

Intalco Sulfur Dioxide Reduction Agreed Order



Submit comments:

Online at

<http://ac.ecology.commentinput.com/?id=ZjP9e>

Or by mail to:

Judy Schwieters
Industrial Section
P.O. Box 47600
Olympia, WA 98504

Document review locations:

Online:

<https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/Permits-certifications/Industrial-facilities-permits/Intalco>

Ferndale Public Library
2125 Main Street
Ferndale, WA 98248

Bellingham Public Library
210 Central Ave
Bellingham, WA 98225

Department of Ecology
Industrial Section
300 Desmond Drive SE
Lacey, WA 98503
Phone: 360-407-6916

Comment period: May 8 – June 10, 2019

The Department of Ecology (Ecology) invites you to comment on draft Agreed Order 16449 requiring Alcoa's Intalco aluminum smelter to install new pollution control equipment to reduce sulfur dioxide (SO₂) emissions.

Project information

The reductions are part of an agreement to address SO₂ levels recorded near the smelter in recent years. Under the agreement, Intalco will install a piece of equipment called a wet scrubber by the end of 2022. The scrubber will capture and remove SO₂ from part of the manufacturing process.

Ecology does not believe the levels found near Intalco pose a threat to residents of Ferndale or other nearby communities. However, people living or working close to the plant may have been exposed to short-term levels that exceed federal standards meant to protect public health.

Intalco and Ecology have been working to accurately measure and monitor the SO₂ concentrations near the facility in order to comply with updated federal air quality standards for the pollutant. Because levels in the area have exceeded federal air quality standards at certain times, Ecology and the Northwest Clean Air Agency are working to develop a plan to protect local air quality and ensure that it consistently meets the federal standards. In the future, the agreement will become part of a larger plan to assess and reduce SO₂ pollution near the facility.

For more information on Ecology's work to reduce SO₂ air pollution, visit www.ecology.wa.gov/sulfurdioxide.

Commenting

Effective comments tell us if we correctly applied current laws, rules, and regulations to this action. They:

- Are specific. Tell us what your concern is and how you think the agreed order should change.
- Are focused. Refer to conditions and requirements in the order.
- Describe the state or federal rules and regulations you think have not been applied correctly.

You may request a public hearing to ask questions and submit verbal comments. To request a hearing, contact:

Angie Fritz
Industrial Section
P.O. Box 47600
Olympia, WA 98504-7600
angela.fritz@ecy.wa.gov
360-407-7393

Your request must include your interest in the permits and reasons why a hearing should be held.

If we determine there is significant public interest during this comment period to hold a hearing, we will extend the comment period to allow at least 30 days notice and publish the time, date and location of the hearing.

When the comment period ends, we'll review the comments received and make a final decision.

Facility information

Located at 4050 Mountain View Road in Ferndale, Alcoa's Intalco facility turns alumina ore into aluminum metal. At full production, it is capable of making approximately 307,000 tons of metal each year.

Accommodation Requests: To request ADA accommodation including materials in a format for the visually impaired, call Ecology at 360-407-7393 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.