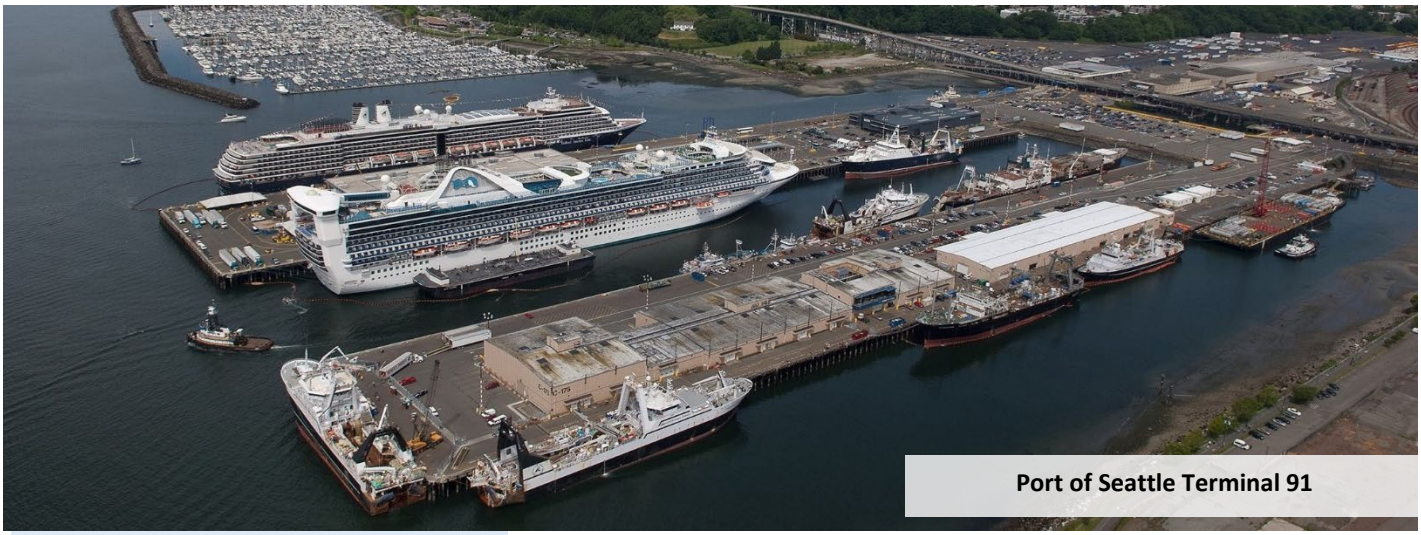
Public Comment Period – Terminal 91 Cleanup



Port of Seattle Terminal 91

Comments accepted:

Oct. 10–Nov. 25, 2019

Submit comments:

Online at: bit.ly/T91Comments

Or mail to:
Tom Mackie, Site Manager
Department of Ecology
Central Regional Office
1250 West Alder Street
Union Gap, WA 98901-0009

Site info:

Facility Site ID: 24768
Site Cleanup ID: 2674

Document review locations:

Ecology NW Regional Office
3190 160th Ave. SE
Bellevue, WA 98008-5452
Call for appt. 425-649-7190

Seattle Public Library

Magnolia Branch
2801 34th Ave. W
Seattle, WA 98199-2602

Queen Anne Branch
400 W. Garfield St.
Seattle, WA 98199-4227

We want to hear from you!

Ecology will oversee an investigation of contamination in the Submerged Lands Area of the Port of Seattle Terminal 91 (T-91) facility located at the north end of Elliott Bay at 2001 West Garfield Street in Seattle, Washington. To find out where the contamination is located we need a legal agreement with the Port of Seattle (Port). Hazardous wastes were once treated, stored, and disposed of on this site, so they also need a Corrective Action Permit to continue the cleanup. The current permit expires in 2020.

We would like your input on the following documents, which can be found on the website:

- **Draft Agreed Order:** Legal agreement to ensure that a remedial investigation (RI) to determine the location and type of contamination meets the requirements of the state cleanup law.
- **Public Participation Plan:** Creates a process to communicate with and receive feedback from the public about this cleanup.
- **Corrective Action Permit and Application:** Permit that requires the Port to continue cleanup.

Opportunities to talk with us

October 22	November 5
Seattle Public Library – Magnolia Drop in between 3:00 – 6:30 PM 2801 34th Avenue W Seattle, WA 98199-2602	Seattle Public Library – Queen Anne Drop in between 3:00 – 6:30 PM 400 W. Garfield St. Seattle, WA 98199-4227

Site History

The Terminal 91 Complex (T91 Complex) is located in an industrial area in the Interbay neighborhood of Seattle. Various railroads, land development companies, and private individuals owned the property from the late 1800s through 1920. The Great Northern Railroad began to develop the area in the early 1900s by filling in the area between Magnolia Bluff and Queen Anne Hill. Filling continued through the 1940s.

