WHATCOM COUNTY
Planning & Development Services
5280 Northwest Drive
Bellingham, WA 98226-9097
360-778-5900, TTY 800-833-6384
360-778-5901 Fax

Mark Personius, AICP
Director

SEPA Distribution List
SEP2018-00024
Date of Issuance: July 31, 2018

Please review this determination. If you have further comments, questions or would like a copy of the SEPA checklist, phone the responsible official at (360) 778-5900. Please submit your response by the comment date noted on the attached notice of determination.

WA State Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation via email
Gretchen Kaehler, gretchen.kaehler@dahp.wa.gov

SEPA Unit, WA State Department of Ecology, Olympia via email
sepaunit@ecy.wa.gov

WA State Department of Fish and Wildlife via email
Joel Ingram, joel.ingram@dfw.wa.gov

WA State Department of Natural Resources via email
Rochelle Goss, sepacenter@dnr.wa.gov
Brenda Werden, Brenda.werden@dnr.wa.gov

Lummi Nation Natural Resources
Merle Jefferson, Sr. via email - merlej@lummi-nsn.gov
Tamela Smart - tamelas@lummi-nsn.gov

Nooksack Indian Tribe
George Swanaset, JR via email - george.swanasetjr@nooksack-nsn.gov
Trevor Delgado via email - tdelgado@nooksack-nsn.gov

Applicant
Petrogas Pacific LLC c/o Chase Carter via email – chase@manawaveconsulting.com

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Mark Personius, AICP
Director

SEPA Determination of Nonsignificance (DNS)

File: SEP2018-00024

Project Description:
Repair/maintenance of existing pier, including replacing aging creosote piles with new steel piles, continuation of epoxy jacketing of piles, timber brace repair and maintenance, painting, cleaning, and other minor repair.

Proponent: Petrogas Pacific LLC

Address and Parcel #: 4050 Mountain View Road, Ferndale
APN#: 390129408325, 390129260284

Lead Agency: Whatcom County Planning & Development Services

Zoning: HII **Comp Plan:** Major/Port Industrial UGA

Shoreline Jurisdiction: Cherry Point Management Unit, Aquatic

The lead agency for this proposal has determined that with proper mitigation, no significant adverse environmental impacts are likely. Pursuant to RCW 43.21C.030(2)(c), an environmental impact statement (EIS) is not required. This decision was made following review of a completed SEPA environmental checklist and other information on file with the lead agency. This information is available to the public on request.

__ There is no comment period for this DNS.

X Pursuant to WAC 197-11-340(2), the lead agency will not act on this proposal for 14 days from the date of issuance indicated below. Comments must be received by 4:00 p.m. on August 14, 2018 and should be sent to: Kyla Walters, kwalters@whatcomcounty.us

Responsible Official: Mark Personius, mpersoni@whatcomcounty.us

Title: Director

Telephone: 360-778-5900

Address: 5280 Northwest Drive
Bellingham, WA 98226

Date of Issuance: July 31, 2018 **Signature:** _____

An aggrieved agency or person may appeal this determination to the Whatcom County Hearing Examiner. Application for appeal must be filed on a form provided by and submitted to the Whatcom County Current Planning Division located at 5280 Northwest Drive, Bellingham, WA 98226, during the ten days following the comment period, concluding August 24, 2018.

You should be prepared to make a specific factual objection. Contact Whatcom County Current Planning Division for information about the procedures for SEPA appeals.

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Mark Personius, AICP
Director

SEPA Determination of Nonsignificance (DNS)
Legal Notice

To be published one time only on: **July 31, 2018**

CHARGE TO: Whatcom County Planning & Development Services
5280 Northwest Drive
Bellingham, Washington 98226
Acct #451232

WHATCOM COUNTY GIVES PUBLIC NOTICE THAT THE FOLLOWING SEPA THRESHOLD DETERMINATION OF NON-SIGNIFICANCE (DNS) HAS BEEN ISSUED TODAY SUBJECT TO THE 14 DAY COMMENT PERIOD CONCLUDING ON, August 14, 2018.

File: SEP2018-00024

Project Description:
Repair/maintenance of existing pier, including replacing aging creosote piles with new steel piles, continuation of epoxy jacketing of piles, timber brace repair and maintenance, painting, cleaning, and other minor repair.

Proponent: Petrogas Pacific LLC

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APN#: 390129408325, 390129260284

Lead Agency: Whatcom County Planning & Development Services

Zoning: HII **Comp Plan:** Major/Port Industrial UGA

Shoreline Jurisdiction: Cherry Point Management Unit, Aquatic

ANY PERSON OR AGENCY MAY APPEAL THE COUNTY'S COMPLIANCE WITH WAC 197-11 BY FILING AN APPEAL WITH THE WHATCOM COUNTY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES LOCATED AT 5280 NORTHWEST DRIVE, BELLINGHAM, WA 98226. APPEALS MUST BE MADE WITHIN 10 DAYS AFTER THE END OF THE COMMENT PERIOD.

WHATCOM COUNTY
Planning & Development Services
5280 Northwest Drive,
Bellingham, WA 98226-9097
360-778-5900, TTY 800-833-6384
360-778-5901 Fax

J.E. "Sam" Ryan
Director

SEP 2018 - 00024

SEPA Environmental Checklist

Purpose of Checklist:

Governmental agencies use this checklist to help determine whether the environmental impacts of your proposal are significant. This information is also helpful to determine if available avoidance, minimization or compensatory mitigation measures will address the probable significant impacts or if an environmental impact statement will be prepared to further analyze the proposal.

Instructions for Applicants:

This environmental checklist asks you to describe some basic information about your proposal. Please answer each question accurately and carefully, to the best of your knowledge. You may need to consult with an agency specialist or private consultant for some questions. You may use "not applicable" or "does not apply" only when you can explain why it does not apply and not when the answer is unknown. You may also attach or incorporate by reference additional studies reports. Complete and accurate answers to these questions often avoid delays with the SEPA process as well as later in the decision-making process.

