

## Puget Sound Energy Generation Station

### Comment opportunity

The Department of Ecology invites you to comment on the proposed renewal of the Puget Sound Energy (PSE) Ferndale Generating Station National Pollutant Elimination System (NPDES) wastewater permit.

We will accept comment by mail, fax or e-mail May 14 – June 13, 2014. You may request a public hearing to ask questions and submit verbal comments. To request a hearing, contact:

Angie Fritz  
Dept of Ecology  
Industrial Section  
P.O. Box 47600  
Olympia, WA 98504-7600  
angela.fritz@ecy.wa.gov  
(360) 480-0748

If we determine there is significant interest during this comment period to hold a hearing, we will:

- Extend the comment period to allow at least 30 days notice of the hearing.
- Publish the date, time and location.

### Permit

PSE operates an electricity generation station in Ferndale. The plant discharges:

- Treated wastewater to the Strait of Georgia through Phillips 66 Outfall 001.
- Stormwater to a stormwater conveyance ditch on Lake Terrell Rd. The ditch leads to Lummi Bay through Outfall 002.

A NPDES permit is required to discharge this wastewater.

### DATES AND LOCATIONS

#### Comment period

May 14 – June 13, 2014

#### Send written comments to:

Mark Dirx, P.E.  
Dept of Ecology  
Industrial Section  
P.O. Box 47600  
Olympia, WA 98504-7600  
mark.dirx@ecy.wa.gov  
Fax: (360) 407-6102

#### Read the proposed permit at these locations:

Ferndale Public Library  
222 Main St.  
Ferndale, WA 98248

Bellingham Public Library  
210 Central Ave.  
Bellingham, WA, 98225

Dept of Ecology  
300 Desmond Way SE  
Lacey, WA, 98503

Online at  
<https://fortress.wa.gov/ecy/industrial/UIPermit/DraftPermits.aspx>

#### Special accommodations

If you require special accommodations or need this document in a version for the visually impaired, call the Waste 2 Resources Program at (360) 407-6900.

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

PSE's permit was last issued August 31, 2006. Changes to the permit include:

- A new section allowing non-routine discharges with prior approval from Ecology.
- Removal of the herring testing requirement. The Phillips 66 Ferndale oil refinery will conduct the herring study under Agreed Order No. 10297.

A NPDES permit is normally issued every five years. It:

- Sets limits on the kinds, amounts and concentrations of pollutants a facility may release.
- Requires a facility to measure, test and report its pollutants.
- Prescribes "best management practices."
- Sets other legal conditions necessary to discharge wastewater.

Effective comments:

- Tell us how well, based on current laws, rules and regulations, the proposed permit protects receiving water.
- Provide input on limits, conditions and requirements.
- Let us know if you think we made errors interpreting state and federal permitting requirements.
- Are specific. Tell us specifically what your concern is and how you think the permit should change.

When the comment period ends, Ecology will review and consider all comments received and make appropriate changes to the permit before issuing it.

### **Facility information**

PSE owns and operates a combined cycle, natural gas-fired cogeneration facility located at 5105 Lake Terrell Rd in Ferndale. A natural gas pipeline supplies the plant with fuel used to make electricity. Number 2 fuel oil is also used as a backup fuel for the combustion turbine. Two sets of gas-fired turbine generators produce up to 270 megawatts of electricity. Exhaust from the turbines is used to produce up to 150,000 pounds of steam each hour for use by the Phillips 66 Ferndale oil refinery.