTMENT OF
ECOLOGY
State of Washington



City of Seattle

Gas Works Sediment Area Update

What's happening now?

Hydrogeological Investigation Begins September 27 at Gas Works Park

Six new wells will be drilled at Gas Works Park: one deep well and five shallow wells. The deep well will be located in the northwest corner area of the park. The other five wells will be located around the park. This investigation by the City of Seattle and Puget Sound Energy is part of research into existing Lake Union sediment contamination, in accordance with the March 2005 legal agreement between the Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology), the City of Seattle and Puget Sound Energy.

Ecology has approved the Work Plan for this investigation, and work is scheduled to begin on September 27, 2010. The investigation's primary purpose is to obtain data on groundwater elevations and aquifer properties for use in groundwater modeling.

**** Park Advisory ****

Seattle Parks and Recreation will close parts of Gas Works Park for about seven weeks while the drilling crew and environmental scientists conduct the Hydrogeological Investigation. The closures will be limited to weekdays.

What is the purpose of the Hydrogeological Investigation?

The Hydrogeological Investigation is part of an effort to evaluate the flow of groundwater from the upland (on-shore area) to the sediment (lake-bottom mud) in Lake Union. The investigation includes pumping tests of the site groundwater. Ecology will take soil and groundwater samples. The tests are necessary to support the development of sediment cleanup alternatives that protect the environment and prevent re-contamination. The Hydrogeological Investigation will help determine whether groundwater flowing through capped sediments could re-contaminate lake sediments.

September 2010

For More Information about the Drilling, Contact:

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For More Information about the Gas Works Sediment Area Project, Contact:

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City of Seattle
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Seattle Public Utilities
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Documents about the Site can be reviewed at: Department of Ecology – Northwest Regional Office
3190 160th Avenue SE
Bellevue, WA 98008
(Please call for an appointment)
Phone: (425) 649-7190

Ecology's Web site:
<http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/tcp/sites/gaswkspk/gaswks.htm>

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If you need this publication in an alternative format, call Nancy Lui at (425) 649-7117.

Persons with hearing loss, call 711 for Washington Relay Service. Persons with speech disability call 877-833-6341.

Construction Schedule and Hours

Contractors for the City of Seattle and Puget Sound Energy, will begin drilling on September 27, 2010. Drilling activities will continue through approximately October 11, 2010. The pumping tests will follow the drilling and continue through approximately November 8, 2010.

Drilling noise will be monitored, and City of Seattle's noise ordinance levels will not be exceeded. The drilling work will take place during weekdays from 7 a.m. and 6 p.m.

What can you expect to see at the site?



Starting on about September 27, a track-mounted drilling rig (see photo above) will drill borings (vertical holes drilled in the ground) in six locations throughout the park. A 50 foot area around each drilling location will be closed to the public. Temporary construction fencing and signage will mark the closed areas.

In October, after the drill rig is removed, tanks, pumps and groundwater measuring equipment will arrive on site. Water level measurements and pumping tests will be performed to obtain hydrogeological data. Closure areas similar to that used for the drilling will be established at each well during the pumping tests.

What happens next?

This Hydrogeological Investigation is part of a larger investigation called a Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study. The Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study reports for the Gas Works Sediment Area will be made available to the public for review

and comment. The reports will summarize findings about the contaminated sediments and describe cleanup options. You will be notified when the reports are complete and available for public review and comment, which will occur before final cleanup decisions are made.

