

Permit Compliance Inspection Report

Water Quality Program

Central Region Office

A. General Information

Facility Name and Address: Puget Sound Energy Goldendale Generating Station
600 Industrial Way
Goldendale, WA 98620

GPS Latitude/Longitude: 45.8112, -120.83264

Permit Number: ST0009236

Permit Type: Industrial State Waste Discharge Permit to POTW/Private (Individual)

Permit Effective Dates: April 01, 2022, to March 31, 2027

Inspection Date and Time: March 12, 2025, 11:10 AM to 12:45 PM

Discharge to: Goldendale Publicly Owned Treatment Works (POTW)

Type of Inspection: Announced
Industrial User Inspection - Without Sampling

Weather: Rainy, 48°F

Photographs Taken: ☒ Yes ☐ No Samples Taken: ☐ Yes ☒ No

B. Personnel Information

Ecology Representative(s): Nicole Gassman (Lead Inspector)
Kevin Dolan (Co-inspector)
Alex Barnes

Facility Representative(s): Ruth Juris, Site Contact
Email: ruth.juris@pse.com Phone: (509) 773-7919

Responsible Party/Official: Mark Carlson, Director
1200 Prudential Boulevard
Longview, WA 98632
Email: mark.carlson@pse.com Phone: (360) 353-7220

Additional Participants: Fred Best, Plant Manager
Email: fred.best@pse.com Phone: (509) 773-7919
Daniel Ellingwood, CT Foreman
Email: daniel.ellingwood@pse.com Phone: N/A

Inspector Signature(s)

Reviewer Signature



4/2/2024

Nicole Gassman

Date

Permit Developer/Facility Manager

Andrea Jedel (Electronic Signature) 04/07/2025

Andrea Jedel

Date

Industrial Unit Supervisor

C. Facility Description and Background

The Puget Sound Energy Goldendale Generating Station (PSE Goldendale) is an energy plant that uses one gas and one steam turbine generator to produce electrical energy. The facility has been in operation since 2004 and discharges industrial wastewater to the City of Goldendale's Publicly Owned Treatment Works (POTW). PSE Goldendale is permitted under both an Industrial to POTW State Waste Discharge Permit and an Industrial Stormwater General Permit.

D. Inspection Narrative and Observations

1. Permit Documentation and Records Review

PSE Goldendale retains a copy of their current permit, Operations and Maintenance Manual, Spill Prevention Plan, and Solid Waste Control Plan. They also have records of their Discharge Monitoring Report (DMR) data and their in-house general chemistry tests going back at least 3 years.

2. Site Walkthrough

I (Nicole Gassman), Kevin Dolan, and Alex Barnes arrived at the facility at approximately 11:10 am PST. We were buzzed in at the security gate after announcing that we were from the Department of Ecology (ECY) and parked in the parking lot directly in front of the administration building. We had previously been asked via email by the facility representatives to arrive wearing proper safety attire and we were equipped with ECY issued close toed shoes, hardhats, and safety vests. Upon entering the administrative building, we signed into their visitor log and were greeted by Ruth Juris, who introduced herself and led us to the office meeting room where we were joined by the plant manager, Fred Best.

Kevin has been in frequent communication with PSE Goldendale and had previously inspected the facility around 5 years ago. He prepared some graphs showing PSE Goldendale's DMR data per analyte from the past 14 years and noted a few peaks in the data. Fred let us know that they began running more often in the 2010's and that this was likely the source of the spikes, which were still within compliance limits. We requested that they take us through the power plant starting from where their water first enters the facility and following how it travels until its final combined discharge location. On our way out of the administrative building we were given safety glasses and ear protection.

We began our walkthrough in the water treatment building, which is directly south of the administrative building. Frank explained that the building intakes potable water and sends it through a multi-step purification process for further use. Each step in the process is able to be monitored by a central control panel that also displays the water characteristics and can be remotely accessed by the control room. Initial intake water is desalinized through ion exchange, demineralized, and then sent to a neutralization tank for pH neutralization. The desalinized water is sent through to be used in the cooling towers, while the demineralized and neutralized water is used for the steam generator.