The checklist questions apply to all parts of your proposal, even if you plan to do them over a period of time or on different parcels of land. Attach any additional information that will help describe your proposal or its environmental effects. The agency to which you submit this checklist may ask you to explain your answers or provide additional information reasonably related to determining if there may be significant adverse impact.

Use of Checklist for Non-Project Proposals:

For non-project proposals (such as ordinances, regulations, plans and programs), complete the applicable parts of sections A and B plus the Supplemental Sheet for Non-project Actions (Part C). Please completely answer all questions that apply and note that the words "project", "applicant", and "property or site" should be read as "proposal", "proponent" and "affected geographic area", respectively. The lead agency may exclude (for non-projects) questions in Part B – Environmental Elements that do not contribute meaningfully to the analysis of the proposal.

PETROGAS
Pacific, LLC

Petrogas Pier Maintenance Activities 2018-2023: SEPA Environmental Checklist

Table of Contents:

1. **SEPA Environmental Checklist**
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3. Project Description
4. Hydroacoustic Analysis

A Background

1 Name of proposed project, if applicable:

Petrogas Pier Maintenance Activities 2018-2023

2 Name of applicant: Travis Linds

Applicant phone number: 360-398-3165

Applicant address: 4050 Mountain View Road,

City, State, Zip or Postal Code: Ferndale, WA 98248

Applicant Email address: Tlinds@petrogascorp.com

3 Contact name: Chase Carter

Contact phone number: 360-303-3601

Contact address: 1230 Yew St.

City, State, Zip or Postal Code: Bellingham, WA 98229

Contact Email address: Chase@ManaWaveConsulting.com

4 Date checklist prepared: 3/2/2018

5 Agency requesting checklist: Whatcom County Planning & Development Services

6 Proposed timing or schedule (including phasing, if applicable):
1. Fender and Pile repair: Only during approved fish window, July 15 to February 14. Normal above water maintenance activities: All year long.

7 Do you have any plans for future additions, expansion, or further activity related to or connected with this proposal? Yes ☐ No ☑
If yes, explain:

8 List any environmental information you know about that has been prepared, or will be prepared, directly related to this proposal:
Biological Evaluation for Informal ESA Consultation for United States Army Corps of Engineers and Critical Areas Assessment for the Whatcom County Planning - Shorelines Dept.

9 Do you know whether applications are pending for governmental approvals of other proposals directly affecting the property covered by your proposal?
Yes ☐ No ☑
If yes, explain.

10 List any government approvals or permits that will be needed for your proposal, if known.

JARPA Approvals:
Whatcom County Shoreline Exemption Permit
Whatcom County SEPA Determination
US Army Corps of Engineers - Letter of Permission
Department of Natural Resources: Project Approval
Washington Department of Natural Resources: Hydraulic Project Approval Permit

11 Give brief, complete description of your proposal, including the proposed uses and the size of the project and site. *There are several questions later in this checklist that ask you to describe certain aspects of your proposal. You do not need to repeat those answers on this page.* (Lead agencies may modify this form to include additional specific information on project description.)

The Petrogas / Intalco Pier Facility is located on the Strait of Georgia in an area zoned heavy impact industrial and is neighbor to other industrial facilities that smelt primary aluminum and refine and distribute petroleum products. The structure serves as a loading point for LPG to tanker ships. The pier is also a receiving point for raw aluminum ore, which is offloaded from ships with a clamshell transfer bucket and conveyed to shore with an enclosed conveyor belt system. The described pier work includes both in-water and above-water maintenance. The in-water work will consist of replacing components of the fender system and a schedule of pile repairs for the next 5 years. Above water maintenance will include electrical work, structural maintenance like pile bracing repairs, corrosion protection, and other various preventative maintenance.

12 Location of the proposal. Give sufficient information for a person to understand the precise location of your proposed project, including a street address, if any, and section, township, and range, if known. If a proposal would occur over a range of area, provide the range or boundaries of the site(s). Provide a legal description, site plan, vicinity map, and topographic map, if reasonably available. While you should submit any plans required by the agency, you are not required to duplicate maps or detailed plans submitted with any permit applications related to this checklist.

Street Address: 4050 Mountain View Road, Ferndale, WA, 98248
Lat /Long: 48°50'30" N & 122°43'00" W

The project site is just west of the Intalco Aluminum Smelter. Please see the site plan / vicinity map for more details.

B Environmental Elements

1 Earth

a. General description of the site:

- [ ] Flat
- [ ] Rolling
- [ ] Hilly
- [ ] Steep Slopes
- [ ] Mountainous
- [x] Other

b. What is the steepest slope on the site (approximate percent slope)?
Not Applicable. Marine enviornment.

c. What general types of soils are found on the site (for example, clay, sand, gravel, peat, muck)? If you know the classification of agricultural soils, specify them and note any agricultural land of long-term commercial significance and whether the proposal results in removing any of these soils.
Not Applicable.

d. Are there surface indications or history of unstable soils in the immediate vicinity? Yes ☐ No ☑

If so, describe.

e. Describe the purpose, type, total area, approximate quantities and total affected area of any filling excavation or grading proposed.
Not Applicable.

Indicate source of fill.

Indicate were excavation material is going.

f. Could erosion occur as a result of clearing, construction, or use?
Yes ☐ No ☑

If so, generally describe.

g. About what percent of the site will be covered with impervious surfaces after project construction (for example, asphalt or buildings)?
Not Applicable.

h. Proposed measures to reduce or control erosion, or other impacts to the earth, if any:
Not Applicable.

2. Air

a. What types of emissions to the air would result from the proposal during construction, operation and maintenance when the project is completed (i.e., dust, automobile, odors, or industrial wood smoke)?

Possible dust generation during maintenance, internal combustion engine exhaust during fender repair.

If any, generally describe and give approximate quantities if known.

Limited quantities. When activities create dust, secondary containment will be erected to prevent discharge to the water.

b. Are there any off-site sources of emissions or odor that may affect your proposal? Yes ☐ No ☑

If so, generally describe.

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control emissions or other impacts to air, if any:
When activities are anticipated to create dust, secondary containment will be erected to capture dust and prevent discharge to the water.

