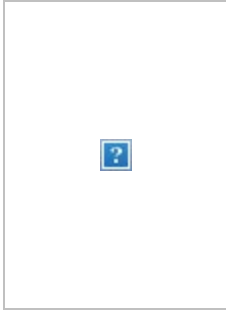


From: [Owens, Joan \(EFSEC\)](#)
To: [EFSEC mi Comments](#)
Subject: FW: CRT Project FW: Information about Bradford Island Superfund Site and Georgia Pacific Facility
Date: Wednesday, November 19, 2025 1:17:48 PM
Attachments: [image001.jpg](#)
[image001.png](#)

Thanks,

~Joan Owens



Joan Owens
(She/Her)
Executive Assistant
Direct: [\(360\) 664-1920](tel:(360)664-1920)
Main Line: [\(360\) 664-1345](tel:(360)664-1345)
[Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council](#)

From: Caputo, Lance (EFSEC)
Sent: Wednesday, November 19, 2025 11:44 AM
To: EFSEC dl Admin Team
Subject: CRT Project FW: Information about Bradford Island Superfund Site and Georgia Pacific Facility

Please incorporate these emails into the record for the CRT project.



Lance Caputo
Siting Specialist
Desk: [\(360\) 485-1664](tel:(360)485-1664)
Office: [\(360\) 664-1345](tel:(360)664-1345)
[Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council](#)

From: Kate Murphy <kate@columbiariverkeeper.org>
Sent: Wednesday, November 19, 2025 11:40 AM
To: Caputo, Lance (EFSEC) <lance.caputo@efsec.wa.gov>
Cc: Belkina, Maria (EFSEC) <maria.belkina@efsec.wa.gov>; Juan Monje <juan@columbiariverkeeper.org>
Subject: Re: Information about Bradford Island Superfund Site and Georgia Pacific Facility

External Email

Thanks so much, Lance. We appreciate your consideration of these concerns. Have a great day.

On Wed, Nov 19, 2025 at 11:29 AM Caputo, Lance (EFSEC)

<lance.caputo@efsec.wa.gov> wrote:

Good morning, Kate.

Yes, it was nice to meet you also the other night. Thank you for attending and providing us with your oral and written comments. Both Maria and I will look at your information as we review the CRT project. Please feel free to provide us with additional comments as our review progresses.

We are in the initial stage of reviewing the Application and we appreciate you taking the time to share your thoughts and concerns. I'll forward your email to our Administrative Team so this will become part of the official record from our public informational meetings.



Lance Caputo

Siting Specialist

Desk: [\(360\) 485-1664](tel:(360)485-1664)

Office: [\(360\) 664-1345](tel:(360)664-1345)

[Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council](#)

From: Kate Murphy <kate@columbiariverkeeper.org>

Sent: Wednesday, November 19, 2025 11:17 AM

To: Caputo, Lance (EFSEC) <lance.caputo@efsec.wa.gov>; Belkina, Maria (EFSEC) <maria.belkina@efsec.wa.gov>

Cc: Juan Monje <juan@columbiariverkeeper.org>

Subject: Information about Bradford Island Superfund Site and Georgia Pacific Facility

External Email

Hi Lance,

It was great to meet you at the public meeting in Washougal about the Cascade Renewable Transmission project. My colleague, Teryn, spoke with Maria last night, who was also interested in additional information and is included in this email. Thank you both for your interest in learning more about the concerns around contamination at the Bradford Island Superfund Site. As we briefly discussed, the Bradford Island Superfund Site at Bonneville Dam is a significant public health concern. As a result of decades of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) dumping toxic pollution in and along the Columbia's shorelines at Bradford Island (part of the Bonneville Dam complex), resident fish caught near the dam have been shown to contain some of the highest levels of cancer-causing PCBs in the country. PCBs are the primary concern at this site, however, additional contaminants of concern include lead, mercury, pesticides, and petroleum chemicals. It was officially listed as a Superfund Site in 2021, though the contamination has been present for decades.

We work in close collaboration with Yakama Nation and have been working toward cleanup at Bonneville Dam for many years and worked in partnership with Yakama Nation to get the site listed as a Superfund Site. I have also been a member of the Bradford Island Restoration Advisory Board for over two years.

The investigation into the nature and extent of the contamination at the site around Bonneville Dam is ongoing. For example, just this year, an additional area of contamination was identified on Cascade Island at Bonneville Dam and will be added to the removal and cleanup plan.

Unfortunately, the nature of contamination at this site, the complex geography and hydrology considerations, the duration of the contamination, and a lack of good recordkeeping regarding past waste disposal make it a difficult task to establish a perimeter. Based on these well-established conditions, the level of confidence about avoiding contamination expressed in the Cascade Renewable Transmission's project presentation raises serious concern. A transmission route that intersects or passes near contaminated sediment or soil could unintentionally expose workers, harm fish and wildlife, or create long-term liabilities for the project. Because EFSEC is responsible for evaluating risks associated with major energy projects, ensuring that transmission construction does not disturb, mobilize, or spread existing contaminants is critical for both public health and project integrity.

Here are a few resources about the site that you may find helpful.

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- Here is a
- [short](#)
- [video](#) we did in partnership with Yakama Nation on the
- basics of the issue at Bonneville dam. We also have a Spanish version of this video if anyone are interested.
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- Our
- [Bonneville](#)
- [Dam Cleanup](#) page also has additional information on
- our approach to the campaign.
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- Here is some
- [background](#)
- [on the site and the RAB](#) from USACE.
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- Recordings of previous RAB meetings can be found
- [here](#).
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- For more technical information, all of the documents for the Superfund
- Site that are available to the public can be found in the [administrative](#)
- [record](#).
-

We also wanted to raise concern about the Georgia-Pacific (GP) facility in Camas, Washington. This site is highly polluted with a number of contaminants of concern, and GP has submitted a draft Remedial Investigation Workplan in response to a 2021 cleanup order. Not seeing any mention of this site in the presentation or discussion made us curious whether it has been considered in the planning of this project. The Department of Ecology [describes the site and contaminants of concern here](#). The Community Advisory Group for this site has provided [additional information about the cleanup and timeline](#). Given that EFSEC projects require accurate environmental assessments, overlooking a major contaminated area like this could result in decisions that unintentionally disturb hazardous materials.

After the meeting on 11/17, we did have the opportunity to speak with the Senior Project Manager with HDR who said they are involved in conducting the studies related to the project. I asked about the GP facility and she mentioned it was not on their radar. Again, this raises some obvious concern about sufficient and accurate identification and assessment of contaminants that would be directly affected by this project. I raised questions about the GP site in the 11/18 meeting, but unfortunately the format for the meeting format was different from the previous meeting, and questions were not answered in Skamania County as they were in the Clark County meeting. Again, we appreciate your interest in learning more about these sites and the significant concern regarding contamination. Please feel free to reach out if you have questions or if I can provide any additional information.

Thank you,
Kate Murphy

--

Kate Murphy | She/Her/Hers | Senior Community Organizer
Columbia Riverkeeper | 1125 SE Madison Suite 103A Portland 97214
541.399.5666 | kate@columbiariverkeeper.org

[Columbia Riverkeeper's 2025–2027 Strategic Plan is our roadmap to impact!](#) *Join us in protecting the Columbia and our climate—read or listen to our vision for the future.*

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