



energize**EASTSIDE** geotechnical work on your property

Puget Sound Energy (PSE) and our contractor, GeoEngineers, are conducting geotechnical investigations at a limited number of public locations, PSE rights of way and private properties throughout the Energize Eastside project area.

We want to provide you with information about what to expect from geotechnical work and answer some frequently asked questions.

Purpose of geotechnical work

Geotechnical investigations will identify soil types and subsurface conditions in and around the project area. The soil information gathered during this work will help inform the environmental review process being led by the City of Bellevue. It will also inform the design options for potential transmission line pole foundations and support structures.

What to expect

- Geotechnical work will be conducted weekdays throughout August and September, typically between 7 a.m. and 6 p.m. Boring will typically take one day from start to finish.
- A few days prior to geotechnical boring, crews will identify the location of existing utilities and mark the location on the ground with paint or markers. If necessary, crews may also prepare the site for work, which could include vegetation trimming or mowing.
- Crews will drill holes 6 inches to 8 inches wide and 50 feet to 60 feet deep to collect soil and subsurface samples. Equipment will sound similar to a truck engine running with brief periods of hammering.
- Prior to departure, crews will fill the hole with clay chips as required by the Washington State Department of Ecology and will replace any grass patches removed during the work.
- If there are horses or other large animals on site, crews will fill the hole with an environmentally approved material that ensures animal safety.
- Site restoration will follow completion of the geotechnical boring within one to three days.

Working with property owners and tenants

- Prior to beginning geotechnical work, PSE will offer one-on-one consultations with property owners and tenants at boring sites and at any adjacent properties that will need to be accessed to reach the work sites.
- These consultations will provide an opportunity to further discuss geotechnical work, how crews will access the boring site with their equipment, existing property conditions, and how the property will be restored after the work is complete.
- At the consultation, we will also schedule an appointment with property owners and tenants for timing of geotechnical work within the limitations of local noise ordinances. We will make a reasonable attempt to adjust the timing of work to better fit property owner schedules or preferred times.
- We will notify property owners and tenants a few days in advance of scheduled geotechnical work to remind them of upcoming activities. We will also notify neighboring properties of upcoming work to ensure they are aware of nearby work.
- Photos of the property will be taken before geotechnical work begins to ensure the property is restored to existing conditions.



An example of a truck-mounted drill rig.

Frequently asked questions

How will I know if there will be geotechnical work on my property?

Geotechnical work is being conducted at a limited number of public locations, PSE rights of way and private properties. We will mail a letter to private properties identified for needed geotechnical investigations to notify them about upcoming work.

Following the letter, PSE will offer one-on-one consultations with these property owners and tenants in advance of geotechnical work. We will also notify property owners and tenants a few days in advance of crews accessing their properties.

If there is geotechnical boring happening on my property, does that mean that the new transmission lines will end up in my neighborhood?

Receiving this work does not necessarily mean that a transmission line will be built on or near your property. PSE has not selected a route at this time. We won't know the exact route details until we evaluate the fieldwork data, design and other factors.

Geotechnical borings are conducted to identify soil types in and around the project area. We will continue to keep the community informed as we work to identify a route and move forward with project design, including pole placement.

What equipment is being used for geotechnical work?

The equipment used for geotechnical work will vary depending on the physical constraints and soil types of each property. If your property is identified for needed geotechnical access or boring, we will discuss equipment and access details with you during one-on-one consultations in advance of work occurring.

What if my property is damaged during geotechnical work?

PSE does not anticipate any property damage to occur. During the consultation, PSE will take "before" photos to confirm existing conditions of the property and to ensure the property is restored to existing conditions after geotechnical work is complete. We anticipate restoration will be completed within three days following completion of geotechnical investigations. In the unlikely

event that damage occurs, we will work with you to repair it per our contractor's claim process.

Is it safe for me to stay at home while geotechnical work is happening on my property?

Yes, it is safe for property owners to be at home while this work is going on. However, we recommend that children and pets stay away from geotechnical equipment.

Are there safety considerations for geotechnical boring near the Olympic Pipeline?

Safety is always a top priority for PSE and GeoEngineers. We are very familiar with pipeline safety concerns and employ safe construction practices when performing work in the vicinity of pipelines.

PSE has a long history of working closely with Olympic Pipeline. An Olympic Pipeline representative will be on site during any work within 25 feet of the pipeline. We will continue to coordinate closely with our Olympic Pipeline contacts as work continues.



While equipment can vary by property, geotechnical boring is typically completed by a truck- or track-mounted drill rig.

Thank you for your cooperation. If you have questions about fieldwork, please contact us.

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