

STATE ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT

FINAL DETERMINATION OF NON-SIGNIFICANCE FOR THE

Terminal 18 Shore Power Project

Date Issued: July 22, 2025

SEPA Lead Agency: Port of Seattle

Agency File Number: 2025-03

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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 18 Shore Power Project.

Name of Proposal: Terminal 18 Shore Power Project

Background: Terminal 18 consists of approximately 196 acres of marine industrial area built and committed for use in transshipment of container cargo, receiving and shipping of other bulk and liquid bulk commodities, and providing other marine, water-dependent marine industrial services.

Terminal 18 is owned by the Port of Seattle and licensed to The Northwest Seaport Alliance (NWSA) for cargo carrier operations (NWSA leases portions of Terminal 18 to SSA Marine). The proposed Project will install medium voltage (6.6 kilovolt) shore to ship power (i.e., cold ironing) infrastructure to serve three vessel berths at Terminal 18. Providing shore power allows shore power capable container cargo carriers to plug into the local electrical grid and turn off their auxiliary diesel engines while at berth, resulting in an overall reduction in air pollutant and greenhouse gas emissions.

As one of the most thoroughly demonstrated and robust methods for reducing at-berth emissions from container cargo carriers, shore power is a key strategy to meet the Port's Century Agenda goal of being the greenest and most energy-efficient port in North America. The Project will also advance the Port's Maritime Climate and Air Action Plan and the Northwest Ports Clean Air Strategy – a collaborate effort between the Port of Seattle, Port of Tacoma, NWSA, and Vancouver Fraser Port Authority in British Columbia – to reduce air and greenhouse gas emissions from shipping and port operations.

Description of Proposal: The proposed work includes installing nine shore power vaults capable of providing power to container ships that berth at the site. The Project is comprised of pulling new service through existing duct banks and installing new buried duct banks, thirty-seven (37) buried power and communication vaults, three substations, and nine shore power vaults. Trenching and grading on the topside (upland) of the Terminal 18 wharf will be required for electrical and communication vaults, duct banks, and foundations of the shore power substations. The proposed Project will take place primarily within 200 feet of the wharf face of Terminal 18 (See Figures 1 and 2).

Terminal 18 is presently fed with two 7.5 Megavolt Ampere services from SCL feeding two existing 2,000 amps, 12.8 kilovolt switchgear [N1 (North) and N2 (South)], each of which will be utilized to power new shore power outlets. The new shore power facilities will consist of 13.8-6.6 kilovolt transformers, primary and secondary switchgear, switches, relays, controls, interlocks and neutral grounding resistors. A majority of the shore power equipment will be housed in enclosures to protect equipment from the elements. Spare underground infrastructure (conduits and vaults) is available and able to accommodate the new shore power substation main feeders for a portion of their lengths, so the Project includes pulling lengths of new cable in existing conduits, as well as providing new duct banks between the existing SCL services and new shore power substations.

Project components include the following:

- Pavement demolition and removal: *approximately 50,200 square feet, and 1,500 cubic yards.*
- Duct bank install: *approximately 5,700 linear feet, includes 4,700 cubic yards of excavation/trenching, and 4,200 cubic yards of backfill.*
- Vault install: *approximately 2,600 cubic yards of excavation and 1,700 cubic yards of backfill.*
- Construction of 3 new shore power substations: *approximately 5,500 square feet in total.*
 - Foundations and bollards: *approximately 1,000 cubic yards of excavation and 100 cubic yards of backfill.*
 - Each shore power substation is an enclosed pre-fabricated housing *approximately 40 feet x 26 feet and 14 feet tall.*
- Horizontal Directional Drilling (HDD) for electrical and communication conduits: *approximately 2,200 linear feet, 200 cubic yards of excavation and 200 cubic yards of backfill.*
- Install electrical and communication conduits below the wharf (fastened to the under deck): *approximately 3,100 linear feet*

Location of Proposal: Terminal 18 is a 196-acre multipurpose terminal located along the west side of the East Waterway of the Duwamish River, on Harbor Island. The street address is 2400 11th Ave Southwest. The majority of the work associated with this Project is located on parcel number 7666701356. This facility is primarily used for the loading and unloading of bulk cargo and containers.

Determination: The Port has determined the Terminal 18 Shore Power 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 18 Shore Power Project did not identify potential significant adverse effects on the environment, including environmentally sensitive areas or areas designated for governmental protection.
- Providing shore power at Terminal 18 will result in emissions reductions over time, reducing impacts on climate change and air quality. When completed, the anticipated outcomes of the Project include emission reductions of 123,510 – 245,130 metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalents (greenhouse gas), 29.1 – 57.8 metric tons of particulate matter (PM_{2.5}), and 2,136 metric tons of nitrous oxides (NO_x).

Supporting Information: Information used to reach this determination is available upon request. Terminal 18 Shore Power Project Determination of Non-significance (POS SEPA File No. 2025-03), Environmental Checklist, and supporting documents are available online.



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Public and Agency Comment: The Port issued a draft Determination of Non-Significance (DNS) on June 24, 2025. Prior to acting on the proposed project, the Port accepted public and agency comments on the T18 Shore Power Project until July 8, 2025. No comments were received.

The Port has concluded that no significant negative environmental effects will result due to the proposed project and formally adopts this Final DNS. Please refer any questions related to this determination or to the proposed actions to Matthew Szymanowicz, Maritime Environment and Sustainability Department, P.O. Box 1209 Seattle, Washington 98111. Email the Port of Seattle SEPA address at SEPA@portseattle.org. Include your mailing address when submitting comments to the email address.

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 determination may be appealed in accordance with the requirements of Section 21 of the of the Port's SEPA Resolution 3650. The deadline for filing this appeal is within fourteen days of the date of issuance, August 5, 2025. Any appeal of the SEPA DNS must also satisfy the requirements of RCW 43.21C.075.

SEPA Responsible Official: Sarah Ogier, Director of Maritime Environment and Sustainability

Signature:  Sarah Ogier (Jul 14, 2025 18:00 PDT) Date: 07/14/2025

Figure 1: Terminal 18 Shore Power Project Location and Site Vicinity