The T91 Complex was used by several oil companies from 1926 until 1941, when the U.S. Navy took possession. The Port purchased the facility in the 1970s. A four-acre parcel of the T91 Complex is the site of a former tank farm. Constructed in the 1920s, it operated as a fuel storage facility until it was demolished in 2005. In 1992, Burlington Environmental Inc. (BEI) was issued a permit to operate as a hazardous waste treatment and storage facility (TSD). Although the permit is no longer active, the Port is responsible for cleaning up contamination at the site. More history: 'T91 Historical Review Report,' January 31, 2017[1]

Site contamination and past cleanups

Submerged lands (sediments at the bottom of Elliot Bay): The Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) started cleaning up the marine sediments in 2010 when discarded military munitions were discovered near T90 and T91. The Corps first investigated to locate the discarded munitions. They removed munitions in 2012.

When the Navy owned the facility, they sometimes disposed of munitions overboard without documentation while ships were in port. Occasionally law enforcement divers still find and remove munitions.

Historic land use and industrial practices also contaminated the sediments with chemicals and metals. Contaminants there include:

- Metals – arsenic, cadmium, chromium, copper, lead, mercury, silver, and zinc
- Tributyltin
- Polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs)
- Phthalates
- Semi volatile organic compounds (SVOCs)
- Polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs)

This comment period is for a new agreed order between the Port and Ecology to look for contamination in the submerged lands. The Port conducted preliminary investigations in 2012 and 2018.

Tank Farm: The Port removed above ground tanks and contaminated structures in 2014. Under a restrictive covenant, the Port can only use the land in ways that prevent people from coming in contact with any remaining hazardous substances. Philip Services Corp. operated the former tank farm as a TSD. Other Port tenants used those same tanks for fuel storage and distribution.

Uplands: The Port cleaned up the remainder of the upland areas, other than the Tank Farm Area beginning in 1999. Soil in these areas was contaminated mostly with petroleum products.

What happens next?

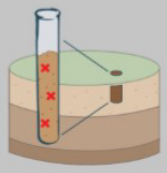
Ecology will consider all comments and may amend the documents based on your comments. We will finalize the agreed order and the Port will start the remedial investigation (RI) to find out where the contamination is located. We will review the results from the RI to tell us if more cleanup is needed. To continue cleanup activities, Ecology must also issue a Corrective Action Permit. This is a permit required by state and federal law and is part of the cleanup process at former hazardous waste facilities.

Cleanup process

There are steps in the cleanup process: remedial investigation, feasibility study, cleanup plan, cleanup implementation and monitoring. We are preparing for the remedial investigation phase.

[1] https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/gsp/CleanupSiteDocuments.aspx?csid=2674

Steps in Washington's Cleanup Process

Interim Action		If contaminants pose an immediate risk to people or the environment, action can be taken at any point in the cleanup process to reduce the risk. Interim actions may also be used to progress cleanup when only a brief opportunity is available.
Remedial Investigation (RI)		Environmental investigation to identify the nature, extent, and magnitude of pollution at a site, and how people, plants, and animals may be exposed to the pollution.
Feasibility Study (FS)		Uses information gathered during the Remedial Investigation to develop cleanup alternatives, and then evaluates them through an environmental benefit vs. cost analysis. This process determines a preferred alternative.
Cleanup Action Plan (CAP)		Ecology identifies a cleanup plan based on information in the RI/FS and public input. The CAP includes cleanup standards, a schedule for design and construction work, and requirements for monitoring, operation, and maintenance.
Cleanup & Monitoring		The CAP is used to clean up the site. After construction is complete, monitoring occurs. Environmental covenants prohibit or restrict activities that would expose any remaining contamination or adversely affect the cleanup.

Opportunities for public comment

Figure 1. Cleanup process

Hazardous Waste & Toxics Reduction Program
3190 160th Avenue SE
Bellevue, WA 98008-5452