3. Water

a. Surface:

(1) Is there any surface water body on or in the immediate vicinity of the site (including year-round and seasonal streams, saltwater, lakes, ponds, wetlands)? Yes ☑ No ☐

If yes, describe type and provide names. If appropriate, state what stream or river it flows into.

Strait of Georgia

(2) Will the project require any work over, in, or adjacent to (within 200 feet) the described waters? Yes ☑ No ☐

If yes, please describe and attach available plans.

Please see attached Project Description:

(3) Estimate the amount of fill and dredge material that would be placed in or removed from surface water or wetlands and indicate the area of the site that would be affected. Not Applicable.

Indicate the source of fill material.

(4) Will the proposal require surface water withdrawals or diversions? Yes ☐ No ☑

Give general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known.

Does the proposal lie within a 100-year floodplain? Yes ☑ No ☐

If so, note location on the site plan.

See attached site plan.

(5) Does the proposal involve any discharges of waste materials to surface waters?
Yes ☐ No ☑

If so, describe the type of waste and anticipated volume of discharge

b. Ground Water:

(1) Will ground water be withdrawn from a well for drinking water or other purposes? Yes ☐ No ☑

If so, give a general description of the well, proposed uses and approximate quantities withdrawn from the well. Will water be discharged to groundwater? Give general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known.

(2) Describe waste material that will be discharged into the ground from septic tanks or other sources, if any (for example: Domestic sewage; industrial, containing the following chemicals…..; agricultural; etc.). Describe the general size of the system, the number of houses to be served (if applicable), or the number of animals or humans the system(s) are expected to serve.
Not Applicable.

c. Water runoff (including stormwater):

(1) Describe the source of runoff (including storm water) and method of collection and disposal, if any (include quantities, if known).
Not Applicable.

Where will this water flow?

Will this water flow into other waters? Yes ☐ No ☑

If so, describe.

(2) Could waste materials enter ground or surface waters?
Yes ☐ No ☑

If so, generally describe.

(3) Does the proposal alter or otherwise affect drainage patterns in the vicinity of the site: Yes ☐ No ☑

If so, describe.

d. Proposed measures to reduce or control surface, ground, and runoff water impacts, if any:
Not Applicable.

4 Plants

a. Check types of vegetation found on the site:

- ☐ Deciduous tree: alder, maple, aspen, other
- ☐ Evergreen tree: fir, cedar, pine, other
- ☐ Shrubs
- ☐ Grass
- ☐ Pasture
- ☐ Crop or grain
- ☐ Orchards, vineyards or other permanent crops
- ☐ Wet soil plants: cattail, buttercup, bullrush, skunk cabbage, other
- ☐ Water plants: water lily, eelgrass, milfoil, other
- ☐ Other types of vegetation

b. What kind and amount of vegetation will be removed or altered?

No vegetation will be removed or altered.

c. List threatened or endangered species known to be on or near the site.

No endangered plant species are located near the site.

d. Proposed landscaping, use of native plants, or other measures to preserve or enhance vegetation on the site, if any:

Not Applicable.

e. List all noxious weeds and invasive species known to be on or near the site.

Not Applicable.

5. Animals

a. Check any birds and animals, which have been observed on or near the site or are known to be on or near the site:

Birds:

- [x] Hawk,
- [x] Eagle,
- [ ] Other:
- [x] Heron,
- [ ] Songbirds;

Mammals:

- [ ] Deer,
- [ ] Elk,
- [x] Other: Orca,
- [ ] Bear,
- [ ] Beaver;

Fish:

- [ ] Bass,
- [x] Trout,
- [ ] Shellfish;
- [x] Salmon,
- [x] Herring,
- [ ] Other:

b. List any threatened or endangered species known to be on or near the site.

NOT ENOUGH SPACE FOR COMPLETE ANSWER, PLEASE SEE ATTACHED EXTENDED RESPONSE DOCUMENT.

c. Is the site part of a migration route? Yes ☑ No ☐

If so, explain.
The area may be a migration route for all listed fish as the area has nearby spawning streams (for salmonids) and other shallow sandy substrate used for foraging, and spawning.

d. Proposed measures to preserve or enhance wildlife, if any:
NOT ENOUGH SPACE FOR COMPLETE ANSWER, PLEASE SEE ATTACHED EXTENDED RESPONSE DOCUMENT.

e. List any invasive species known to be on or near site.
None.

6. Energy and Natural Resources

a. What kinds of energy (electric, natural gas, oil, wood stove, solar) will be used to meet the completed project's energy needs? Describe whether it will be used for heating, manufacturing, etc.
Electricity will be primarily used for operating repair and maintenance equipment. Larger equipment for pile driving will be internal combustion driven, gas or diesel.

b. Would your project affect the potential use of solar energy by adjacent properties? Yes ☐ No ☑

If so, generally describe.

c. What kinds of energy conservation features are included in the plans of this proposal? List other proposed measures to reduce or control energy impacts, if any:
None.

7. Environmental Health

a. Are there any environmental health hazards, including exposure to toxic chemicals, risk of fire and explosion, spill, or hazardous waste that could occur as a result of this proposal? Yes ☑ No ☐

If so, describe.
Temporary noise from vibrational driver for pile removal and installation. Turbidity from epoxy encapsulation process for pile repairs.

(1) Describe any known or possible contamination at the site from present or past uses.
NOT ENOUGH SPACE FOR COMPLETE ANSWER, PLEASE SEE ATTACHED EXTENDED RESPONSE DOCUMENT.

(2) Describe existing hazardous chemicals/conditions that might affect project development and design. This includes underground hazardous liquid and gas transmission pipelines located within the project area and in the vicinity.

No changes from existing work.

(3) Describe any toxic or hazardous chemicals that might be stored, used, or produced during the projects development or construction, or at any time during the operating life of the project.

A two part cementitious epoxy coating will be used for the pile encapsulation process.

(4) Describe special emergency services that might be required.

NOT ENOUGH SPACE FOR COMPLETE ANSWER, PLEASE SEE ATTACHED EXTENDED RESPONSE DOCUMENT.

