

Fact Sheet for State Waste Discharge Permit ST0501273

SGL Composites, LLC.

Date of Public Notice: November 20, 2023

Purpose of this fact sheet

This fact sheet amendment explains and documents the modifications to the permit issued to SGL Composites, LLC. (SGL) on February 25, 2021. The fact sheet that accompanied the 2021 permit has detailed information about the wastewater treatment system and Ecology's permit decisions.

State law requires any commercial or industrial facility to obtain a permit before discharging waste or chemicals to municipal sanitary sewer collection and treatment system.

Ecology makes the draft modified permit available for public review and comment at least 30-days before issuing the final permit. Copies of the draft documents for SGL Composites LLC, State Waste Discharge permit ST0501273, are available for public review and comment from November 20, 2023 until the close of business December 20, 2023. For more details on preparing and filing comments about these documents, please see **Appendix A - Public Involvement Information**.

After the public comment period closes, Ecology will summarize substantive comments and our responses to them. Ecology will include our summary and responses to comments to this fact sheet amendment as **Appendix C - Response to Comments**, and publish it when we issue the final State Waste Discharge permit. Ecology will not revise the rest of the fact sheet, but the full document including all appendices will become part of the legal history contained in the facility's permit file.

This fact sheet amendment explains the regulatory and technical basis for the amended conditions contained in the permit.

I. Introduction

The legislature defined Ecology's authority and obligations for the wastewater discharge permit program in the Water Pollution Control law, chapter 90.48 RCW (Revised Code of Washington).

Ecology adopted rules describing how it exercises its authority:

- State waste discharge program (chapter 173-216 WAC)
- Submission of plans and reports for construction of wastewater facilities (chapter 173-240 WAC)

These rules require any industrial facility owner or operator to obtain a State Waste Discharge permit before discharging wastewater to state waters. This rule includes commercial or industrial discharges to sewerage systems operated by municipalities or public entities which discharge into public waters of the state. They also help define the basis for limits on each discharge and for performance requirements imposed by the permit.

II. Background Information

Table 1: Facility Information

Applicant	SGL Composites LLC
Facility Name and Address	8781 Randolph Road NE, Moses Lake, WA 98837
Industry Type	Carbon Fiber Manufacturing
Type of Treatment	Equalization
Treatment Plant Receiving Discharge	Port of Moses Lake, Land Treatment System, City of Moses Lake Larson Treatment Plant
Responsible Official	Lee McKinley, Plant Manager (509) 762-4600 Lee.McKinley@sglcarbon.com

A. History

SGL produces continuous carbon fiber thread for use in the automotive and aerospace Industries. The facility has two separate wastewater systems. One is dedicated to handling domestic waste and the other is for handling industrial wastewater. SGL discharges its process wastewater to the Port of Moses Lake, Land Treatment System and its domestic sewage to the City of Moses Lake Larson Wastewater Treatment Plant. Ecology issued the previous permit for this facility in August 2011 with an amendment in December 2015. The facility recently changed its name from SGL Automotive Carbon Fibers LLC to SGL Composites LLC.

B. Discussion

Because of ongoing issue with violating effluent Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD₅) limits since issuance of the permit, SGL staff contacted the Port of Moses Lake to inquire about increasing the permitted limit per Ecology's instructions, which was noted in the July 2022 noncompliance notification submitted to Ecology. On June 9, 2023, SGL Composites received a letter from the Port of Moses Lake as notice of approval for their request to increase the effluent BOD₅ limit to the industrial process water discharge to the Port of Moses Lake. The Port determined that acceptance of the of SGL's process water with an increased limit for BOD₅ will not have an adverse effect on upon their treatment system and they are willing to accept the request for an increase to the limits per SGL's request (A copy of the approval letter is at the end of this fact sheet amendment).

With the Port of Moses Lake's approval, Ecology agrees to modify SGL's permit with the increased limits for effluent BOD₅.