We exited the water treatment building through a door located in the back of the building. Directly behind this is the main building that houses the steam generator and boiler. Ruth let us know that this area also includes an onsite lab that does basic general chemistry on their boiler blowdown and cooling tower water. There is a sample panel that hooks into the boiler feedback pump which allows them to take grab samples, and phosphate and amine kept in adjacent tanks are used to adjust the pH if needed.

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Frank and Ruth brought us back outside and towards the southern edge of the facility, where two cooling towers and the water-cooling condenser is. The smaller cooling tower is used to cool the larger cooling tower, which is then used to cool the water condenser as it condenses the steam from the steam turbine back into water. There is an attached service shed that houses the main control panel for both towers towards the back of the property. The condenser is connected to the steam turbine through a series of large metal pipes that are color coded to indicate where they are connected and what water they are carrying (i.e. blue pipes are connected to the boiler pumps). The main steam turbine is located in an adjacent building to the condenser that includes a series of cooling water pumps and a control panel that allows for remote monitoring of the cooling and blowdown water characteristics.

To conclude our facility walkthrough, we stopped at the facility wastewater discharge outfall, which is located at the far back edge of the property. All of the facility water, including sanitary waste, is combined and discharged to the POTW through a sewer line equipped with a flow meter. Afterwards, Kevin requested to look at their stormwater ponds and I thanked Fred and Ruth for their time. We signed out of the facility guestbook and left at around 12:45 pm PST.

E. Areas of Concern

No concerns noted. PSE Goldendale has not received any DMR violations for over a year and have been in compliance with their current state waste discharge permit. They have also remained up to date on all of their permit submittals.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding this inspection report, please contact Nicole Gassman at nicole.gassman@ecy.wa.gov or (509)-746-8416.

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Photo [1] [IMG_3597]
Description: Water Intake Source



Photo [2] [IMG_3598]
Description: Neutralization Tank

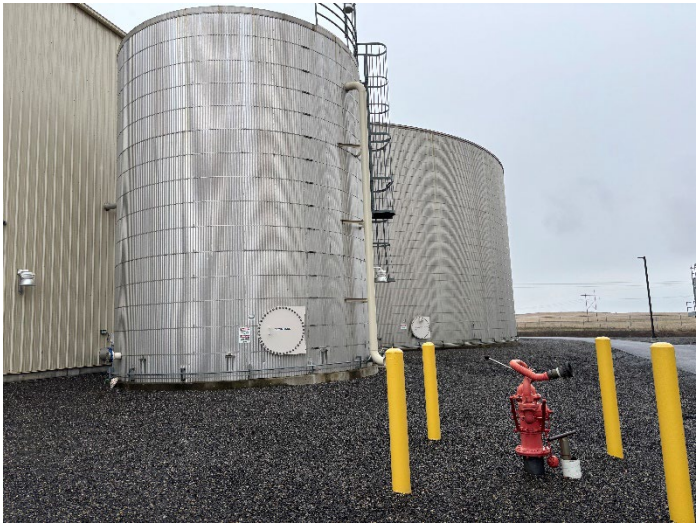


Photo [3] [IMG_3601]
Description: Demineralization Tanks



Photo [4] [IMG_3600]
Description: Water Treatment Control Panel



Photo [5] [IMG_3604]
Description: Phosphate and Amine Containers



Photo [6] [IMG_3605]
Description: Supplemental Cooling Tower



Photo [7] [IMG_3606]
Description: Main Water-Cooling Tower



Photo [8] [IMG_3602]
Description: General Chemistry Sampling Panel



Photo [9] [IMG_3610]
Description: Control Panel for Chemical Feed



Photo [10] [IMG_3612]
Description: Blowdown Water Monitoring Panel



Photo [11] [IMG_3614]
Description: Blowdown Cooling Pipes



Photo [12] [IMG_3615]
Description: Discharge Point to the POTW