(5) Proposed measure to reduce or control environmental health hazards, if any:

NOT ENOUGH SPACE FOR COMPLETE ANSWER, PLEASE SEE ATTACHED EXTENDED RESPONSE DOCUMENT.

b. Noise

(1) What types of noise exist in the area which may affect your project (for example: traffic, equipment, operation, other)?

None.

(2) What types and levels of noise would be created by or associated with the project on a short-term or a long-term basis (for example: traffic, construction, operation, other)? Indicate what hours noise would come from the site.

NOT ENOUGH SPACE FOR COMPLETE ANSWER, PLEASE SEE ATTACHED EXTENDED RESPONSE DOCUMENT.

(3) Proposed measures to reduce or control noise impacts, if any:

NOT ENOUGH SPACE FOR COMPLETE ANSWER, PLEASE SEE ATTACHED EXTENDED RESPONSE DOCUMENT.

8 Land and Shoreline Use

a. What is the current use of the site and adjacent properties?
NOT ENOUGH SPACE FOR COMPLETE ANSWER, PLEASE SEE ATTACHED EXTENDED RESPONSE DOCUMENT.

Will the proposal affect current land uses on nearby or adjacent properties? Yes ☐ No ☑
If so, describe.

b. Has the project site been used as working farmlands or working forest lands? Yes ☐ No ☑
If so, describe.

How much agriculture or forest land of long-term commercial significance will be converted to other uses as a result of the proposal, if any?

If resource lands have not been designated, how many acres in farmland or forest land tax status will be converted to non-farm or non-forest use?

(1) Will the proposal affect or be affected by surrounding working farm or forest land normal business operations, such as oversize equipment access, the application of pesticides, tilling and harvesting? Yes ☐ No ☑

If so, how:

c. Describe any structures on the site.
NOT ENOUGH SPACE FOR COMPLETE ANSWER, PLEASE SEE ATTACHED EXTENDED RESPONSE DOCUMENT.

d. Will any structures be demolished? Yes ☐ No ☑
If so, what?

e. What is the current zoning classification of the site?
The Petrogas Pier is located in an area zoned heavy impact industrial.

f. What is the current comprehensive plan designation of the site?
Major/Port Industrial Urban Growth Area.

g. If applicable, what is the current shoreline master program designation of the site?
Cherry Point Management Area., AQUATIC

KW

h. Has any part of the site been classified as a critical area by the city or county? Yes ☑ No ☐
If so, specify.
Wildlife Habitat Conservation Area and Fish Habitat Conservation Area.

i. Approximately how many people would reside or work in the completed project?
Zero.

j. Approximately how many people would the completed project displace?
Zero.

k. Proposed measures to avoid or reduce displacement impacts, if any:
Not Applicable.

l. Proposed measures to ensure the proposal is compatible with existing and projected land uses and plans, if any:
Not Applicable.

m. Proposed measures to ensure the proposal is compatible with nearby agricultural and forest lands of long-term commercial significance, if any?
Not Applicable.

9 Housing

a. Approximately how many units would be provided, if any? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing.

☐ High
☐ Middle
☐ Low-income

Number of Units Not Applicable

b. Approximately how many units, if any, would be eliminated? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing.

☐ High
☐ Middle
☐ Low-income

Number of Units Not Applicable

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control housing impacts, if any:
Not Applicable

10 Aesthetics

a. What is the tallest height of any proposed structure(s), not including antennas; what is the principal exterior building material(s) proposed?
Approximately 22 ft above sea level.

b. What views in the immediate vicinity would be altered or obstructed?
No.

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control aesthetic impacts, if any:
Not Applicable.

11 Light and Glare

a. What type of light or glare will the proposal produce? What time of day would it mainly occur?
None.

b. Could light or glare from the finished project be a safety hazard or interfere with views?
No.

c. What existing off-site sources of light or glare may affect your proposal?
None.

d. Proposed measures to reduce or control light and glare impacts, if any:
Not Applicable.

12 Recreation

a. What designated and informal recreational opportunities are in the immediate vicinity?
None.

b. Would the proposed project displace any existing recreational uses? If so, describe.
No.

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts on recreation, including recreation opportunities to be provided by the project or applicant, if any:
Not Applicable.

13 Historic and Cultural Preservation

a. Are there any buildings, structures, or sites, located on or near the site that are over 45 years old listed in or eligible for listing in national, state or local preservation registers located on or near the site? Yes ☐ No ☑
If so, specifically describe.
No.

b. Are there any landmarks, features, or other evidence of Indian, historic use or occupation, this may include human burials or old cemeteries?
Yes ☐ No ☑
Are there any material evidence, artifacts, or areas of cultural importance on or near the site? Yes ☐ No ☑
Please list any professional studies conducted at the site to identify such resources.
No.

c. Describe the methods used to assess the potential impacts to cultural and historic resources on or near the project site. Examples: Include consultation with tribes and the Department of Archeology and Historic Preservation, archaeological surveys, historic maps, GIS data, etc.

This project is NOT located in an un-developed area and there is no change to the facility footprint.

d. Proposed measures to avoid, minimize, or compensate for loss, changes to, and disturbance to resources. Please include plans for the above and any permits that may be required.

Not Applicable.

14 Transportation

a. Identify public streets and highways serving the site or affected geographic area and describe proposed access to the existing street system. Show on site plan, if any.

This project will not affect any public streets or highways. There is no public access to the project site.

b. Is site or geographic area currently served by public transit?
Yes ☐ No ☑
If not, what is the approximate distance to the nearest transit stop?

Approximately 5 miles, to Ferndale.

c. How many parking spaces would the completed project have? How many would the project eliminate?

No parking spaces will be created or removed with this project.

d. Will the proposal require any new or improvements to existing roads, streets, pedestrian, bicycle or state transportation facilities, not including driveways? Yes ☐ No ☑
If so, generally describe (indicate whether public or private).

e. Will the project use (or occur in the immediate vicinity of)
- [x] Water,
- [ ] Rail, or
- [ ] Air transportation?

If so, generally describe.

Boats and barges will be used for work platforms during this project. The working platforms will be moored to the pier for the work week as needed.

f. How many vehicular trips per day would be generated by the completed project or proposal? If known, indicate when peak volumes would occur and what percentage of the volume would be trucks (such as commercial and non-passenger vehicles). What data or transportation models were used to make these estimates?

