



STATE OF WASHINGTON  
DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

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May 9, 2019

Cari Hornbein, Senior Planner  
City of Olympia  
Community Planning and Development  
PO Box 1967  
Olympia, WA 98507-1967

Dear Cari Hornbein:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the determination of nonsignificance for the Water Street Lift Station Generator Replacement Project (19-1127) proposed by City of Olympia Public Works Department. The Department of Ecology (Ecology) reviewed the environmental checklist and information provided and has the following comment(s):

**TOXICS CLEANUP: Adam Harris, Hydrogeologist/Cleanup Site Manager**  
(360) 407-6528 / [Adam.Harris@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:Adam.Harris@ecy.wa.gov)

The proposed Water Street Lift Station Generator Replacement, City of Olympia File number 19-1127, SEPA Number 201901919, is located at a toxic cleanup site where hazardous substances are known to have been released to the environment. The cleanup of this toxic site is regulated under the Washington Model Toxics Control Act (MTCA), Chapter 70.105D RCW, and its implementing regulations contained in the Model Toxics Cleanup Act Cleanup Regulation, Chapter 173-340 WAC. This toxic cleanup site has been designated by Ecology as Cleanup Site ID 3608, and is currently in remedial investigation under WAC 173-340-350 within Ecology's Voluntary Cleanup Program as project number SW1134.

As currently known to Ecology, hazardous substances at this toxic cleanup site were detected in soil and groundwater on portions of Thurston County tax parcels 78507200100, 78507200500, and 78507200600, and along the shorelines and in sediments of Budd Inlet. The nature and extent of hazardous substances released to the environment has not yet been adequately determined (WAC 173-340-350). A cleanup action has not yet been selected (WAC 173-340-360) or implemented (WAC 173-340-400). Cleanup standards have not yet been determined (WAC 173-340-700). The risk of the toxic site to human health and the environment has not yet been determined (WAC 173-340-357).

**Comment 1.** Ecology is concerned the SEPA Environmental Checklist describes the existence of a November 2018 report describing additional contamination detected during remedial investigation in 2018. That report should be provided to Ecology's Toxic Cleanup Program for the toxic cleanup site file.

**Comment 2.** Ecology suggests two possible options for proceeding with this project as follows:

1. Ecology's clear preference is that you require toxic cleanup Site number 3608 be cleaned up prior to any construction being permitted. For an independent cleanup conducted under WAC 173-340-515, the cleanup would be complete when Ecology issues a no further action opinion letter (WAC 173-340-515(5)(b)) for MTCA Toxic Cleanup Site ID 3608.
2. If this proposed project is allowed to proceed without cleaning up toxic Cleanup Site number 3608, to protect human health and the environment Ecology strongly recommends that:
  - Workers and visitors to the toxic cleanup site be informed that there are unknown levels of hazardous substances in Site soil and groundwater.
  - Best management practices should be required to reduce human exposure to the currently unknown levels of contamination. During the project, soil, dust and water from the toxic site should be considered contaminated and handled in accordance with guidance contained in Ecology Toxic Cleanup Program Publication 10-09-057, Guidance for the Remediation of Petroleum Contaminated Sites, Revised June, 2016.
  - Best management practices should be required to ensure that contaminated soil, sediment or water runoff from this project does not enter Budd Inlet.
  - Prior to allowing construction to commence, Ecology strongly recommends you require excavation and removal or remediation of hazardous substances located beneath the specific location of the proposed project, and including sufficient excavation extents to avoid recontamination of soil or groundwater from hazardous substances remaining in other areas of the Site. Ecology suggests a 25 foot clean buffer be established in soils below and surrounding the location of the proposed project. Placing a new generator above contaminated soil and groundwater limits future access and the ability to clean up the hazardous substances known at the Site.
  - Excavation pit water, groundwater and excavated or graded soils at the toxic cleanup Site should be considered contaminated and handled and disposed of accordingly unless determined otherwise. Soil excavated from the Site should not be reused at the Site or elsewhere without prior Ecology concurrence.
  - Ecology recommends following current published soil reuse guidance applicable to this toxic cleanup site. Guidance is provided in Ecology Toxic Cleanup Program Publication 10-09-057, Guidance for the Remediation of Petroleum Contaminated Sites, Revised June, 2016, (Chapter 12; Re-use of Petroleum-Contaminated Soils). Ecology assumes that soil from Thurston County tax parcels 78507200100, 78507200500, and 78507200600 is contaminated and a risk to human health and the environment.

