

## ***STATE ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT***

### **DRAFT DETERMINATION OF NON-SIGNIFICANCE FOR THE**

### **Terminal 30 Central Substation Replacement Project**

**Date Issued:** October 22, 2021

**SEPA Lead Agency:** Port of Seattle

**Agency File Number:** 2021-08

**Agency Contact:** Danielle R. Butsick, AICP  
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The Port of Seattle (Port) has completed an environmental analysis, including review of pertinent and available environmental information and preparation of a State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) Checklist for the Terminal 30 Central Substation Replacement Project.

**Name of New Proposal:** Terminal 30 Central Substation Replacement Project

**Background:** Port of Seattle Terminal 30 (T-30) is located at 1901 East Marginal Way South in the city of Seattle, along the eastern edge of the East Duwamish Waterway.

The Port of Seattle T-30 has been in service as a marine cargo terminal since the Port purchased the property in 1985, with the exception of the years between 2003 and 2008 when it operated as a cruise terminal. The upland Port-owned portion of the site consists of approximately 38 acres of marine cargo marshalling area, warehouse structures, repair and maintenance buildings, and operations facilities. It also contains a Port Police station and waterfront office.

The T-30 Central Substation connects with the Seattle City Light electric grid and distributed electric power to T-30 uses. On November 29, 2020, the T-30 Central Substation failed and caused a power outage to a substantial portion of T-30, including refrigerated containers, Maintenance & Repair Building, Port of Seattle police station, guard shack, yard lighting, and other miscellaneous infrastructure. A subsequent inspection of the failed substation on November 30, 2020 found extensive equipment damage and general repairs were determined not to be feasible. Rental diesel generators were provided, connected and power was restored to T-30 uses on December 1, 2020.

A temporary substation, including enclosed electrical switch, was installed adjacent to the existing failed Central Substation to replace the diesel generators. The Temporary Substation, which connects to the Seattle City Light electrical grid, was connected in May 2021 and is intended to supply power to a number of T-30 uses until a new permanent substation is installed and connected.

**Description of Proposal:** The proposed T-30 Central Substation Replacement Project includes a new permanent substation to replace the existing temporary substation. Located on the site of the existing failed Central Substation, the proposed new permanent substation would connect to the Seattle City Light electric power grid and distribute

electric power to T-30 uses (See Figure 1 for a vicinity map of the proposed project). The following primary demolition and development elements are proposed:

Demolition

- Existing T30 Central Substation and associated cables and conduits
- Existing reinforced concrete and asphalt concrete pad

Replacement (new construction)

- New reinforced concrete and asphalt concrete pad, with equipment anchoring
- New medium voltage switch
- New secondary unit substation which includes:
  - Transformer
  - Secondary low voltage switchgear
- Electrical enclosure (36' x 15' x 14') to house new T30 Central Substation
- New electrical vaults
- New medium voltage cable from new T30 Central Substation switchgear
- New electrical grounding system

**Location of Proposal:** Port of Seattle T-30 is located at 1901 East Marginal Way South in the City of Seattle, along the eastern edge of the East Duwamish Waterway. The site is located on the eastern edge of T-30, immediately west of East Marginal Way South. T-30 is King County tax parcel numbers 7666207830 and 7666207800. Latitude 47.58475, N./ Longitude -122.34125 W., NE Section 7 of Township 24N, Range 4W.

**Determination:** The Port has determined the proposed Terminal 30 Central Substation Replacement Project will not have probable significant adverse impacts on the environment. As such, an environmental impact statement (EIS) is not required under the provisions of the Washington State Environmental Policy Act (RCW 43.21, WAC 197-11) and Port of Seattle SEPA Policies and Procedures (Port Commission Resolution 3650). This decision was made after review of a completed Environmental Checklist, available online at <https://www.portseattle.org/environment/sepa-nepa>.

This determination is based on the following findings and conclusions:

- The completed environmental checklist for the Terminal 30 Central Substation Replacement Project did not identify potential significant adverse effects on the environment, including environmentally sensitive areas or areas designated for governmental protection.
- The Terminal 30 Central Substation Replacement Project will generate environmental benefits through replacement of older failed substation infrastructure with modern infrastructure which meets current energy efficiency codes.

**Supporting Information:** Information used to reach this determination is available upon request. The 2021 Determination of Non-significance (POS SEPA File No. 2021-08), Environmental Checklist, and supporting documents are available online at <https://www.portseattle.org/environment/sepa-nepa>.

**Public and Agency Comment:** The Port of Seattle issued a Draft Determination of Non-significance on October 22, 2021. Prior to acting on the proposed project, the Port accepted public and agency comments on the Terminal 30 Central Substation Replacement Project until November 5, 2021. One comment was received, from the Department of Ecology, which pertained to designation of toxic substances per the Dangerous Waste Regulations, WAC Ch. 173-303; these comments will be considered during project implementation. The Port has determined that no additional environmental analyses or clarifications are necessary based on the comment received. Therefore, the Port formally adopts this Final Determination of Non-Significance. Please refer any questions relating to this determination or to the



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proposed action to Danielle Butsick, Maritime Environment and Sustainability Department, P.O. Box 1209 Seattle, Washington 98111. Telephone 206-549-2945. Email the Port of Seattle SEPA address at [SEPA@portseattle.org](mailto:SEPA@portseattle.org).

**Appeals:** The Port's decision on the proposal described above and the Port's issuance of a Final DNS on this proposal constitute the Port's Final SEPA decision. This SEPA DNS determination may be appealed by filing a writ of review in King County Superior Court within twenty-one (21) days of the date of issuance pursuant to Port of Seattle Resolution No. 3650. Any appeal of the SEPA DNS must also satisfy the requirements of RCW 43.21C.075.

**SEPA Responsible Official:** Jon Sloan, Sr. Manager, Environmental Programs, Maritime Environment and Sustainability

**Signature:**   
Jon Sloan (Nov 9, 2021 10:13 PST)

**Date:** Nov 9, 2021