This project will not increase normal traffic patterns.

g. Proposed measures to reduce or control transportation impacts, if any:

Not Applicable.

15 Public Services

a. Would the project result in an increased need for public services (for example: fire protection, police protection, health care, schools, other)?

Yes [ ] No [x]

If so, generally describe.

b. Proposed measures to reduce or control direct impacts on public services, if any.

Not Applicable

16 Utilities

a. Check utilities currently available at the site:

- [x] Electricity,
- [x] Water,
- [x] Telephone,
- [ ] Septic system,
- [ ] Natural gas,
- [ ] Refuse service,
- [ ] Sanitary sewer,
- [ ] Other

b. Describe the utilities that are proposed for the project, the utility providing the service, and the general construction activities on the site or in the immediate vicinity which might be needed.
No new utilities are planned for installation.

Signature

The above answers are true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I understand that the lead agency is relying on them to make its decision.

Signature: _____

Date Submitted: 3/30/2018

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY
Reviewed by Whatcom County Planning & Development Services Staff

KWalter
Staff Signature

7/26/18
Date

PETROGAS
Pacific, LLC

Petrogas Pier Maintenance Activities 2018-2023: SEPA Extended Responses

Table of Contents:

1. SEPA Environmental Checklist
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NOTES: *Due to the limited space within the PDF document formatting, answers that did not fit into the space provided, are documented here:*

5.b. List any threatened or endangered species known to be on or near the site.

- Coastal/Puget Sound bull trout (Salvelinus confluentus) threatened
- Puget Sound Chinook (Oncorhynchus tshawytscha) threatened
- Puget Sound steelhead (Oncorhynchus mykiss) threatened
- Yelloweye rockfish (Sebastes ruberrimus)
- Georgia Basin DPS, threatened, Canary rockfish (S. pinniger)
- Georgia Basin DPS, threatened, Bocaccio (S. paucispinis)
- Georgia Basin DPS, endangered
- Southern resident killer whale (Orcinus orca), endangered
- Steller sea lion (Eumetopias jubatus) threatened
- Humpback whale (Megaptera novaeangliae) endangered
- Leatherback sea turtle (Dermochelys coriacea) endangered
- Marbled murrelet (Brachyramphus marmoratus) threatened.

5.d. Proposed measures to preserve or enhance wildlife, if any:

- Turbidity screen will be employed during the process and all waste and construction materials will be collected and disposed of at an approved upland location.
- All natural habitat complexity features will be retained.
- No structures will be located in or over or spawning habitat for forage species.
- Work windows will be observed.
- No waste material, including material associated with treated wood decks, will enter the waterbody.
- All waste material and construction debris will be collected and disposed of at an approved upland facility that is in compliance with the Endangered Species Act.
- When dust or debris generating activities are planned, secondary containment will be erected to prevent discharge to the water.
- All floating debris generated during construction will be retrieved, removed, and disposed of at an approved landfill.
- All treated wood will be contained during and after removal to preclude sediments and any contaminated materials from re-entering the aquatic environment.
- When barges are used in the intertidal region, they will be tied off to the structural pile and one or more spuds will be placed outside the areas of marine vegetation. This will prevent grounding out and prop wash damage. Recent low tide beach walks and aerial photos indicate there is no eelgrass within 25 feet of the dock structure.

KW

- A vibratory driver will be used to remove and drive in the new piles, which reduces peak noise impact and pile installation duration relative to traditional pile driving. Total operational time for the vibratory driver is estimated at 120 minutes for all piles removed and installed.
- The project removes approximately 50 creosote piles and replaces them with 8 non-leaching steel piles.
- Please refer to hydroacoustic analysis for further details on pile driving activities.

7.a.1. Describe any known or possible contamination at the site from present or past uses.
1) Describe any known or possible contamination at the site from present or past uses.
The pier was historically built with treated wood piles. As part of the pier pile repair process, an epoxy coating will be utilized which will repair the pile integrity and seal off the old creosote coating from the marine environment, preventing further leaching. This epoxy encasement process was approved by the Department of Natural Resources as the best available alternative to treated wood.

7.a.4. Describe special emergency services that might be required:
If a chemical spill were to occur, the following actions would be taken and agencies would be contacted:

- Deploy Spill Response Boat
- Contact NRC Spill Response for additional resources N
- Notify the Washington Department of Ecology
- NW Spill Center 425-649-7000
- Notify EPA National Response Center
- Notify Department of Natural Resources, NW

Ballard Marine has a spill response protocol and spill kits on their vessels in the event of an emergency. This response plan is available upon request.

7.a.5. Proposed measure to reduce or control environmental health hazards, if any:
Storage and mixture of chemicals will occur on the boat. The marine epoxy will be pumped to the bottom of the form and the water will be displaced out of the top of the form. A pump will be utilized to remove water as the form fills. This water will be pumped into a filter/geo sock to filter the water. Clean water will be allowed to flow back into the water body within the area that is contained by the turbidity barrier. To control turbidity a turbidity curtain will be utilized. Please see attached turbidity barrier installation plan.

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7.b.2. What types and levels of noise would be created by or associated with the project on a short-term or a long-term basis (for example: traffic, construction, operation, other)? Indicate what hours noise would come from the site.
A vibratory driver will be used to remove and drive in the new piles, which reduces peak noise impact and pile installation duration relative to traditional pile driving. The project removes approximately 50 creosote piles and replaces them with 8 non-leaching steel piles. The vibratory driver completes the driving in a very short time period to limit the noise disturbance of this project. Total operational time for the vibratory driver is estimated at 120 minutes for all piles.

7.b.3. Proposed measures to reduce or control noise impacts, if any:
A vibratory driver will be used to limit noise impact. The hydro-acoustic analysis of the project shows that by using a vibratory driver, and a marine mammal monitoring plan, the noise impacts will be below the marine mammal acoustic thresholds for Non-Impulsive Permanent Threshold Shift Onset. The Project Action Area will be 1000 m and a marine mammal monitoring plan will be implemented to protect marine mammals during project execution. Please refer to attached hydro-acoustic analysis for more detail.