C. Permit Modification

Ecology will make the following changes to the permit:

Table 1: Current & Increased Permit Limits for Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD₅)

Parameter	Unit	Six-Month Average	Maximum Daily
Current BOD ₅ Permit Limits	mg/L	40	80
Increased BOD ₅ Permit Limits	mg/L	100	200

D. Conclusion

Ecology proposes to modify SGL's permit as discussed in sections B & C above.

No other condition or requirement of the 2021 permit is hereby affected by this amendment.

APPENDIX A – PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

APPENDIX B - YOUR RIGHT TO APPEAL

APPENDIX C - RESPONSE TO COMMENTS

Appendix A - Public Involvement Information

Ecology proposes to modify SGL Composites, LLC's State Waste Discharge permit. The permit modifications are described in this fact sheet amendment.

Ecology will place a public notice in the Columbia Basin Herald on November 20, 2023 to inform the public and to invite comments on the proposed draft modified permit. Interested persons are invited to submit written comments regarding the modifications. Ecology is only accepting comments on the modified portions.

The modified permit and related documents can be viewed using [PARIS¹](#), Ecology's Permitting and Reporting Information System database or between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. weekdays, by appointment, at the regional office listed below; call (509) 329-3400 to make an appointment. Submit comments to Ecology no later than December 20, 2023.

Mail written comments to: Pat Hallinan
Water Quality Program
Department of Ecology
4601 N. Monroe Street
Spokane, Washington 99205-1265

Email comments to: Patrick.Hallinan@ecy.wa.gov

URL for Ecology event listing: <https://ecykenpub/events/wq/waste-discharge-permits/SGL-Composites-Public-Notice>

Any interested party may request a public hearing on the proposed permit within 30 days of the publication date of this notice. The request for a hearing shall state the interest of the party and the reasons why a hearing is necessary. The request should be sent to the above address. The Department will hold a hearing if it determines that there is significant public interest. If a hearing is to be held, public notice will be published at least 30 days in advance of the hearing date. Any party responding to this notice with comments will be mailed a copy of a hearing public notice.

Ecology will consider all comments received within 30-days from the date of public notice of draft indicated above, in formulating a final determination to issue, revise, or deny the permit. Ecology's response to all significant comments is available upon request and will be mailed directly to people expressing an interest in this permit.

Ecology is an equal opportunity agency. If you need this publication in an alternate format, please contact us at (509) 329-3400 or TTY (for the speech and hearing impaired) at 711 or 1-800-833-6388.

For more information, call the Department of Ecology Eastern Regional Office at (509) 329-3400 or go online to the [Department of Ecology website](#) at ecy.wa.gov.

¹ <https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/paris/DocumentSearch.aspx>

Appendix B - Your Right to Appeal

Your right to appeal

You have a right to appeal this permit to the Pollution Control Hearing Board (P.C.H.B.) within 30 days of the date of receipt. **You may only file an appeal on the modified portions of the permit.** The appeal process is governed by RCW 43.21B and WAC 371-08. "Date of receipt" is defined in RCW 43.21B.001(2).

To appeal you must do the following within 30 days of the date of receipt of this permit:

- File your notice of appeal and a copy of this permit with the PCHB (see filing information below). "Filing" means actual receipt by the PCHB during regular business hours as defined in WAC 371-08-305 and -335. "Notice of appeal" is defined in WAC 371-08-340.
- Serve a copy of your notice of appeal and this permit on the Department of Ecology mail, in person, or by email (see addresses below).

You must also comply with other applicable requirements in RCW 43.21B and WAC 371-08.

Filing an appeal

Filing with the PCHB

For the most current information regarding filing with the PCHB, visit: <https://eluhho.wa.gov/> or call: (360) 664-9160.

Service on Ecology

Street Addresses:

Department of Ecology
Attn: Appeals Processing Desk
300 Desmond Drive SE
Lacey, Washington 98503

Mailing Addresses:

Department of Ecology
Attn: Appeals Processing Desk
P.O. Box 47608
Olympia, Washington 98504-7608

E-Mail Address:

ecologyappeals@ecy.wa.gov

Appendix C - Response to Comments

Ecology did not receive comments on the draft modified permit following the 30-day public comment period.

Figure 1: Port of Moses Lake Acceptance Letter Dated June 9, 2023