Site Background

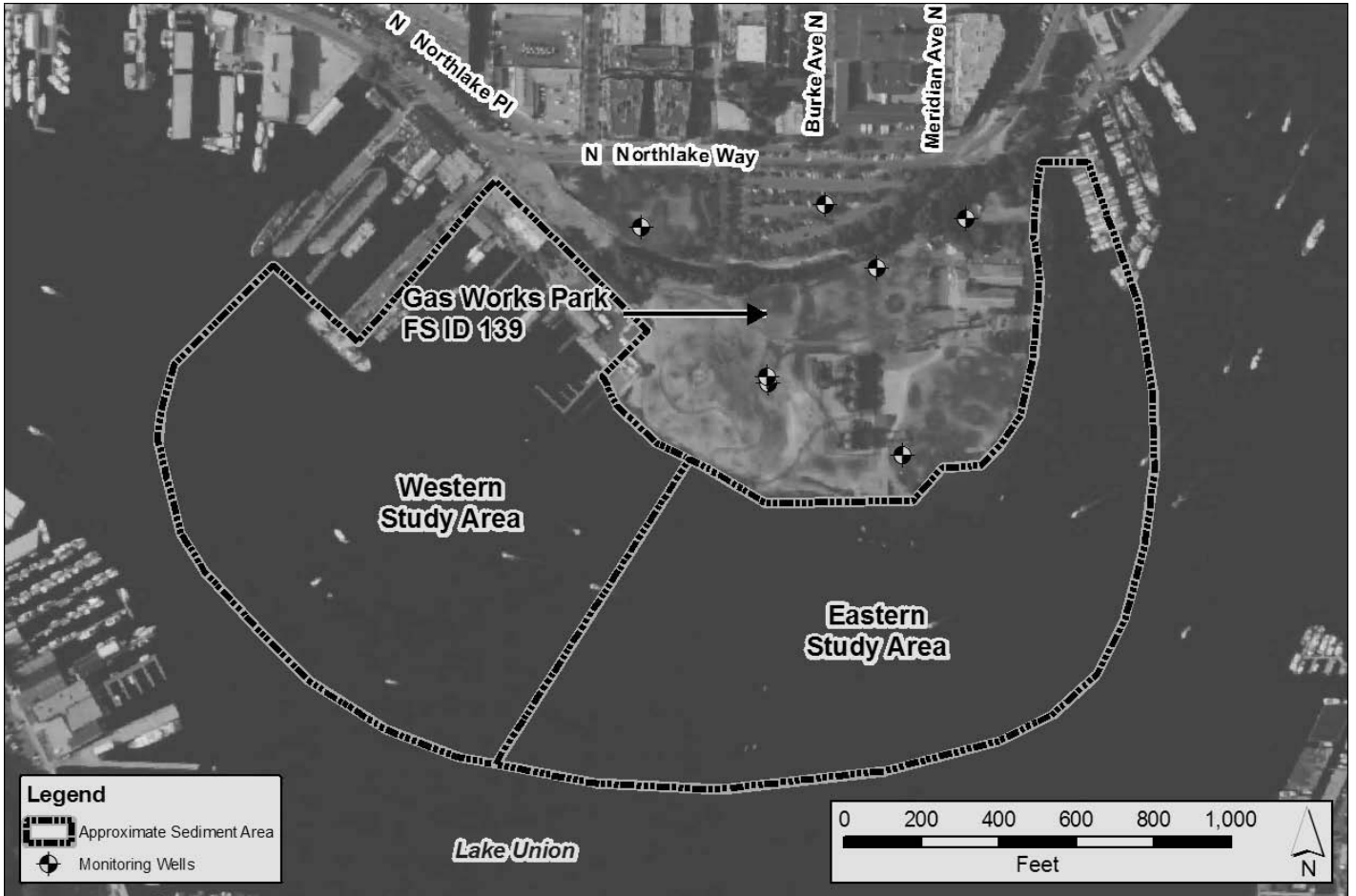
Gas Works Park is a 20-acre park located at 2101 North Northlake Way. The park juts into Lake Union (the lake lies to the east, west and south of the park). The park's north end is bounded by Northlake Way.

From the early 1900s until 1956, gas companies operated a plant at the site that converted coal and oil into manufactured gas. A tar refinery also operated at the site, refining materials obtained as a by-product of the gas manufacturing process, and producing coal tar-based products.

The Gas Works Park uplands underwent an environmental cleanup in 2000 and 2001, in which two feet of clean topsoil was placed over a protective barrier. A groundwater remediation system was installed and operated from 2001 through 2006.

Sediment investigations offshore of Gas Works Park in Lake Union have indicated the presence of high levels of polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs). The City of Seattle and Puget Sound Energy are conducting Remedial Investigations and Feasibility Studies for these contaminated sediments.

The purpose of these investigations and studies is to identify the nature and extent of contamination present and to evaluate potential cleanup solutions. The Hydrogeological Investigation supports the development of cleanup actions for sediment of the site.



Gas Works Park Site Location (2101 North Northlake Way) and Groundwater Well Locations



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State of Washington

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Gas Works Park - Sediment Area Update

**Gas Works Park
King County**

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Gas Works Park**

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