

NOTICE: ANNOUNCEMENT OF AVAILABILITY OF DRAFT PERMIT AND  
SECOND NOTICE OF THE TIER II ANTI-DEGRADATION NECESSARY AND OVERRIDING PUBLIC INTEREST  
DETERMINATION

PERMIT NO: WA0991051

APPLICANT: Project Macoma  
950 Commercial Street  
San Carlos, CA 94070

FACILITY: Project Macoma  
1301 Marine Drive, Terminal 7  
Port Angeles, WA 98363

Project Macoma has applied for a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit in accordance with the provisions of [Chapter 90.48 Revised Code of Washington \(RCW\)](#) and [Chapter 173-216 Washington Administrative Code \(WAC\)](#). The Public Notice of Application was posted on April 3, 2024, and April 10, 2024.

This is a 2-year long pilot project that uses innovative technology to remove CO<sub>2</sub> from the ocean and evaluates the effects of releasing high alkaline discharge back into the ocean. By studying this discharge and its effects on the ocean, this innovative technology can be developed further. The project will gradually ramp up operations, with monitoring and controls in place to ensure that any adverse impacts on aquatic life are addressed.

After evaluating the permit application and other available information, a draft permit has been developed which would allow the discharge of processed oceanwater from Project Macoma's modular treatment facility to the Port Angeles Harbor. The processed oceanwater must meet the requirements of the Washington State Water Pollution Control Act and applicable regulations for a permit to be issued. A tentative determination has been made on the effluent limitations and special permit conditions that will prevent and control pollution. A final determination will not be made until all timely comments received in response to this notice have been evaluated.

The Water Quality Standards for Surface Waters [WAC 173-201A-320 Tier II- Protection of waters of higher quality than the standards](#) requires that, whenever a water quality constituent is of a higher quality than a criterion designated for that water, a new discharge that is expected to cause a measurable change in the quality of the water may not be allowed unless the Department of Ecology (Ecology) determines that the lowering of water quality is necessary and in the overriding public interest.

Previously, a 30-day Public Notice was posted on April 3, 2024, to solicit comments regarding the project proposal. Comments received have since been evaluated and responded to in the draft permit and fact sheet. Ecology is initiating a second Public Notice pertaining to the Tier II Antidegradation. The draft permit and fact sheet provides permit requirements to ensure aquatic life and uses remain protected. It includes the public comments and provides Ecology's responses.

PUBLIC COMMENT AND INFORMATION

The draft permit and fact sheet may be viewed at the Department of Ecology (Ecology) website: <https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/paris/DocumentSearch.aspx>. The application, fact sheet, proposed permit, and other related documents are also available at Ecology's Southwest Regional Office for inspection and copying between the hours of 8:00 am and 4:30 pm, weekdays. To obtain a copy or to arrange to view copies at the Southwest Regional Office, please call 360-407-6365, email [publicdisclosureswro@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:publicdisclosureswro@ecy.wa.gov), or write to the address below.

Interested persons are invited to submit written comments regarding the proposed permit. All comments must be submitted within 30 days after publication of this notice to be considered for the final determination. Comments should be sent to:

Gayle Garbush  
Department of Ecology  
Southwest Regional Office  
PO Box 47775  
Olympia, WA 98504-7775

Email comments should be sent to [swrowqpermits@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:swrowqpermits@ecy.wa.gov).

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. Ecology will hold a hearing if it determines that there is significant public interest. If a hearing is to be held, a 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.

To request an ADA accommodation, contact Ecology by phone at 360-407-6831 or email at [ecyadacoordinator@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:ecyadacoordinator@ecy.wa.gov). For TTY or Washington Relay Service, call 711 or 877-833-6341. Visit Ecology's website at <https://ecology.wa.gov/About-us/Accountability-transparency/Accessibility> for more information.