We want to hear from you! Terminal 91 cleanup

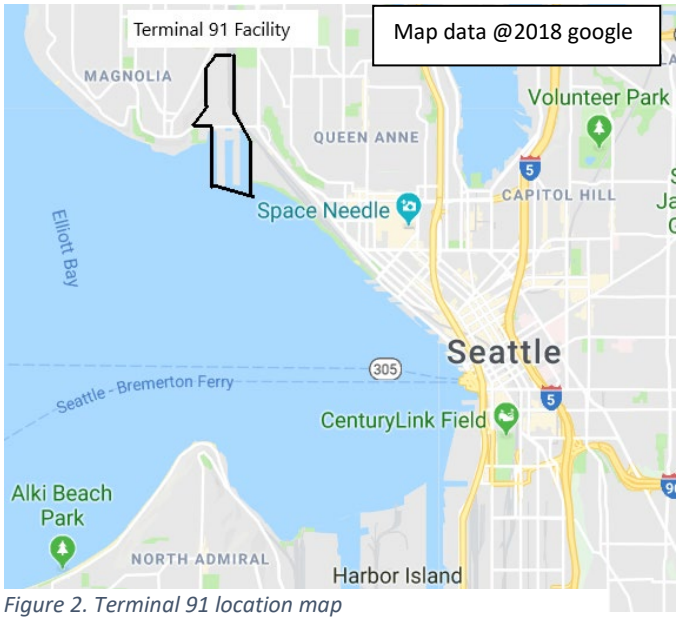


Figure 2. Terminal 91 location map

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Accommodation Requests: To request ADA accommodation for disabilities, or printed materials in a format for the visually impaired, contact the Ecology ADA Coordinator at 360-407-6831 or ecyadacoordinator@ecy.wa.gov, or visit https://ecology.wa.gov/accessibility. People with impaired hearing may call Washington Relay Service at 711. People with speech disability may call TTY at 877-833-6341.

Terminal 91 site map

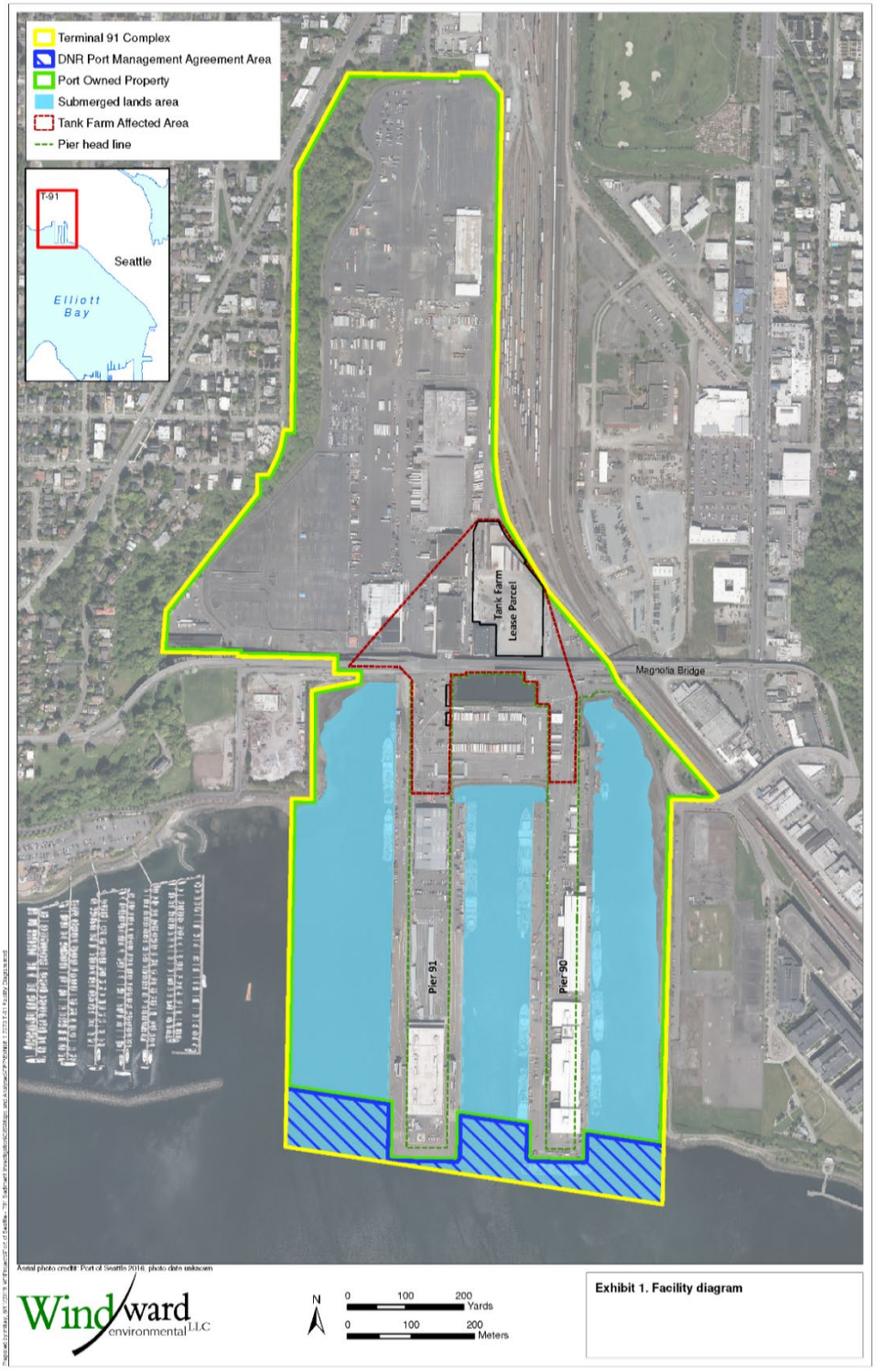

Figure 3. Terminal 91-facility map. Upland areas to the north, former tank farm is central, and two piers and three created bays are at the southern end.