8.a. What is the current use of the site and adjacent properties?
The structure serves as a loading point for LPG. The pier is also a receiving point for raw aluminum ore, which is offloaded from ships with a clamshell transfer bucket and conveyed to shore with an enclosed conveyor belt system.

8.c. Describe any structures on the site.
The property is a timber pier structure. The pier, which was originally constructed in 1965, has undergone frequent routine repairs to maintain it in a fully serviceable condition. The structure serves as a loading point for LPG. The pier is also a receiving point for raw aluminum ore, which is offloaded from ships with a clamshell transfer bucket and conveyed to shore with an enclosed conveyor belt system. The conveyance pipe for Intalco Aluminum Corporation's main wastewater and stormwater outfall also runs along the pier to a diffuser below the surface of the water.

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Petrogas Pier Maintenance Activities 2018-2023: Project Description

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Project Summary and Regulatory Exemption Description

Property Description

The Petrogas / Intalco Pier Facility is located on the Strait of Georgia in an area zoned heavy impact industrial and is neighbor to other industrial facilities that smelt primary aluminum and refine and distribute petroleum products. The structure serves as a loading point for LPG (Liquid Petroleum Gas). The pier is also a receiving point for raw aluminum ore, which is offloaded from ships with a clamshell transfer bucket and conveyed to shore with an enclosed conveyor belt system.

Project Description

The described pier work includes both in-water and above-water maintenance. The in-water work will consist of replacing components of the fender system and a schedule of pile repairs for the next 5 years. Above water maintenance will include electrical work, structural maintenance like pile bracing repairs, corrosion protection, along with equipment, pipeline, and other various facility preventive maintenance as detailed below.

Regulatory Exemptions

Shoreline Management - Developments exempt from substantial development permit requirement.

Per WAC (Washington Administrative Code) 173-27-040, the pier projects described below are believed to be categorically exempt from a required shoreline permit since all aspects of the maintenance conducted are consistent with the definitions of normal maintenance or repair of existing structures or developments in WAC 173-27-040(2)(b). All project work will be the comparable to the original structures including but not limited to size, shape, configuration, location and external appearance and be a common method of replacement. The repairs may at times alter the size, shape, configuration and external appearance in order to take advantage of new technologies to increase overall safety and environmental resource protection at the pier. The fender repair project will use standard methods of replacement and will remove approximately 48 creosote leaching piles and replace the piles with 8 non-leaching galvanized steel piles. The pile repair work will continue to utilize an encapsulation process approved by the

Department of Natural Resources to repair existing piles along with the added benefit of preventing further leaching of the wood piles.

In-Water Project Objectives

Since the pier's construction, the pier has had an ongoing program of regular inspection and maintenance to sustain its full structural capability and safe operating condition. During the recent pier inspections, Petrogas identified necessary maintenance work. The structural members in need of repair or replacement have suffered damage due to mechanical forces, corrosion, marine borer organisms, or fungal decay. The site is a very exposed marine environment that demands maintenance to be done in a timely manner.

The proposed work would address maintenance issues at the facility and includes the following activities:

1. Repair of the Fender System: The proposed fender design will remove approximately 12 creosote piles at each fender location, replacing them with 2 non-leaching galvanized steel piles and a steel breasting plate, covered with UHMW (ultra high molecular weight) polyethylene panel facing. In total, approximately 48 creosote piles will be removed and replaced by 8 steel piles. Drawings of the replacement parts for the fender system are attached. The replacement shall be the comparable to the original structures including but not limited to size, shape, configuration, location and external appearance and be a common method of replacement. The repairs may at times alter the size, shape, configuration and external appearance in order to take advantage of new technologies to increase overall safety and environmental resource protection at the pier. The piles will be vibrated in to minimize environmental impact per the terms of the Programmatic Biological Evaluation.

2. Petrogas plans to continue to utilize an epoxy encapsulation process to repair damaged pilings to return the structural support integrity of the pilings to a condition equal to or better than new condition. This will have the added benefit of protecting the surrounding water from chemicals that can leach from treated wood. This process involves installing a reinforced polymer jacket that will be filled with either cementitious or epoxy grouts, depending on the need. The Department of Natural Resources has reviewed the FOX Industries FX 70 and the SeaShield Series 500 Grout technology and has given approval for use of this or similar technology per email correspondence to Intalco's Engineering

Superintendent, Travis Linds, on September 10, 2013. The pile and bracing repair methods will include the following:

- Full height epoxy encapsulations each approximately 50 foot in length
- Concrete jacket extensions each approximately 4 foot in length
- Epoxy bolt hole fill repairs each approximately 4 foot in length
- Concrete jacket repairs each approximately 4 foot in length
- Timber Brace Replacement and Repair

Other General Maintenance (On or Above Water)

Activities included in the permit application are limited to maintenance, repair, and replacement with similar equipment and facilities that do not significantly alter the overall pier structure or change the overall footprint. Activities may include above-water and on-water work. Some maintenance work in the pier area may be conducted shoreward of the mean high water line. Above-water maintenance, repair, and replacement work that can be conducted from the deck, structure, boat or floating platform (barge) may occur year-round. When a barge is used to support this work, it will be tied off to the pier with mooring lines.

Any time maintenance activities pose a potential for discharge to the water, secondary containment will be erected under or around the equipment as required to prevent the material discharge to the water.

In-water work will only be conducted during the approved work windows, except for inspections or in the case of an emergency. When a barge is used to support in-water work, it will typically be anchored using hydraulic piles which are located at the corners of the barge and extend vertically downward into the seabed. The barge will never be grounded and will maintain a safe distance from the shoreline at all times. Per the terms of the Programmatic Biological Evaluation for Piling Replacement, the barge will typically be anchored waterward of the limits of submerged marine vegetation (typically above -10 MLLW). Work above -10 MLLW would be conducted from a small boat, most likely performing repairs to wood cross bracing.

