

Public Comment for Northwest Alloys, Addy Water Quality Permit



Figure 1. Northwest Alloys, Inc. facility in Addy, WA.

Comment period: September 22, 2021 - October 29, 2021

We invite you to comment on the proposed renewal of the State Waste Discharge water quality permit for Northwest Alloys, Inc. in Addy.

Submit comments:

- Online at <https://wq.ecology.commentinput.com/?id=hcRBH>
- Or by mail to:
Greg Gould
Industrial Section
P.O. Box 47600
Olympia, WA 98504-7600

Questions? 360-407-6934

Document review:

You may view the proposed renewal permit and the associated fact sheet online at <https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/Permits-certifications/Industrial-facilities-permits/Northwest-Alloys-Addy>.

Proposed permit renewal

We propose to renew the permit to continue to allow land treatment of commingled wastewater on nearby fields used for growing crops. Currently, Northwest Alloys, Inc. sells the harvested crops to the Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife as winter feed for elk. The commingled wastewater mainly consists of stormwater collected throughout the site.

The proposed permit allows Northwest Alloys, Inc. to land apply on 115 acres to grow alfalfa as long as certain requirements are met. The proposed permit also requires Northwest Alloys, Inc. to conduct a hydrogeologic study to better understand and characterize groundwater near the site. The proposed permit includes newly established performance-based interim limits for the commingled wastewater for total dissolved solids, nitrate, chloride, and sulfate.

Commenting and public hearing information

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 permit should change.
- Are focused. Refer to the changes to the conditions and requirements in the permit.
- Describe the state rules and regulations you think have not been applied correctly.

If we determine there is significant public interest during this comment period to hold a hearing, it will take place **October 21, 2021, starting at 6:00pm, online at**

<https://watech.webex.com/watech/j.php?MTID=md62dcd1beb57b16b244a14d9365a057b>. The main purpose of the public hearing is to submit verbal comments. To express interest in a hearing, contact Angie Fritz, Industrial Section, P.O. Box 47600, Olympia, WA 98504-7600, angela.fritz@ecy.wa.gov no later than **October 15, 2021**. If we do not receive significant interest, the public hearing will be cancelled. Please check our web page for updates: <https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/Permits-certifications/Industrial-facilities-permits/Northwest-Alloys-Addy>.

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

Facility description

Located at 1560 A Marble Valley-Basin Rd in Addy, Northwest Alloys, Inc. operated a magnesium mine and smelter between 1974 and 2001. In 2001, the smelter was temporarily shut down and is not currently operating.



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To request an ADA accommodation, contact Ecology by phone at 360-407-7393 or email at angela.fritz@ecy.wa.gov, or visit <https://ecology.wa.gov/accessibility>. For Relay Service or TTY call 711 or 877-833-6341.