

Puget Sound Energy Ferndale Generating Station National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Draft Permit Renewal and Fact Sheet



Photo courtesy of Google Maps

Comments accepted:

12:01 a.m., July 22 through 11:59 p.m., August 28, 2026

Submit comments:

Online at <https://bit.ly/PSE-Ferndale-Comments>



Or by mail to:

Liem Nguyen
Department of Ecology
Industrial Section
PO Box 47600
Olympia, WA 98504-7600

Site Information:

<https://ecology.wa.gov/pse-ferndale>

Document review locations:

Ferndale Public Library
2125 Main Street
Ferndale, WA
Hours: Mon-Thurs 9 a.m.-8 p.m.
Fri 9 a.m.-6 p.m.; Sat 9 a.m.-5 p.m. and
Sun 1 p.m.-5 p.m.

Ecology Headquarters Lacey
300 Desmond Dr. SE
Lacey, WA 98503
Phone: 360-280-4325
By appointment

General Information and Location

Puget Sound Energy (PSE) owns an electricity generating station at 5105 Lake Terrell Road in Ferndale, WA, which is operated by NAES Corporation. The Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) issued the previous NPDES permit on June 11, 2020. PSE Ferndale Generating Station discharges:

- Treated water to the Strait of Georgia through Phillips 66 Refinery's Outfall 001.
- Treated stormwater from Outfall 002 to a stormwater conveyance ditch on Lake Terrell Road, to an unnamed tributary, and then to Lummi Bay.

Background

PSE Ferndale Generating Station (PSE Ferndale) began commercial operations on April 8, 1994 as the Tenaska Ferndale Cogeneration Station. The United States Environmental Protection Agency classifies the facility as a non-major industrial facility. Tenaska Washington Partners, L.P. closed on its sale of the Ferndale Cogeneration Plant to Puget Sound Energy, Inc. (PSE) on November 15, 2012 and as part of that transaction, the facility's NPDES Permit No. WA0031291 was transferred to PSE.

The plant has the ability to produce up to 270 megawatts of electricity. Exhaust from turbines produces steam. The Phillips 66 Ferndale oil refinery uses up to 150,000 pounds of steam from this plant each hour.

Changes to the permit

The proposed permit retains the permit limits for all existing parameters from the previous permit and makes the following changes:

- Requires the Permittee to develop and submit a stormwater pollution prevention plan.
- Adds cooling water maintenance chemical reporting.
- Adds a requirement of biocide and slimicide usage analysis and reporting.
- Reduces monitoring frequencies for total suspended solids and oil and grease at Outfall 001.
- Adds copper and zinc monitoring parameters to stormwater Outfall 002.
- Reduces monitoring frequencies for total suspended solids, oil and grease, and priority pollutant metals at stormwater Outfall 002.
- Monitoring for pH at Outfall 002 has been updated from “24-hour composite” to “grab” sampling.

Requesting a public hearing

You may request a public hearing to ask questions and submit verbal comments. To request a hearing, contact Tara Roberts, Industrial Section,

en Español

Se está llevando a cabo un periodo de comentario. Usted puede revisar y comentar sobre los borradores de los documentos del permiso. Estos describen los requisitos ambientales con los que debe cumplir una instalación industrial. Comuníquese con Tara Roberts al 360-280-4325 o tara.roberts@ecy.wa.gov para obtener más información.

P.O. Box 47600, Olympia, WA 98504-7600, tara.roberts@ecy.wa.gov. 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 of the hearing and publish the time, date and location.

What happens next?

Once the comment period ends, we will review all comments received and make a final decision on the permit.

Interested Parties List

If you would like to be added to the list of interested parties for the PSE Ferndale Generating Station and receive updates on Ecology’s Industrial Section actions at the site, contact Tara Roberts at 360-280-4325 or tara.roberts@ecy.wa.gov.

ADA accommodation

To request an ADA accommodation, email tara.roberts@ecy.wa.gov, call 360-280-4325, or dial 711 to call through the Washington Telecommunications Relay for services like text telephone (TTY). Visit Ecology.wa.gov/ADA for more accessibility information.