The scope of general maintenance activities proposed for the authorization period includes the following:

1. Structural Maintenance and Repair: The harsh operating environment of the pier requires periodic maintenance and repair of the pier structure and buildings. These activities typically involve repair and/or replacement of support members and attached appurtenances, which may include welding and cutting, and are often staged or supported from a barge.

Additionally, structural reinforcements above and below the pier, but within the footprint of the pier, may be necessary to ensure the pier meets current International Building Code (IBC) requirements. pier structural inspection, maintenance, repair, and replacement includes the following activities:

• Repair or replace pile tops and pile caps.

• Repair or replace wooden trestle bracing, brackets, and trestle support beams, with Chemonite treated timber or other (agency-approved) material.

• Repair or replace parts on associated pier structures including the dolphins and bollards. Secure loose timbers, replace missing or damaged timbers.

• Repair, reattach, or replace missing or damaged fender wear strip materials. New wear strip material will typically be UHMW (ultra high molecular weight).

• Repair or replace damaged steel or overloads.

• Repair or replace decks, surfaces, handrails, platforms, gangways, support beams, etc.

• Repair or replace building components including roofing, siding, walls, heating equipment, etc.

• Painting or seal coating.

• Removal of derelict fishing gear from pilings and other pier structures.

2. Piling and Pier Structure Corrosion Protection: Pier pilings are in various sizes and materials including wood, steel, and concrete. Steel pilings may be protected from corrosion through cathodic protection and/or coatings.

Divers inspect in-water facilities and perform in-water maintenance and repairs. This may include pile repairs and anode replacements.

Some of the existing piles that show signs of deterioration may be repaired using a

protective wrapping system (Seashield, or equal), and/or steel sleeves. All material removed from the pilings will be collected and disposed at an approved disposal site.

3. Equipment Maintenance and Repair: Various pieces of machinery at the pier have rotating and moving parts that require preventive maintenance, repair, and replacement. These include pumps, motors, generators, meters, valves, piping, transfer arms, surge protection vessels, cranes, boom/davit, dust collection equipment, etc. Typical maintenance activities include seal and bearing replacement, motor winding replacement, valve repacking or replacement, lubrication, etc. On occasion, safety, environmental, or operational considerations dictate replacement of a piece of machinery or equipment with similar equipment. Any replacement activities are limited to replacement with equipment that does not significantly change the overall structure of the pier or cause an appreciable change to the configuration of the pier appurtenances.

Instrumentation and electrical equipment also require maintenance including inspection, troubleshooting, repair, or replacement. This equipment includes but is not limited to lighting, junction boxes, transformers, generators, cable trays, wiring, switch gears, motor control centers, cathodic protection, power poles, etc. Occasionally, systems are upgraded to improve reliability, such as leak detection systems. Such systems may include flow meters, pressure transmitters, pressure indicators, fiber optics, new software, electrical cable trays, etc.

4. Pipeline Cleaning, Repair, Replacement, Corrosion Protection, and Pipe Supports: Most pipelines at the pier convey products between ships and barges moored at the pier and the storage facility. In addition, utility piping systems support the pier infrastructure, such as firewater. All these pipelines require periodic maintenance to ensure operational integrity and minimize spill potential.

Piping systems are inspected and monitored. Sometimes it may be necessary to replace or repair these piping systems and/or associated supports including the following activities:

- Hydro-blasting, grinding and/or grit-blasting of the surfaces
- Weld overlay to mitigate surface corrosion
- Cleaning and painting to inhibit surface corrosion
- Repair of insulation and heat tracing systems
- Hydro-testing of piping and transfer arms
- Piping repairs
- Occasional replacement of piping and/or portions of pipelines with similar materials

that require welding and cold-cutting

• Periodic repair or replacement of intermediate pipe supports and cables

Where possible, all pipeline repair, maintenance, and replacement work will be conducted from, or supported from, the pier structures. On some occasions, barge support alongside the pier may be required; when a barge is used to support this work, it will be tied off to the pier with mooring lines.

Schedule

In-water projects will be conducted between July 15 and February 14 from 2018 to 2023. Above-water maintenance, repair and replacement work that can be conducted on the deck, from the pier structure, boat or floating platform will be conducted year-round. In any case where there is potential for materials or any discharge to enter the water, secondary containment will be implemented under or around the work area along with lanyards for tools as required to prevent material from discharging to the water.

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Petrogas Pier Maintenance Activities 2018-2023: Hydroacoustic Analysis

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1. SEPA Environmental Checklist
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Hydroacoustic Analysis of Petrogas Pier Fender Project 2018

Project Summary: The proposed fender repair will remove approximately 12 creosote piles at 4 fender locations, replacing the 12 piles with 2 - 30 inch non-leaching galvanized steel piles and a steel breasting plate, covered with UHMW (ultra high molecular weight) polyethylene panel facing. In total, approximately 50 creosote piles will be removed and replaced by 8 steel piles. Drawings of the replacement parts for the fender system are attached to the Programmatic Biological Evaluation / Critical Areas Assessment (BE). Along with the other protective measures and conditions of the BE, a vibratory driver shall be used to remove the current creosote piles and install the steel piles. In this document we review the possible impacts to marine mammals to ensure the vibratory driver will minimize environmental impact.

Fender Repair Project:

For both pile removal and pile installation, noise levels are above the cetatean and pinniped behavior disruption thresholds established by the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) for non-impulsive continuous noise (120 db RMS). To reduce peak and average RMS (Root Mean Square) noise levels, a vibratory driver will be the only method used for removal and installation of the fender piles. A review of existing literature including the California Department of Transportation: Technical Guidance for Assessment and Mitigation of the Hydroacoustic Effects of Pile Driving on Fish (Nov 2015), found that a vibratory driver driving a 36-inch steel pipe pile yields a sounds pressure of 170 dB RMS / 170 dB SEL (Sounds Exposure Level). The project will be divided into four separate fender removals and installations. Each of these mobilizations will require no more than 30 minutes of vibration driver operational time to remove all old piles and install 2 new 30-inch galvanized steel piles. The noise level calculated based upon broadband accumulative SEL, assuming a maximum of 30 minutes of vibrational driving per 24 hours, yields 202.55 dB SEL_{cum} worst case. Accounting for the broadband weighting function, the worst case noise level is reduced by 16.8 dB to 186 dB, attenuating the resultant noise below the Permanent Threshold Shift (PTS) Onset Level A for Non-Impulsive noise for Mid-Frequency Cetaceans (Orcas) at 198 dB. Low-Frequency Cetaceans (Humpback Whales) are below the PTS at 22 meters from the project to 198 db SEL_{cum}. For the Otariid Pinniped marine mammals possibly in the action area, the project will be below their Level A noise threshold of 219 dB SEL_{cum}. The following assumptions were made for this analysis:

