

Phillips 66 Ferndale Refinery

Opportunity to comment

The Department of Ecology (Ecology) invites you to comment on the revised draft National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit for the Phillips 66 oil refinery in Ferndale. We will accept comment only on the proposed changes.

We will accept comments by mail, fax or e-mail December 4, 2013 – January 13, 2014. 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

If we determine there is significant 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.
- Publish the time, date and location.

Permit

Phillips 66 operates an oil refinery that ultimately discharges stormwater and treated wastewater to the Strait of Georgia and Lummi Bay. Under state and federal law, a NPDES permit is required for this discharge.

- Ecology issued the current permit January 23, 2002. It was effective March 1, 2002 and expired February 1, 2007. This stays in effect until reissuance/renewal of the permit.
- We ran a public comment period on the proposed permit renewal April 25 – June 25, 2012.

DATES AND LOCATIONS

Comment period

December 4, 2013 –
January 13, 2014

Read the proposed revisions at these locations:

Ferndale Public Library
222 Main Street
Ferndale, WA 98248

Bellingham Public Library
210 Central Avenue
Bellingham, WA 98225

Dept of Ecology
300 Desmond Drive SE
Lacey, WA 98503

http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/swfa/industrial/oil_phillips.html

Submit written comments to:

Liem Nguyen
Industrial Section
P.O. Box 47600
Olympia, WA 98504-7600
Liem.nguyen@ecy.wa.gov
Fax: (360) 407-6102

Special accommodations

If you require special accommodations or need this document in a version for the visually impaired, call the Waste 2 Resources Program at (360) 407-6900

Persons with hearing loss, call 711 for Washington Relay Service. Persons with a speech disability, call 877-833-6341.

- Based on comments received during the comment period and a ruling by the Pollution Controls Hearing Board on the BP NPDES permit appeal, revisions were made to the draft Phillips 66 NPDES permit.

We're accepting comment only on these revisions. They include:

- Changing the facility ownership name to Phillips 66.
- Reducing the effluent limits at Outfall 001 to only 10% above previous levels
- Requiring electronic reporting of monitoring data.
- Revising timeframes to begin acute and chronic toxicity testing.
- Adding wording to define when a WET test failure is a permit violation.
- Removing the herring toxicity study requirements (Phillips 66 will conduct the study under Agreed Order No. 10297).
- Increasing the frequency of groundwater monitoring to quarterly.

The permit's fact sheet contains more information on these changes.

When the comment period ends, Ecology will review and consider all comments received on these revisions and make appropriate changes to the permit before issuing it.

Facility description

The refinery is located at 3901 Unick Road in Ferndale. From January 2010- December 2011, it processed an average of 98,100 barrels per day of crude oil.

The refinery separates crude oil for further processing and blending into a variety of petroleum products. These include gasoline, jet fuel, diesel oil, liquid petroleum gas, residual fuel oil, and marine bunker fuel oil.

Wastewater from these activities is discharged from the refinery's wastewater treatment plant.

- Existing process water Outfall 001 discharges to the Strait of Georgia.
- Existing stormwater Outfall 002 discharges to an unnamed tributary and ultimately Lummi Bay.
- Existing stormwater Outfalls 003, 004, and 005 discharge to an unnamed tributary and ultimately the Strait of Georgia.