

# Memorandum

**To:** VaNessa Duplessie, Chair, Washington State Citizen's Committee on Pipeline Safety (CCOPS)  
**From:** Bill Rickard, member, CCOPS  
**Date:** 5/26/2010  
**Re:** Pipeline Safety Awareness and the SEPA process

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Kelli Gustaf (Ecology) and I propose the following language for promoting the awareness of pipelines utilizing guidance documents created by the Department of Ecology for the State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) process.<sup>1</sup> Proposed language was briefly provided during the CCOPS meeting on March 25, 2010. The following is a modified version of the proposed language, including changes suggested by the CCOPS at the March 25, 2010 meeting (language to include natural gas pipelines) and also changes Ms. Gustaf has collected from Ecology Spills Program Engineers.

Please forward this proposal to the CCOPS for comments. The entire original document (SEPA Guide for Project Applicants) is located at the following:

<http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/sea/sepa/apguide/apguide1.htm>, web version or  
<http://www.ecy.wa.gov/pubs/0206018.pdf>, pdf version.

**The following is the current guidance language in the *SEPA Guide for Project Applicants* for Section 7. Environmental Health Section a:**

## **Environmental Health**

**Environmental health hazards:** Describe any existing or suspected contamination at the site. Indicators of possible site contamination include some types of past uses: such as auto repair or wrecking facilities, gasoline dispensing facilities, dry cleaning, municipal dump site, radioactive waste, industrial site, log yard, agricultural uses (fertilizers and/or pesticides), etc.

Contact the Dept of Ecology's Toxic Cleanup Program staff in the local regional office or headquarters for additional information or assistance in identifying potential or verified contaminated sites, and the type of contamination likely at a site.

Describe any toxic or hazardous chemicals that might be stored, used, or produced during the project's development and/or construction, or at any time during the operating life of the project. For example, an auto body shop is likely to use solvents and paints and produce, or

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<sup>1</sup> (<http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/sea/sepa/e-review.html>)

generate, used cleaning solvents or paint wastes.

The use, storage, and/or transport of minor quantities of cleaning supplies, such as to maintain an office building or for residential needs may be listed as a class rather than individual products. Substances used in large quantities, such as in industrial or agricultural processes, should be identified by name.

**The following is proposed guidance language *SEPA Guide for Project Applicants for Section 7. Environmental Health* section a (CCOPS suggested additions underlined, Ecology suggested additions *underlined and in italics*):**

## **Environmental Health**

**Environmental health hazards:** Describe any existing or suspected contamination or potential health hazard at the site, *either from present or past use.*

Indicators of possible site contamination include some types of past uses: such as auto repair or wrecking facilities, gasoline dispensing facilities, dry cleaning, municipal dump site, radioactive waste, industrial site, log yard, agricultural uses (fertilizers and/or pesticides), etc.

Contact the Dept of Ecology's Toxic Cleanup Program staff in the local regional office or headquarters for additional information or assistance in identifying potential or verified contaminated sites, and the type of contamination likely at a site.

Describe existing hazardous chemicals/conditions that might affect project development and design. This includes underground hazardous material pipelines located within the project area and within 660 feet of the project *and easements associated with the pipeline.* For example, the location of a petroleum or natural gas pipeline(s) within 660 feet of the project site poses a potential hazard during planning, development and the operating life of a project.

Describe any toxic or hazardous chemicals that might be stored, used, or produced during the project's development and/or construction, or at any time during the operating life of the project. For example, an auto body shop is likely to use solvents and paints and produce, or generate, used cleaning solvents or paint wastes.

The use, storage, and/or transport of minor quantities of cleaning supplies, such as to maintain an office building or for residential needs may be listed as a class rather than individual products. Substances used in large quantities, such as in industrial or agricultural processes, should be identified by name.

In the section at the end of the guidance document is a list of contacts and phone numbers. Two entries to add (in the appropriate locations) to this section are;

May 26, 2010

Additional Resources:

National Pipeline Mapping System-Public Map Viewer

[ <https://www.npms.phmsa.dot.gov/> ]

Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (WUTC) – Pipeline Safety Program, 360-664-1160 [ <http://www.wutc.wa.gov/publicsafety> ]