- Background in-water noise levels in the action area are not available, so the analysis used a marine mammal vibratory guideline threshold of 120 dB RMS.
- Noise will attenuate at a rate of 4.5 dB per doubling distance using the practical spreading loss model.
- The broadband weighting function methodology was calculated using the NMFS Technical Guidance For Assessing the Effects of Anthropogenic Noise on Marine Mammal Hearing: Underwater Acoustic Thresholds for Onset of Permanent and Temporary Threshold Shifts (August 2016), using the tab for Non-Impulsive Stationary Continuous Sources.
- Sound will stop when it reaches the nearest land mass.

The noise will not attenuate below the 120 dB behavioral disruption threshold until reaching land mass across the Strait of Georgia. The resulting proposed action area will be 1000 m (0.621 mile) radius of the project and a marine mammal monitoring program will be implemented to protect mammals in the action area. Refer to the satellite images below for the monitoring radius. Please refer to the Fender Project Marine Mammal Monitoring Plan for additional monitoring details.

Image 1: Localized satellite view of marine mammal monitoring radius.

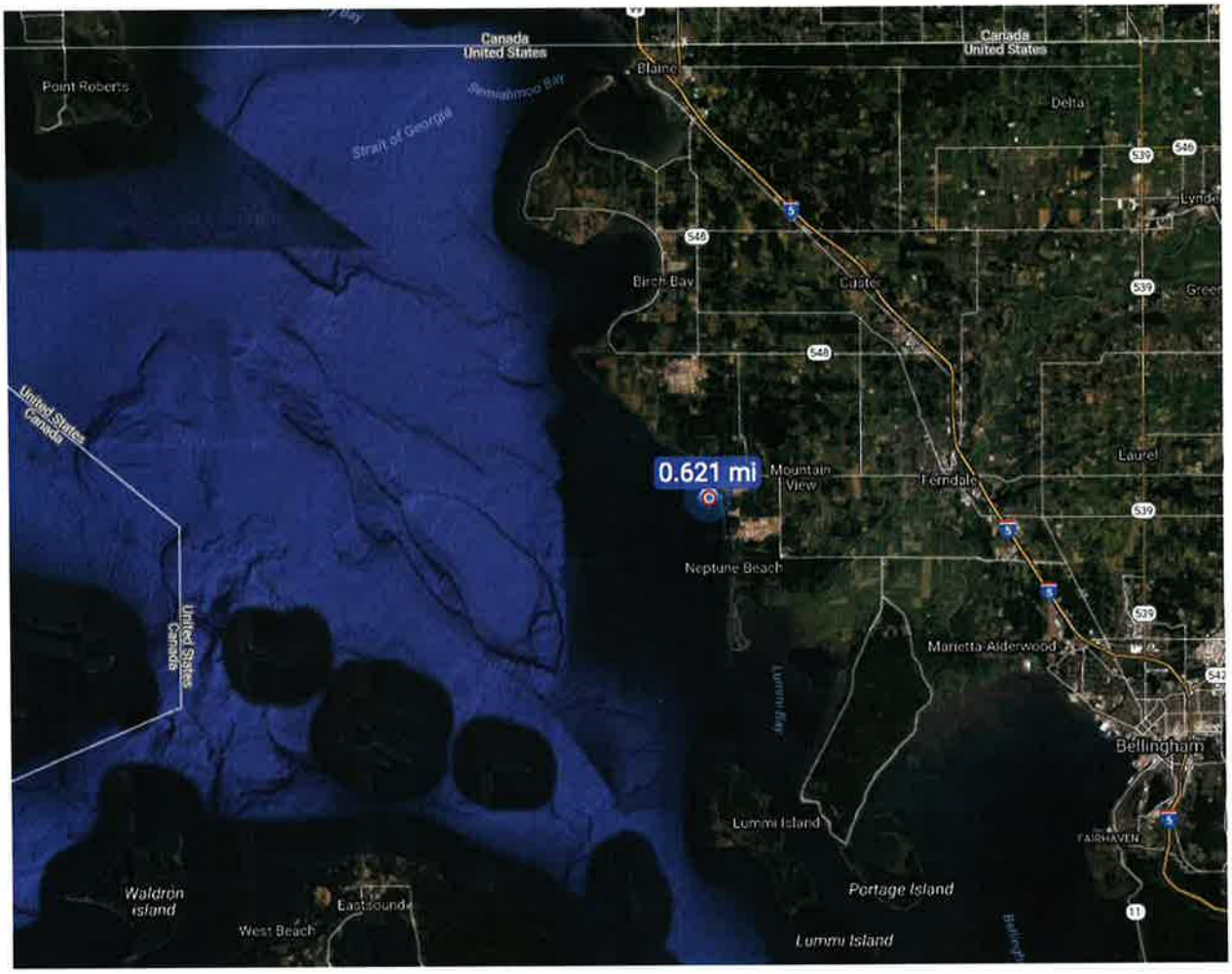

Image 2: Satellite view of marine mammal monitoring radius relative to the Strait of Georgia.

References:

1. *NOAA. 2016 Technical Guidance for Assessing the Effects of Anthropogenic Sound on Marine Mammal Hearing.*

2. *CALTRANS. 2015. Technical Guidance for Assessment and Mitigation of the Hydroacoustic Effects of Pile Driving on Fish.*

3. Reyff, James. 2007. Compendium of Pile Driving Sound Data. Prepared for the California Department of Transportation, Sacramento, CA, by Illinworth & Rodkin, Petaluma, CA. September 27, 2007.