**HAZARDOUS WASTE & TOXICS REDUCTION: Tara Davis, RCRA/RSVP**  
**(360) 407-6275 / [Tara.Davis@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:Tara.Davis@ecy.wa.gov)**

The applicant proposes to demolish an existing structure(s). In addition to any required asbestos abatement procedures, the applicant should ensure that any other potentially dangerous or hazardous materials present, such as PCB-containing lamp ballasts, fluorescent lamps, and wall thermostats containing mercury, are removed prior to demolition. Also, be aware that PCBs are increasingly being found in caulking and paint. It is important that these materials and wastes are removed and appropriately managed prior to demolition. It is equally important that demolition debris is also safely managed, especially if it contains painted wood or concrete, treated wood, or other possibly dangerous materials.

Please review the "Dangerous Waste Rules for Demolition, Construction, and Renovation Wastes," on Ecology's website at: <https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/Guidance-technical-assistance/Dangerous-waste-guidance/Common-dangerous-waste/Construction-and-demolition>. The applicant may also contact Robert Rieck with Ecology's Hazardous Waste and Toxics Reduction program (HWTR) at (360) 407-6751 for more information about safely handling dangerous wastes and demolition debris

**WATER QUALITY/WATERSHED RESOURCES UNIT:**  
**Chris Montague-Breakwell, Unit Supervisor**  
**(360) 407-6364 / [Chris.Montague-Breakwell@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:Chris.Montague-Breakwell@ecy.wa.gov)**

Erosion control measures must be in place prior to any clearing, grading, or construction. These control measures must be effective to prevent stormwater runoff from carrying soil and other pollutants into surface water or stormdrains that lead to waters of the state. Sand, silt, clay particles, and soil will damage aquatic habitat and are considered to be pollutants.

Any discharge of sediment-laden runoff or other pollutants to waters of the state is in violation of Chapter 90.48 RCW, Water Pollution Control, and WAC 173-201A, Water Quality Standards for Surface Waters of the State of Washington, and is subject to enforcement action.

Construction Stormwater General Permit:

The following construction activities require coverage under the Construction Stormwater General Permit:

1. Clearing, grading and/or excavation that results in the disturbance of one or more acres **and** discharges stormwater to surface waters of the State; and
2. Clearing, grading and/or excavation on sites smaller than one acre that are part of a larger common plan of development or sale, if the common plan of development or sale will ultimately disturb one acre or more **and** discharge stormwater to surface waters of the State.
  - a) This includes forest practices (including, but not limited to, class IV conversions) that are part of a construction activity that will result in the disturbance of one or more acres, **and** discharge to surface waters of the State; and

3. Any size construction activity discharging stormwater to waters of the State that Ecology:
  - a) Determines to be a significant contributor of pollutants to waters of the State of Washington.
  - b) Reasonably expects to cause a violation of any water quality standard.

There are known soil/ground water contaminants present on-site, additional information (including, but not limited to: temporary erosion and sediment control plans; stormwater pollution prevention plan; list of known contaminants with concentrations and depths found; a site map depicting the sample location(s); and additional studies/reports regarding contaminant(s)) will be required to be submitted.

You may apply online or obtain an application from Ecology's website at: [http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wq/stormwater/construction/- Application](http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wq/stormwater/construction/-Application). Construction site operators must apply for a permit at least 60 days prior to discharging stormwater from construction activities and must submit it on or before the date of the first public notice.

Ecology's comments are based upon information provided by the lead agency. As such, they may not constitute an exhaustive list of the various authorizations that must be obtained or legal requirements that must be fulfilled in order to carry out the proposed action.

If you have any questions or would like to respond to these comments, please contact the appropriate reviewing staff listed above.

Department of Ecology  
Southwest Regional Office

(MLD:201901919)

cc: Adam Harris, TCP  
Tara Davis, HWTR  
Robert Rieck, HWTR  
Chris Montague-Breakwell, WQ  
Jim Rioux, Project Manager, City of Olympia Public Works Department (Proponent)