

Chelan PUD Worthen Substation



Approximate location of Site on Worthen Street Photo courtesy of PSE

Comments accepted:

July 1, 2024 - July 31, 2024

Submit comments:

Online:

<https://tcp.ecology.commentinput.com?id=VsHjDWhBk>

By mail:

John Mefford
 Site Manager
 1250 W. Alder Street
 Union Gap, WA 98903
 509-731-9613
John.Mefford@ecy.wa.gov

Site information:

<https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/cleanupsearch/site/14795>

Facility Site ID: 44830
Site Cleanup ID: 14795

Document review:

<https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/cleanupsearch/document/142974>

Wenatchee Public Library
 310 Douglas Street
 Wenatchee, WA 98801
 509-662-5021

WA Department of Ecology
 1250 W. Alder Street
 Union Gap, WA 98903
 509-575-2490

Draft Agreed Order Available for Review and Comment

Ecology is providing an opportunity for the public to comment on a Draft Agreed Order for the Public Utility District No. 1 of Chelan County (Chelan PUD) Worthen Substation site, generally located at 500 South Worthen Street in Wenatchee.

An Agreed Order is a legal agreement between Ecology, Puget Sound Energy (PSE), and the current landowner, Chelan PUD. It outlines the expectations, process, and schedule for site cleanup.

Ecology is asking for your feedback. Please review the [Draft Agreed Order](#) and send your comments to Ecology for consideration. Comments will be accepted from July 1, 2024 to July 31, 2024.

Site Background

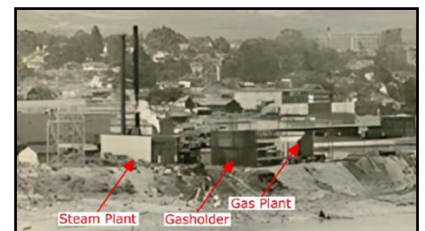
The site began operating in the early 1900s and has primarily been used for energy production and distribution. Historic operations at the site have included a coal-powered steam plant for electricity production and a manufactured gas plant that produced gas for heating, cooking and lighting.

After World War II, the manufactured gas plant was decommissioned and that portion of the site was used for propane gas distribution and, later, natural gas distribution. In addition to the steam

plant and gas facilities, a City of Wenatchee dump operated in a portion of the northern area of the site until sometime in the 1940s.

By the 1960s, the steam plant was removed, the former manufactured gas plant was demolished, and the land had been transferred to Chelan PUD.

The site is currently used by Chelan PUD as an electrical substation and switchyard.



What Has Been Done?

Soil and groundwater sampling were completed at the site during an initial investigation. Soil sampling results showed petroleum (gasoline and diesel), volatile organic compounds (VOCs), including benzene; heavy metals, including lead and arsenic; and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) above state cleanup levels. Groundwater sampling showed petroleum, VOCs, PAHs, and cyanide above state cleanup levels. Further evaluation is required to understand the nature and extent of the pollution.

Why This Matters?

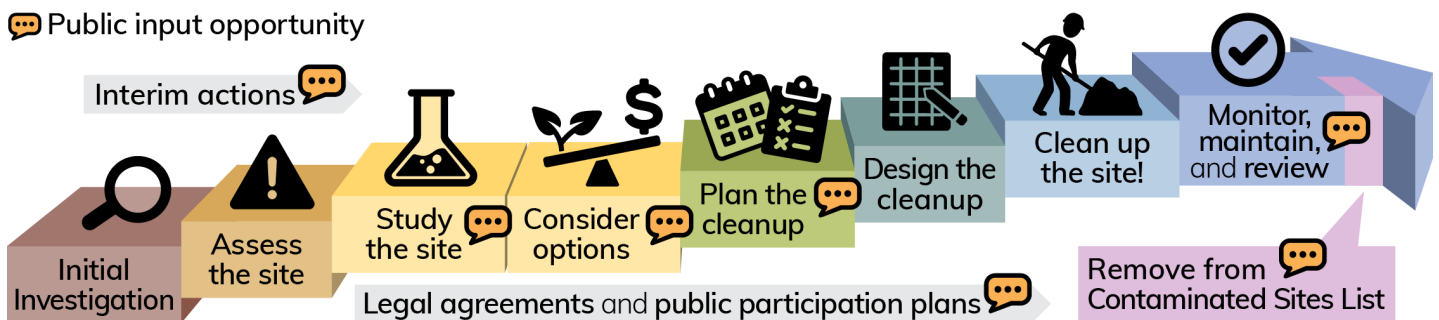
The pollutants in the soil and groundwater can end up in the Columbia River and threaten human health and the environment. The Agreed Order will require PSE and Chelan PUD to conduct a Remedial Investigation (RI) and Feasibility Study (FS). The RI will collect data that describes what contamination is present and how far it has spread. The FS will outline options, costs, and an estimate of how long it will likely take to clean up the pollution. Based on the collected information, a draft Cleanup Action Plan (dCAP) will be developed. The dCAP will describe the steps to clean up the site.

What Happens Next?

After the public comment period ends, Ecology will review and respond to comments received during the comment period. Ecology will hold a public meeting if 10 or more people request one. If no significant changes are necessary, the Agreed Order will become final. All investigations and reports will be made available for public review and comment.

For information about other opportunities for public involvement, such as meetings, hearings, open houses, and workshops, please visit Ecology’s Public Involvement Calendar at ecology.wa.gov/Events/Search/Listing.

Washington State’s Cleanup Process



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To request an ADA accommodation, contact Ecology by phone at 509 406 6931, or email at Rhonda.Luke@ecy.wa.gov, or visit <https://ecology.wa.gov/accessibility>.
 For Relay Service or TTY call 711 or 877 833 6341.



Aerial Image of Wenatchee with a Magnified Image of the Chelan PUD Worthen Substation Site



Toxics Cleanup Program
1250 W. Alder Street
Union Gap, WA 98903

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